



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

**From January 2023**

**To December 2023**

**Charity name:** Grange Area Trust

**Charity registration number:** 1167347

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>(1) For the benefit of the public to provide and maintain a village green in Widmer Fields and, if so decided, to acquire and provide further pieces of land within the area of benefit for the use of the inhabitants of the area without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, race or political religion or other opinion for informal recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life of the said inhabitants.</p> <p>(2) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in and around the area of benefit.</p> <p>(3) To advance the education of the public, in particular but not exclusively, in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in and around the area of benefit.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To ensure the land management plan is followed.</li><li>• To organise the management of volunteer groups to work on the land</li><li>• To organise the programme for bramble/nettle control, grassland and woodland management, scrub encroachment, footpaths control, botanical surveys.</li><li>• To set up nature trails, places bird and bat boxes and wildlife habitat protection</li></ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To fundraise and make grant applications to raise funding from individuals and organisations to cover annual running costs.</li> <li>• To raise awareness of the Trust by effective public presentations, leaflets, notices, press releases, newsletters, etc.</li> </ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Grange Area Trust upholds its objective to the advancement of protection and improvement of the environment for the benefit of wildlife, plants and the public.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	The charity been a small group of dedicated volunteers who have willingly given of their time and a number of residents have expressed interest in supporting the trust's work. During the course of 2023 the Trust has been successful in attracting a number of new volunteers to support its Land Management work. The Trust has also been supported by the dog walking community, one of Widmer Fields key user groups, who raised funds for the Trust during 2023.
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A number of Nature Trails through the fields were organised for young children during the year. They were well attended</li> <li>• During 2023 the Trust has also established a relationship with a local Forest School, offering access to the Fields for the schools activities and providing Bird and Bee box kits for the children to build and decorate.</li> <li>• During the year we mentored an individual working towards his Duke of Edinburgh award.</li> <li>• We ran a successful fund-raising quiz night in the Autumn and we again produced a Widmer Fields Calendar for 2024. This year we extended the print run from 100 to 200 in order to meet demand. The calendar was well received and generated a significant level of donations in addition to the sale revenue.</li> </ul>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	As above
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	As above.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	At our December 2023 Trustees meeting the Trustees agreed an investment plan to place our £10,000 reserve into an interest bearing fixed term account. We will reap the benefit of that investment in 2024.
Other		



## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Reserves are held in case any unforeseen emergency arises. This is vital as there is a substantial number of trees on Widmer Fields Village Green which could be affected by storms. The Trust has no regular income apart from donations and fund raising events.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£10,000
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Funds are raised by donations from individual residents, grants from public bodies, such as the local parish councils, the annual calendar and quiz nights.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accidents to volunteers working on the land.</li> <li>• A reduction in donations which are necessary for maintaining the land.</li> <li>• Ageing volunteers.</li> <li>• Ash Die Back which affects a number of the trees that we maintain</li> </ul>
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	The Trust's governing document is the Constitution.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p>Trustees come from a variety of backgrounds. They share a common desire to protect green spaces around Buckinghamshire. They each have strengths which are useful to the Trust, e.g. company directors, accountancy, environmental, administrative, marketing, IT, local council representation. There is a staggered retirement programme which is detailed in the Constitution.</p> <p>There is full board discussion and approval before the appointment of any Trustee. A likely candidate must generally serve for a period of at least two years on one of the sub-committees – Development or Land Management, provide a CV and undertakes a short interview. On appointment, the new Trustee makes a written declaration stating that:</p> <p>S/he is willing to act as a trustee of the Grange Area Trust. S/he understands the organisation's purposes and rules set out in its Constitution. S/he understands that knowingly to make a false statement is a criminal offence under section 11 of the Charities Act 1993 S/he understands that the charity's funds are held in its name in bank or building society account in England or Wales S/he will comply with his/her responsibilities as a trustee as set out in the Charity Commission's guidance "The Essential Trustee (CC3) S/he is not prevented from acting a trustee because s/he:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o has an unspent conviction shown at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/automatic-disqualification-rules-for-charity-trustees-and-charity-senior-positions">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/automatic-disqualification-rules-for-charity-trustees-and-charity-senior-positions</a></li> <li>o has an IVA, debt relief order and/or a bankruptcy order</li> <li>o has been removed as a trustee in England, Scotland or Wales (by the Charity Commission or Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator)</li> <li>o is a disqualified company director</li> <li>o is a designated person for the purposes of anti-terrorism legislation</li> <li>o is on the sex offenders' register</li> <li>o has been found in contempt of court for making (or causing to be made) a false statement</li> </ul>

