

FRIENDS OF FLECKNEY LIBRARY

Charity No: 1165571

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

- for the year ended -

31ST MARCH 2024

JOHN BIRD
Chartered Accountants
26, Brookfield Street
Syston
LEICESTER
LE7 2AD

FRIENDS OF FLECKNEY LIBRARY

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Trustees' Annual Report for the period						
From		Period start date			Period end date	
		Day 01	Month April	Year 2023	To	Day 31

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

Postcode

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	Linda Marshall	Chairman		TFOFL Members
2	Stephen Robson	Vice Chairman		As above
3	Andrew Weatherby	Treasurer		As above
4	Stephen Bilbie			As above
5	Janet Earwaker			As above
6	Ruth Hughes			As above
7	Fran Hutchinson			As above
8	Jennifer McNair			As above
9	Jill Richardson			As above
10	Kathy Rudge			As above
11	Bernie Stribling			As above
12	Wendy Whiting			As above

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
None	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
N/A		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (e.g. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (e.g. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Association)
Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by)	Founding Trustees came forward as volunteers from the community. Trustees to be elected by Charity Members at subsequent Annual General Meetings of the Charity in accordance with the Constitution.

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.

The Founding Trustees are a voluntary group who took over the running of Fleckney Library from Leicestershire County Council (LCC) on 7 March 2016 on a 10 year lease and grant agreement.

We were part-funded by grants from LCC until March 2022 and continue to receive in-kind support for some services [including provision of public computer IT services] and remain part of the LCC Library Service. The Charity must develop its own income generation streams to ensure future sustainability.

We have recruited and manage a team of volunteers to help us deliver library services in Fleckney and several of the Trustees are actively involved in the day-to-day operations of the library as Lead Volunteers.

We are part of the county-wide network of Community Managed Libraries and Trustee representatives meet quarterly with representatives from a cluster of local CMLs, attended by LCC Support Officers.

The challenges we face will be:

- Increasing room hire and activities at the library to improve income generation.
- Retention of existing & recruitment of new volunteer workforce for future sustainability.
- Preparations for renewal of the lease arrangements with LCC by March 2026.

Section C Objectives and activities

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

1. To advance the education of the general public in Fleckney in Leicestershire and the surrounding area, in particular but not exclusively, by the provision of a volunteer-run community managed library providing access to community education and opportunities for learning.
2. To promote for the benefit of the residents of Fleckney and the surrounding area the provision of a public library for recreation and or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said residents

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)

The main activities undertaken for public benefit in relation to the Charity's objects are:

- 1.Operation of a public lending library and associated activities and services
- 2.Provision of resources and IT facilities, delivery of recreational and educational events and services for the benefit and enjoyment of the local community
- 3.Provision of facilities for user groups and other hirers.

The library has become an integral part of the community, engaging effectively with other local groups and organisations.

The Trustees declare that we have had due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and confirm that all our operations and activities are in accordance with such guidance.

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.

The Charity is not a grant-making organisation.
The Charity does not currently hold any investments.

Our volunteers make a significant and much-valued contribution to the successful running of the library and the Charity is dependent on and grateful for their commitment of time, help and support.

The Charity has no employees and none of the trustees or volunteers is paid or remunerated, other than the reimbursement of reasonable expenses and expenditure on behalf of the Charity.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Achievements and initiatives of the Charity over the last year:

- Retention of a knowledgeable board of 12 Trustees.
- Retention of a core group of original charity volunteers who have been actively involved in delivery of library services and recruitment of 3 new volunteers.
- Successfully supporting 2 Duke of Edinburgh Award student volunteers this year – one Bronze award completed and a Gold Award student recruited November 2023 on an 18 month placement,
- Good relationships & support among trustees and active volunteers – very much a community team effort where everyone's contribution is valued and appreciated.
- Monthly meetings of Trustees supported by a volunteer secretary.
- The 8th Anniversary of the Community Managed Library was celebrated with a coffee morning and a sale in March 2024.

