

Trustees' Annual Report

For the period

From (start date)

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2	4
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 to (end date)

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Section A – Reference and administration detailsCharity name

Snodhill Castle Preservation Trust

Other names the charity is known by

SCPT

Registered charity number (if any)

1165749

Charity's principal address

The Green, Snodhill, Dorstone, Herefordshire, UK						
Postcode <table border="1" style="display: inline-table;"><tr><td>H</td><td>R</td><td>3</td><td>6</td><td>B</td><td>G</td></tr></table>	H	R	3	6	B	G
H	R	3	6	B	G	

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)
			From	To	
1	GARRY RAYMOND CROOK	CHAIR			
2	LOUISE MACINTYRE	SECRETARY			
	SURREY GARLAND	TREASURER			
4	NICK LONGMAN	VICE-CHAIR			
5	BRIDGET KNIGHT				
6	BRIDIE SULLIVAN				
7	RUTH WOOLMER				
8	SUSANNAH GARLAND				
9	KATE HAYWARD				
10	JADE LEIGH BERESFORD				
11	JOE EMMETT				
12	TOM OLIVER				
13	SARAH LEWIS				
14	WILLIAM KLEMPERER				
15					
16					
17					
18					
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20					

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
	From	To

Section A – Reference and administration details (continued)

Names and addresses of advisers (optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Historic England, statutory authority	Neil Rimmington	Historic England
Archaeology and Excavations	Tim Hoverd	Herefordshire Council
Bookkeeper	Sarah Halliday	Common Bach, Dorstone

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

n/a

Section B - Structure governance and management

Description of the charities' trusts

Type of governing document (eg trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by trustees

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 trust aims to adopt and follow the governance structures and procedures as outlined by the Charity Commission, NCVO, NLHF, Historic England, Herefordshire Council and other relevant bodies.

Following the grant award by the NLHF in 2024, these structures and procedures, including those covering risk, safeguarding, finance, volunteers and health and safety have been subject to review and ongoing revision as part of the 3-year 'Fortifying the Future' (FTF) resilience project.

During the year in review the Trust joined Herefordshire County BID, the Heritage Trust Network, the Herefordshire Histories Week festival, and Charity Digital.

We formed partner relationships with the Mortimer History Society and Hay Castle; and we established an ongoing association with the neighbouring HLF-funded projects of St Faith's, Dorstone and St Peter's, Peterchurch, with the aim of maximising synergies for the benefit of all .

We continued to host Summer student archaeology digs in conjunction with Manchester and Cardiff Universities and the Institute of Field Research, San Francisco.

As part of the FTF project, and funded by the NLHF, we initiated an exciting and innovative curriculum relationship with NMiTE, Hereford's new engineering university; and partnered with the Cartshed and the Family Place Foundation, aiming to develop facilities for, and to deliver with them, 'green welfare' projects for vulnerable individuals and their carers.

Section C – Objectives and activities

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

“To preserve for the benefit of the people of the Hamlet of Snodhill, the Parishes of Dorstone and Peterchurch, Herefordshire and the Nation ("the beneficiaries"), the historic, architectural and constructional heritage that exists in and around the Castle of Snodhill ("the area of benefit") in buildings (including any building as defined in Section 336 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) of particular beauty or historical, architectural or constructional interest, including but without limiting the generality of the foregoing acquiring, renovating, restoring and utilising for the benefit of the beneficiaries the structure, curtilages, site and environs of Snodhill Castle, Snodhill, Herefordshire and to educate the general public in the geography, history, natural history, architecture and economic and social history of the area of benefit ("the Objects")".

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

The main activities pursued during the year continue to be the excavation, exploration, restoration and maintenance of the standing remains of Snodhill Castle and its wilderness setting, and initiating and broadening access, awareness and engagement among particular groups and the wider public in this mission. We do this by providing year-round access, online and on-site interpretation, site tours and events, as well as encouraging special interest groups to use and value its amenity for study, enrichment and recreation. The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefits.

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 Trust makes no grants and has no investments. Details of our financial position over the year are in the attached Accounts.

The successful fulfilment of our mission depends entirely on the efforts of volunteers of whom the management and Trust body is entirely comprised, and who contributed on average some 5 hours per person per week, or over 3500 hours a year.