		<p>o has been found guilty of disobedience to an order or direction of the Charity Commission</p> <p>and is provided with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A copy of the Constitution</li> <li>• A copy of the up-to-date Annual Report and Accounts</li> <li>• A Charity Commission Trustees' Handbook</li> <li>• Copies of the trust's policy documents</li> </ul>
--	--	---

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	<p>GAT consists of two sub-committees, Development Committee and Land Management Committee, who have trustees, volunteers and expert consultants serving on them and each has a Chairman who reports back to the main board of Trustees. Proposals from these sub-committees are brought to the main board of Trustees for ratification. They each meet three times during the year.</p> <p>There are no paid staff working for GAT. There is an Honorary Treasurer and an Honorary Secretary.</p>
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

### Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	The Grange Area Trust
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1167347
Charity's principal address	Piranor Barn, North Road, Widmer End, Buckinghamshire, HP15 6NE





### 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	Colin Stevens	Chairman of Trustees and Chairman of Development Committee	Elected as Trustee in February 2022. Elected a Chair in March 2023	
2	Malcolm Bristow		Elected 2017 – reappointed 2020 and 2023	
3	Brian Dugan		Elected in 2016 – reappointed in 2019 and 2022	
4	Peter Dwelly		Elected in 2020 – reappointed in 2023	
5	David Field	Chairman of Land Management Committee	Elected in 2016 – reappointed in 2020	
6	Hugh McCarthy		Elected in 2016 – reappointed in 2020	
7	Robert Pangborn		Elected in 2016 – reappointed in 2018, 2020 and 2022	
8	Judy Weaver		Elected in 2016 – reappointed in 2018, 2020 and 2022	
9	Colin Wingfield		Elected in 2016 – reappointed in 2019 and 2022	

### Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

### Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	


## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

--

## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--

## Other optional information

--

## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

--	--

Full name(s)

Joanna Davinson	
-----------------	--

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

Honorary Secretary	
--------------------	--

Date

--

**Grange Area Trust**  
**Statement of Accounts**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

	£ Year to 31.12.23	£ Year to 31.12.22
<b>Incomings</b>		
Donations		
Standing Orders	4,165.00	4,293.00
Others	1,960.55	11,505.43
	<u>6,125.55</u>	<u>15,798.43</u>
Hazlemere Fete donations	230.60	100.00
Current year calendar sales	756.00	1,427.31
Previous year calendar sales	65.00	122.00
Gift Aid	831.56	1,076.39
HPC grant	500.00	0.00
Quiz	745.00	812.95
Cedar Park party	455.00	
<b>Total income</b>	<b>9,708.71</b>	<b>19,337.08</b>
<b>Outgoings</b>		
Calendars 2023	464.19	422.31
Calendars 2024	650.00	0.00
Subscriptions	95.00	45.00
Hazlemere Fete	125.00	0.00
Insurances	252.48	925.56
Leaflets	132.00	0.00
Scalpings	1,695.06	3,429.30
Land management expenses	1,904.77	7,089.58
Equipment repairs/replacement	3,830.85	9,276.48
Administration	0.00	228.34
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>9,149.35</b>	<b>21,416.57</b>
<b>Excess of income over expenses</b>	<b>559.36</b>	<b>-2,079.49</b>
<b>Bank balance at 1st January 2023</b>	<b>27,668.51</b>	<b>29,748.00</b>
<b>Bank balance at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>28,227.87</b>	<b>27,668.51</b>
<b>In current account</b>	<b>18,227.87</b>	
<b>In Long term deposit account (matures 14/2/25)</b>	<b>10,000.00</b>	



C Wetherell Hon Treasurer

Date: 28/04/2024

In my opinion the above statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the trust.



D.B. Westbrook F.C.C.A.

Date: 02/05/2024