Library performance:

- Total library books issued in the year 1 April 2023 – 21 March 2024: 11202
- Total number of new library joiners: 223
- Total number of active borrowers: 530
- The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge 2023 attracted 148 children aged 4-11 years to take part with 114 [77%] completing the challenge to read 6 books over the school summer holidays.
- The weekly Little Ducklings Story Time was extended to include a Stay-&-Play session last year and attendance has increased this year.
- Several sales of books, toys and bric-a-brac also took place this year, fundraising for the charity. We now have a selection of handmade crafts and gift items for sale, generating commission income for the charity.
- Weekly Knit & Natter Drop-In session continues to be increasingly well-attended.
- A Baby Sensory franchise has continued to regularly hire facilities at the library with up to 12 parents and their babies attending each session. New Life Church's weekly free 'Lunch at the Library' for the local community has been very much enjoyed, including a community Christmas Lunch, with up to 20 people attending each week. NHS Health Visitors have hired the meeting room for 4 week Let's Get Talking' sessions, typically supporting 6 - 8 families and

their children.

- The Fleckney Gardening Group held their annual plant sale in the summer and the library took part in the village's Fleckney Festival Christmas event in December.
- The library has hosted year group visits from the local primary school, a 4-session Readiness for School course and 4 drop-in sessions for a HIRE Get Work Ready project supporting people back into work. We also hosted a visit from 20 members of the local Squirrels group, working towards their library badge in the autumn.
- Other activities & drop-in sessions this year included:
Easter Crafts for children
Christmas Wreath Making
Sewing Course
Financial advice and Utility Warehouse energy advice
Carers Week advice
- Income from room hire is increasing and we have continued to offer a monthly raffle since January this year. We are also a charity registered with the Harborough Lotto and receive a share of the ticket sales nominating TFOFL each month.
- In response to severe flooding in the village in January which led to the temporary closure of Fleckney Village Hall, we were pleased to be able to accommodate the Village Hall Management Committee meetings, Fleckney History Group meetings and New Life Church Services at the library from January to March 2024. This generated unexpected room hire income for the library.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We are a not-for-profit organisation and all funds received or generated directly support the purposes of the Charity and sustainability of the library. Surpluses generated are carried forward towards our on-going liabilities and running costs in subsequent years and we seek to retain sufficient reserves to cover events or situations that may occur.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

There are no funds in deficit.

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.

The Charity's principal source of funds was initially the annual grant received from Leicestershire County Council. This grant-funding ended in March 2022. Extending and sustaining our own income generation opportunities is now essential to enable the charity to meet its running costs, including cost of internal repairs and maintenance.

Other lesser income streams include charity membership and donations, sale of donated books and other items, donations for refreshments & we hire rooms out to local groups and organisations. Some of these streams continued to be on hold or limited last year but have continued to improve in 2023/2024.

We still have some residual benefit in our deposit account from the £25,000 Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Grant we received in April 2020. Harborough District Council paid for a new external notice board to the value of £992.00 from the Fleckney Improvement Plan Fund.

The charity's financial position remains secure as at 31 March 2024, although monthly income was less than monthly expenditure for some of the year.

As this year's accounts show, the financial position of the charity remains healthy in spite of some restrictions on income generation and all our liabilities were met this year.

All funds are invested back into the library and directly support our key objectives and provision of library services.

Section F Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Linda Marshall



Full name(s)

Linda Marshall

Andrew Weatherby

Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chairman

Treasurer

Date

18th December 2024

FRIENDS OF FLECKNEY LIBRARY

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

Charity registration number: 1165571

Registered address: 25 Lodge Road
Fleckney
Leicestershire
LE8 8BX

Trustees: L. Marshall
S. Robson
A. Weatherby
J. Earwaker
J. McNair
K. Rudge
R. Hughes
J. Richardson
B. Stribling
S. Bilbie
W. Whiting
F. Hutchinson

Bankers: Co-operative Bank plc

Independent Examiner: John Bird
Chartered Accountants
26 Brookfield Street
Syston
Leicester
LE7 2AD

Solicitor: Josiah Hincks Solicitors
The Manse
22 De Montfort Street
Leicester
LE1 7GB

FRIENDS OF FLECKNEY LIBRARY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2024, which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements: you consider that the audit requirement of section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the Act) does not apply and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Act and to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the financial statements.

Independent examiner's statement

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

i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

a] to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and

b] to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act

have not been met; or

ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.

J W Bird FCA
JOHN BIRD
Chartered Accountants
26 Brookfield Street
Syston
LEICESTER
LE7 2AD

FRIENDS OF FLECKNEY LIBRARY

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (the SORP) issued in March 2005 and in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The principal accounting policies are set out below.

