

# THE CHURCHILL AND BLAKEDOWN VILLAGES TRUST

## Report of the Trustee for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

The Parish Council as Trustee presents its report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

### Reference and administrative information

Charity Name	The Churchill and Blakedown Villages Trust
Charity registration number	1163029
Organisation type	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Governing document	Foundation CIO, Registered 06 Aug 2015
Registered Office	C/O The Clerk to the Parish Council,
Clerk to the Trust	Louise Harris, 18 Winds Point, Hagley, Worcestershire DY9 0PN
Auditor to the Trust	George Powell FCCA – Powell & Associates, 28-29 New Road, Kidderminster, DY10 1AF
Bankers to the Trust	CAF Bank Ltd, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4JQ

### Structure, governance and management

The Trust has a sole corporate Trustee (the Parish Council) and has adopted Standing Orders parallel to those of the Parish Council. Councillors sit as a management committee to represent the Parish Council as Trustee.

Management committee	The members of the Parish Council of Churchill and Blakedown
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### Our purpose, aims and objectives

The purpose of the Charity is to benefit the residents of the Parish of Churchill and Blakedown as set out in the governing document registered with the Charities Commission as summarised below:

To promote such charities and charitable purposes according to the laws of England and Wales in such ways as the Trustees shall think fit in the Civil Parish of Churchill and Blakedown, in particular but not exclusively, purposes concerned with recreation, conservation and local heritage.

What are our permitted activities in the Parish?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General Charitable Purposes</li><li>• Environment/Conservation/Heritage</li><li>• Recreation</li></ul>
Who can benefit?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The General Public/Mankind</li></ul>
How do we deliver our objectives?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide Buildings/Facilities/Open Space</li></ul>

Our aim is to improve the wellbeing of residents in the Parish through general charitable purposes, including providing and maintaining facilities, and to support other Parish organisations which do the same.



### **The primary focus of our work during the year**

The Trust's main current activity is to hold and manage the reconstructed former Churchill and Blakedown Signal Box as a community asset on a long lease from the Parish Council as a locally listed heritage asset.

The site was maintained and supervised by the Historical Society during the year in accordance with the Occupation Agreement dated 24<sup>th</sup> October 2023. After the business interruption caused by the Covid pandemic, April 2023 to March 2024 was the second full year of operation for the Signal Box, with the possibility of developing regular bookings and patterns of use. Throughout the year the Historical Society has been very effective in continuing to open the Box on two occasions in every month for coffee mornings which aimed to inform visitors about the story of the Signal Box, stimulate interest in the history of the locality, encourage local use of the facility and regular bookings, and at the same time provide a welcoming and supportive environment. The Signal Box also hosted private bookings for other events throughout the year.

The Signal Box has seen an increase in utility charges in the year together with an increase on maintenance costs compared to the previous year, for a window cleaning and gutter clearing. Also necessary was continued protection against a risk of fire with new smoke alarms and fire extinguishers being installed. A new storage box was purchased, and we incurred the cost of an end of year auditor.

During the year income to the Trust totalled £1,344 against outgoings of £2,573, showing a deficit of £1229. The Trust commences the new financial year with a debt of £2211 owed to the Churchill & Blakedown Parish Council.

### **How our activities deliver public benefit**

The Trust seeks to involve the public in its local heritage by continuing to hold and preserve the Signal Box for community use. Its other powers remain available.

### **Plans for future periods**

Over the year, the Trust agreed on new heating for the space and this will be completed in the next financial year subject to a decision on funding from another local Trust. It is hoped that further funding can be sought to replace the current flooring with commercial grade, hardwearing flooring that will remain in keeping with the heritage of the Signal Box. Discussions are underway about how the Trust can strengthen the regular income from private room hire.

### **Financial review**

The Trust has its own banking facilities, and as this financial year closes, is in the process of switching over to a new account.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees by:



Date 24 October, 2024

(Clerk to The Churchill and Blakedown Villages Trust)



# Churchill & Blakedown Villages Trust

## Receipts & Payment Account 2023/2024

Year ending 31/03/2024

	31/03/2024	31/03/2023
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Private Bookings	£1,160.00	£1,796.10
Interest	£15.34	£11.40
Donations	£168.70	
	<b>£1,344.04</b>	<b>£1,807.50</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>		
Bank Charges	£60.00	£72.00
Utilities	£1,082.04	£706.00
Telephone & Communications	£696.36	£590.30
Repairs & Maintenance	£439.00	£50.00
Miscellaneous & Consumables	£170.67	£0.00
Professional Fees	£125.00	£27.40
	<b>£2,573.07</b>	<b>£1,445.70</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>	<b>-£1,229.03</b>	<b>£361.80</b>

## Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2024

	31/03/2024	31/03/2023
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Bank	£9,931.91	£8,949.75
	<b>£9,931.91</b>	<b>£8,949.75</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Creditors - Churchill & Blakedown PC	£2,211.19	
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>£7,720.72</b>	<b>£8,949.75</b>
<b>RESERVES</b>		
Opening Balance	£8,949.75	£8,587.95
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for the year	-£1,229.03	£361.80
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>£7,720.72</b>	<b>£8,949.75</b>

### Notes:

The Trust (1163029) was registered on 06/08/2015

The First meeting on the Trust took place on 20/07/2016

The Charities Aid Foundation Bank Account was opened on the 13/10/2016

### Accounts audited

Signed:

Auditor

Signed:

Clerk to the Trust



GEORGE POWELL  
ECCA.



LOUISE SAHOTA.  
CLERK.



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