



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
		Day 1st	Month October	Year 2022	Day 30th	Month September	Year 2023
From					To		

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name	BLYTH CRICKET CLUB, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Other names charity is known by	NA
Registered charity number (if any)	1159331
Charity's principal address	Park Drive Sheffield Road Blyth Postcode S81 8HF

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Jack Tarr	Chair		
2	Andrew Carter	Secretary		
3	Malcolm Butler	Treasurer		
4	Bridget Butler	Administrator & Committee Member		
5	Jemima Dalton	2 nd XI Captain, Womens & Girls Lead, Junior Coordinator		
6	Karen Rice	Committee Member		
7				
8				

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Financial Audit	Enterprise Accountants	8 Castlegate, Tickhill, South Yorkshire, DN11 9QU

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Association Model Constitution, dated 2 nd June 2014
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected by club membership

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

We are a traditional village amateur cricket club and as such our organisational structure is relatively straightforward. As a club we operate within the English & Wales Cricket Board, Bassetlaw and District Cricket League, East Midlands Women's Cricket League and Nottinghamshire Cricket Board and abide by their regulations where relevant. We currently have six Charity Trustees who manage the charity to ensure that our charitable objects are met. No Trustees retired during 2022-2023 and no new Trustees joined us.

As a Club we have separated out cricket activities from the management of the Clubhouse and fundraising activities in financial terms. Non-cricket activities such as fundraising are managed through the Blyth CC Committee separately and any money raised being passed on to the CIO. Blyth CC Committee meets on a monthly basis, with Charity Trustees sitting on the Committee. There is a standing agenda item for Fundraising and another for CIO management.

Our accounting year now starts in October and runs to September. This Annual Report covers the period from October 2022 to September 2023

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of the CIO is the promotion of community participation in healthy recreation in particular by the provision of facilities for the playing of cricket.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Blyth Cricket Club is a traditional village amateur cricket club where we aim to provide healthy recreation for all by playing cricket in an open and inclusive environment.

We have two senior (mixed) teams, a women and girls section and a thriving junior section. Our players range from 5 years old to 74.

As in previous years we have continued to work hard to be an approachable club to attract new senior and junior players and those who want to take part in cricket by being part of the club as junior volunteers, ground maintenance etc. for future seasons. We continue to appeal to families and include multi-generational teams.

We have hosted several community events during 2023 such as the Bassetlaw Girls Secondary Schools Softball Festival and the Bassetlaw Primary Schools Kwik Cricket Finals day. The 2023 Blyth Women and Girls Softball Festival was the largest of its kind in Nottinghamshire, with over 90 women and girls taking part in cricket matches during the day, including many who were new to the sport. We have also hosted a large wedding for a local couple.

As a club we have several objectives for 2023-2024 and beyond which will support our charitable aims but the focus of this report is on October 2022 to September 2023 and the 2023 cricket season.

Over recent years we have developed the leading women and girls section in Bassetlaw and this continue to grow. Our ground and facilities are maintained solely by volunteers. Our facilities are limited and struggle to meet the needs of the club especially with growing female and junior sections.

2023 Season

Trustees and Committee members continued to meet up for a monthly committee/CIO meeting from October 2022 to September 2023 apart from December 2022 when there was no meeting. Trustees and Committee members also kept in touch via email/phone on a regular basis even when not meeting formally. Some issues can't wait to be discussed only at a formal meeting. Examples of this can include some purchasing decisions that relate to ground maintenance. The good governance rules we have previously put in place around purchasing procedures were still adhered to. Up to £250 financial decisions can be agreed by one Trustee, from £250 - £1000 a written quote and approval at a BCC Committee meeting (that is quorate with Trustees) is required, with further rules for purchases above £1K requiring two written quotes and approval at a quorate committee meeting.

In last 3 years we carried out a considerable amount of maintenance and upgrading work to the grounds (e.g. repaired and new fencing) and changing rooms (redecorated, new carpets and furniture). The clubhouse kitchen was refurbished and the clubhouse was re-carpeted. This has meant that this year we have not carried out any significant upgrading work and have again focused on the usual maintenance of the grounds/buildings/equipment.

We ran two senior teams playing on a Saturday – First XI (Division 2) and Second XI teams (Division 6) in the Bassetlaw & District League. We had 48 people who played B&DCL cricket in 2023.

The women and girls section continued to develop at pace, playing softball and hardball across a range of teams: Women's Hardball XI in Division 2, a Super 8s hardball team, division 1, plus a softball team, division 2, all in the East Midlands Women's Cricket League North East Division. Women's cricket was mostly played on a Sunday and we had 30 players in this league.