During the year in review the Trust welcomed four new volunteers who brought with them valuable skillsets in architecture and public administration.

Section D – Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

During the year in review the charity prepared, applied for (in April 2024) and won (in July) a 'Heritage Resilience' grant of £201,104 from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for our three-year 'Fortifying the Future' (FTF) project. Half of the total grant was drawn down (though not spent) during the year in review.

This ambitious programme aims to upgrade the Trust's governance, procedures, IT and communications, enabling us to greatly enhance our engagement reach and performance.

As part of FTF, a Conservation Management Plan was initiated with a year-long wildlife survey commencing in April, and work began on its various timed initiatives in November.

Meanwhile during the year in review the castle hosted pilgrims for hedgerow communions, tours for Hay Festival attendees and History groups including Cambrian Archaeology, Leintwardine Archaeology Society, AbbeyCwmHir History Group, Hay Castle Volunteers and Walk Hay. A tour was hosted for the Mortimer History Society and the Trust published a feature article in Mortimer Matters, their journal.

The Trust completed the second phase of the restoration of the Royal Free Chapel and held an event in the Summer for VIPs, donors and benefactors.

As part of the FTF project the trust advertised and recruited specialist consultants in project management, ecology, engagement, IT and evaluation.

By the end of the year in review (April 2025) these consultants were successfully recruited and in place.

Section E – Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's reserve policy

The Trust continued to maintain £10k as a contingency reserve as per our stated policy.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

n/a

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

Our income has been entirely derived from:

- 1) Grants – The National Lottery Heritage Fund
- 2) Appeals – The Royal Free Chapel Appeal Fund
- 3) Donations – as recorded in our financial report
- 4) Sales - of Christmas cards, artworks and firewood – as recorded in our financial report

Our expenditure has supported the charity by enabling the purchase and maintenance of equipment and supplies to support the fulfilment of our objects during the year.

The trust has no investments.

Section F – Other optional information

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)

Garry Crook

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Date

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**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Snodhill Castle Preservation Trust
(registered charity number 1165749)**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Snodhill Castle Preservation Trust ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2025. The accounts comprise the attached receipts and payments account and the statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and, in carrying out my examination, I have followed applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Purse". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Stephen Purse
Chartered Accountant
30 January 2026

Snodhill Castle Preservation Trust

Year ended 31 March 2025

Receipts and payments account


	2025					2024
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds			Total funds	Total funds
		Chapel Appeal Fund	Heritage Fund	Total Restricted Funds		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts						
Grants	-	-	100,552	100,552	100,552	-
Donations	6,155	1,350	-	1,350	7,505	9,272
Miscellaneous sales	353	-	-	-	353	875
Interest income	1,114	-	-	-	1,114	153
	7,622	1,350	100,552	101,902	109,524	10,300
Payments						
Project expenditure	-	-	17,339	17,339	17,339	-
Restoration costs	4,562	5,938	-	5,938	10,500	-
Insurance	906	-	-	-	906	917
Website	1,035	-	-	-	1,035	478
Miscellaneous expenses	964	-	-	-	964	319
	7,467	5,938	17,339	23,277	30,744	1,714
Asset and investment purchases	-	-	-	-	-	4,188
Net income/(expenditure)	155	(4,588)	83,213	78,625	78,780	4,398
Funds brought forward	12,053	4,588	-	4,588	16,641	12,243
Funds carried forward	12,208	-	83,213	83,213	95,421	16,641

Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the year

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
		£	£	£	£
Cash funds	Current account	246	-	246	515
	Deposit account	11,962	83,213	95,175	16,126
		12,208	83,213	95,421	16,641
Assets retained for the charity's own use	Snodhill Castle	1	-	1	1
	Container at cost	4,011	-	4,011	4,011
		4,012	-	4,012	4,012
Liabilities	Unpaid bills	(169)	-	(169)	(105)
Net assets		16,051	83,213	99,264	24,560

Notes:

1. The trust acquired a long lease of Snodhill Castle at no cost. The lease is recorded at a nominal amount of £1.
2. The Chapel Appeal was launched in May 2023 to fund restoration work on the castle's Royal Free Chapel.
3. The Heritage Fund results from a grant awarded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund to support the long term resilience of the trust.

Signed on behalf of the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of Approval
		Garry Crook	30.01.26