INCOMING RESOURCES

Donations and gifts

All monetary donations and gifts are included in full in the statement of financial activities when received.

Activities for generating funds

Income is included when received.

Investment income

Investment income is recognised when received.

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Expenditure is charged on a payment basis.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates to write down each asset over its estimated useful life:

Fixtures and furniture : 3 years straight line

FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources received or generated for expenditure on the general objectives of the Charity.

VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT)

All items of expenditure are shown inclusive of VAT, as the charity is unable to recover this.

FRIENDS OF FLECKNEY LIBRARY**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

		<u>Unrestricted funds</u>	
	Note	2024	2023
		£	£
Income and Expenditure			
Incoming resources			
Incoming resources from generated funds:			
Voluntary income	1	1,009	1,383
Activities for generating funds	2	2,433	567
Investment income	3	1,162	139
Fundraising	4	4,549	3,487
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total incoming resources		9,153	5,576
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Resources expended			
Charitable activities	5	13,956	13,018
Cost of fundraising	6	95	15
Governance costs	7	1,056	942
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total resources expended		15,107	13,975
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net outgoing resources for the year		(5,954)	(8,399)
Unrestricted funds brought forward		105,236	113,635
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Unrestricted funds carried forward	10	£99,282	£105,236
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

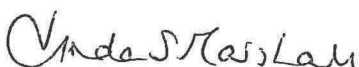
The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

FRIENDS OF FLECKNEY LIBRARY

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST MARCH 2024

		<u>Unrestricted funds</u>			
		2024		2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Fixtures & furniture	8		-		-
Current assets					
Cash funds	9		99,282		105,236
Net assets			£99,282		£105,236
			=====		=====
Total unrestricted funds	10		£99,282		£105,236
			=====		=====

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 18th December 2024
and signed on their behalf by:


.....
L Marshall - Chairman


.....
S Robson - Vice Chairman

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

FRIENDS OF FLECKNEY LIBRARY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

1 VOLUNTARY INCOME	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations received	567	908
Membership fees	210	240
Market Harborough Lotto	232	235
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£1,009	£1,383
	<hr/>	<hr/>
 2 ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS		
Room hire	2,150	328
Library services	283	239
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£2,433	£567
	<hr/>	<hr/>
 3 INVESTMENT INCOME		
Cash deposits		
Co-op Bank Plc - Instant access savings a/c interest	£1,162	£139
	<hr/>	<hr/>
 4 FUNDRAISING		
Refreshments	1,402	975
Book sales	646	540
Sundry income	673	451
Photocopying	416	502
Plant and jam sales	85	290
Bag sales	14	9
Duck food sales	66	56
Hamper and other raffles	885	247
Toast Office books	21	70
Tombola	126	152
Greeting card commission	163	128
Wool sold	52	67
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£4,549	£3,487
	<hr/>	<hr/>

FRIENDS OF FLECKNEY LIBRARY**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

5 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	2024	2023
	£	£
Water	512	481
Repairs and maintenance	5,003	4,622
Cleaning & rubbish removal	1,334	1,563
Insurances	841	751
Light & heat	6,266	5,601
	<u>£13,956</u>	<u>£13,018</u>
 6 COSTS OF FUNDRAISING		
Refreshment expenses	20	11
Duck food purchases and bags	75	4
Logo merchandise purchased	-	-
	<u>£95</u>	<u>£15</u>
 7 GOVERNANCE COSTS		
Online rota system subscription	162	145
Accountancy	630	594
Paypal charges	8	23
Other expenses	256	180
	<u>£1,056</u>	<u>£942</u>
 8 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS		
	<u>Fixtures & furniture</u>	
Net book value at 1 April 2023	-	
Additions at cost	-	
Depreciation provided for year	-	
	<u>£-</u>	
Net book value at 31 March 2024		
 9 CASH AND BANK		
Cash deposits:		
Co-op Bank Plc - Instant access savings account	91,887	100,725
Co-op Bank Plc - Current account	7,177	4,088
Paypal account	-	66
Cash and cheques in hand	218	357
	<u>£99,282</u>	<u>£105,236</u>
 10 FUND BALANCES		
Unrestricted funds - general	<u>£99,282</u>	<u>£105,236</u>