At the junior level we ran two under 9 cricket softball teams for our younger juniors (from about 5 years old) and an under 11 hardball team. This year we also ran an under 13s hardball team in the Bassetlaw Junior Cricket League. We have also taken part in the NGDL girl's hardball with an U13s and U15s teams. Junior matches mostly took place on Sunday mornings and Monday nights with most summer term weeks seeing at least one junior match. The junior section had a good season with many wins. We also ran hardball and softball training evening sessions on Friday nights. We have increased our junior membership slightly with a regular 'core' group taking part with good support from parents/carers.

Our main 'non-cricket' fundraising activity this year was hosting a wedding for a Blyth couple and we managed to raise approximately £2K from running the bar for them. This event as non-cricket event comes under BCC Social Club and 100% of the money raised was passed onto the CIO.

The England & Wales Cricket Board loan is on track to be fully paid off by November 2024 (this was taken out for essential repairs to the clubhouse roof plus replacing the electrical system).

Objectives going forward

All Charity Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit when exercising their powers and duties. Public benefit is considered and reviewed at Trustee meetings in order to fulfil their legal duty. The main areas of our objectives going forward remain essentially as they were last year:

- Fundraising – as a charity our fundraising activities form a key part of our income streams. As the village Bonfire Night will no longer be able to take place, we have tried to identify possible other fundraising activities (e.g. as a wedding venue). We also hope to host the inaugural 'OddSock Festival' in 2024
- As a local village cricket club we have identified our relationship with the wider village as an area we would like to continue to develop – our clubhouse is open when cricket is being played to players and non-players alike
- Facilities – our changing/showering facilities still do not meet guidelines for mixed/female changing areas (new shower cubicles, window covers). Clubhouse toilet facilities also do not meet current standards for disability access. We will continue to try and access funding for improvement works from the ECB and have also identified funding streams via the Parish Council to access funds from a large company that has recently developed a site near Blyth
- Our outdoor nets practice facilities still require improvement. We purchased a set of mobile nets in 2019 but this needs to be upgraded to a more permanent solution but the costs remain high for this
- Grounds equipment – upgrading and maintenance. The running of a cricket club to enable cricket to be played (at all levels)

requires a large amount of equipment. Some of our grounds equipment is old and inefficient and needs replacing. Some of this equipment is also expensive as it is specialist in nature

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Blyth Cricket Club, Nottinghamshire continues to be entirely managed and run by volunteers. Without our volunteers, from ground staff to junior supervisors the club would not be able to function, or indeed exist. We are grateful for the contribution of our volunteers through 2022 and 2023.

During 2022-2023 approximately 25 different people have volunteered for the club across a wide range of activities from coaching juniors to helping with the grounds and running events.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

We registered around 70 Senior members to Blyth CC in 2023. All parents/carers of our junior members are also members of the Social Club.

At our AGM Jack Tarr was voted in again as Chair and remains the Chair of the Trustee Committee. The Treasurer and Club Secretary also remain the same. No Trustees retired and we had no new Trustees join us this year. All our Trustees are committed to Blyth CC and give many hours to the club on a totally voluntary basis.

For the 2023 season the First XI team played in Division 2 in the Bassetlaw & District Cricket League and had another difficult season (finishing 8th). The Second team remained in Division 6 of the same league. At the end of the 2023 season, there was a proposal put to members at the AGM to ask the Bassetlaw & District Cricket League if our first team could voluntarily drop down to division 3 for the 2024 season. Our aim for the 2024 season would be to consolidate our position in the respective divisions and leagues and to attract more members to the club (not just playing members).

Women's cricket continued to develop rapidly in 2023. The women's softball team took part in the East Midlands Women's Cricket League and finished 8th. The hardball Super 8s and the XI hardball team also played as part of this league, finishing 3rd and division champions respectively – the hardball team played 12 matches and won all of them.

Our Development Plan continues to list as an objective to retain and

Section D

Achievements and performance

increase numbers of female players. In 2019 we had approximately 18 women players, in 2023 we had 30 female players in the league matches alone. Over recent years we have developed the leading women and girls section in Bassetlaw and this continues to grow. Our ground and facilities are maintained solely by volunteers. Our facilities are limited and struggle to meet the needs of the club especially with growing female and junior sections.

We also continue to encourage and support women and girls to play open age cricket (i.e. in mixed teams) and Blyth had the highest number of women playing mixed senior cricket in Nottinghamshire.

Women and Girls cricket continues to develop with support from the ECB – Jemima Dalton continues as Chair of the East Midlands Women's Cricket League and is also the Women & Girls Officer for Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club.

Each junior has at least one responsible adult join as a member of the Social Club. This was about the same as previous years. Our age range was 5 to 15 years. We had 8 juniors playing senior Saturday cricket in 2023.

We have five ECB qualified coaches available to coach our junior section so are looking to continue to increase junior numbers going forward. We have successfully encouraged our female coaches and players to mentor and support player development and confidence.

Some repair/upgrading work was done on the changing rooms in 2022/23 (roof repairs, new showers), but this building still needs replacing. We do not yet have suitable changing facilities for women/girls and the disabled. Our facilities are also not fully accessible. We do have a permanent disabled ramp to the main clubhouse to ensure that this facility is accessible to wheelchair/mobility scooter users. We still need to ensure that our toilet facilities are brought up to standard and are accessible.

This will still be an enormous but necessary task for the club and our volunteers. We do not own the ground we play on and this makes access to grants and other sources of funding difficult. We are hoping to access some funds through the Parish Council from a local large company that has moved to the Blyth area.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We have an approved reserves policy. Trustees have developed and adopted a reserves policy in accordance with Charity Commission guidance CC19. Our policy includes:

- what level of reserves is appropriate (up to £4K depending on requirements)
- why we need to hold reserves

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Blyth Cricket Club, Nottinghamshire principal sources of funds are:

- membership fees
- match and training fees
- sponsorship
- grants and donations
- income from the Social Club
- Membership fees remained at the same level for 2023. It is a requirement that all players must have paid membership fees in order to play cricket for Blyth. We are actively recruiting for new senior members and if successful this will increase our income.
- Match fees are set to cover payments to match officials and for match balls etc. Training fees (juniors) are set to cover costs of equipment, coaching and other facilities to support the playing of cricket
- We received £1000 in sponsorship for our junior teams from The Angel in Blyth
- Our England and Wales Cricket Trust Interest free loan for the roof replacement and upgrading of the clubhouse electrics continues to be paid off in quarterly instalments. The loan was for £12,190 over 5 years and is due to be paid off fully by November 2024
- Our major expenditure in 2023 continues to be ground maintenance.

Section F

Other optional information

Trustees previously agreed that the Social Club and CIO should have one bank account for Blyth CC – separate financial accounts will be still be kept and any money raised by the Social Club from fundraising events will be clearly noted as donations to the CIO.

Trustees will continue to review our fundraising strategy going forward. Our outside events are vulnerable to the weather for example. We need to ensure that risks are considered and managed as far as is possible and this may necessitate a change in the type of fundraising activities we focus on. This will become increasingly important as it becomes necessary to invest in new facilities at the ground such as changing rooms etc. This will be a major expenditure for the club and will require careful management by Charity Trustees.

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Malcolm Butler	Andrew Carter
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	Secretary
Date	30/06/2024	

Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of Blyth Cricket Club

We have examined the financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2023 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account and related notes. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting policies set out herein and the requirements of the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities. The report is made solely to the club's members, as a body. Our examination has been undertaken so that we might state to the club's members those matters we are required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any other than the club's members as a body, for our independent examination work, for this report or the opinions we have formed.

Respective Responsibilities of Management Committee and Independent Examiners

As described in the Statement of the Committee of Management's Responsibilities, the committee are responsible for the preparation of financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards and United Kingdom generally accepted accounting practice.

Our responsibility is to examine financial statements in accordance with the relevant legal and regulatory requirements.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements are properly in accordance with the accounting records. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the club has not kept proper accounting records, or if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our examination, or if any information specified by law regarding committee members' remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

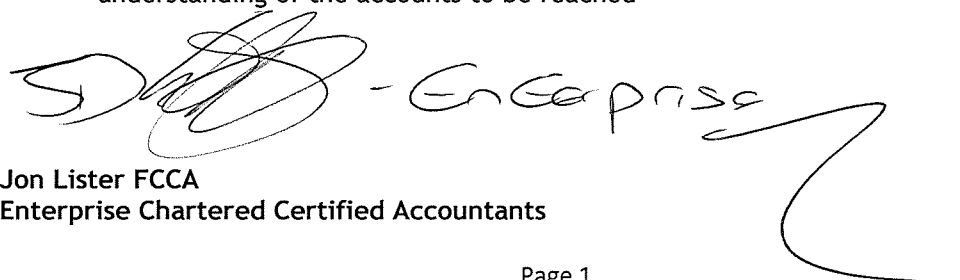
Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given under accounting standards. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the club and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as committee members concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement above.

Independent Examiner's Report

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respects the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance; and to prepare accounts which accord with accounting records and with the method and principles of UK GAAP have not been met; or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



Jon Lister FCCA
Enterprise Chartered Certified Accountants

Blyth Cricket Club

Statement of Management Committees' Responsibilities

Management committee are required to prepare the financial accounts for each financial period which give a true view of the state of affairs of the club and of the surplus or deficit of the club for that period. In preparing those financial statements we are required to;

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the club will continue in business.

The management committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the club and to enable that the financial statements are compliant. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the club and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

By order of the Committee

Club Secretary