



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date
From 1 January 2021 To 31 December 2021

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name **Hartford Civic Society**

Registered charity number **1171256**

Charity's principal address c/o Honorary Secretary, 'White House'

23 Walnut Lane, Hartford, Northwich

Postcode **CW8 1QN**

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	Tracey Abbott			Elected by Membership
2	David Barr	Treasurer		Elected by Membership
3	Brian Evans			Elected by Membership
4	Margaret Gent			Elected by Membership
5	Rita Hollens			Elected by Membership
6	Jo Mitton		26 July 2021	Appointed by Trustees
7	Patricia Parkes			Elected by Membership
8	Michael Pinchien			Elected by Membership
9	John Swaffield	Secretary		Elected by Membership
10	John Szostek	Chair		Elected by Membership
11	Geoffrey Wilde			Elected by Membership

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document **Constitution**

How the charity is constituted **Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)**

Trustee selection methods **Elected by Members at the AGM, interim appointed by Trustees/Members.**

Section C Objectives and activities

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

In the Parish of Hartford:

- to promote high standards of planning and architecture,
- to educate the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture of the area,
- to secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of the environment and sites of features of historic or public interest in the area,
- to provide recreational facilities and/or events for the public and
- to procure the maintenance, improvement or provision of public amenities.

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)

Our accounts and their notes only partly list our activities. Much more was achieved thanks to the time and effort contributed by Trustees, Members and residents. Once Covid restrictions had eased, we led 5 countryside circular walks and arranged a tour of Royalty Wood. We organised 6 increasingly well supported litter picks; we started green space working parties, the first 3 of which tackled epicormic tree growth; and we organised a rota which kept our hanging baskets and planters watered. We appealed to all residents of Hartford by distributing a trifold map and information on a walk visiting our 13 blue plaques; we ran a 'Hartford Past' competition and we produced a 2022 calendar with historical notes. We continue to respond to individual email requests for historical information on Hartford and its residents. Trustees and Members helped as marshals for the September 'Fun Run' and with the Christmas Extravaganza, where we had a stall. We opposed the demolition of three houses (nos. 433-437) on Chester Road, contributed to Hartford Parish Council's Walk, Ride and Thrive working group and are currently supporting a Member's application for a new footpath right of way between Beach Road and Chester Road. Notes to our accounts record charitable spend on a bench in memory of Pat Hatfield and the planting of six oak trees in Royalty Wood.

Most of the above activities benefited local residents, not just our Members. The charity's trustees had regard to the Commission's public benefit guidance when choosing its projects.

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the period.

The list of public benefit projects listed above is evidence of our continued achievements.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The large legacy has resulted in funds well in excess of our £5,000 reserves policy minimum. This surplus will be spent wisely in the next few years on (a) quality project(s) fitting our charitable aims.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include:

- the charity's principal sources of funds;

Appreciation of what we do has prompted an increase in donations, an 'in memory of' gift and the large legacy. Together, these have been our main sources of funds in the last two years. Our objective is to recruit more Members, whilst keeping the rate of subscription unchanged. We continue to save £500 p.a. by not subscribing to the national organisation, Civic Voice, which we do not consider currently represents value to our own Membership.

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)	John Anthony Szostek	David Christopher Barr
Position	Chair	Treasurer

Date **21st February 2022**

HARTFORD CIVIC SOCIETY

Charity Commission Registered Number 1171256

Receipts and Payments Statement for Year ending 31 December 2021

	Note	Current Year £	Previous Year £
Income			
Subscriptions	3	2,196	2,095
Legacy	2	30,568	30,000
Donations		1,031	37
Grants		0	0
Gift Aid Refund	4	480	416
Interest		6	7
Lottery Income	6	1,414	1,426
Sale of Calendars	6	410	737
Sale of Coach Trips		0	0
Sale of Equipment		40	0
Overpayments		21	19
		-----	-----
		36,166	34,737
		-----	-----
Expenditure			
Communications Cost		62	68
Meeting Expenses		0	0
Insurance		99	99
Charitable Expenditure	5	1,809	608
Lottery Prizes & costs	6	740	740
Cost of Calendars	6	437	510
		-----	-----
		3,147	2,025
		-----	-----
Surplus for Year		33,019	32,712
		=====	=====

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2021

Net Worth		
At 1 January 2021	41,844	9,132
Surplus for Year	33,019	32,712
	-----	-----
At 31 December 2021	74,863	41,844
	=====	=====
Made up of:		
Barclays Bank - 10 day Notice Account	68,194	38,188
Community Account	6,669	3,656
	-----	-----
	74,863	41,844
	=====	=====

David Barrs CA
Hon Treasurer
9th February 2022

HARTFORD CIVIC SOCIETY

Charity Commission registered number 1171256

Receipts and Payments Account for the Year ended 31st December 2021 Notes to the Accounts

- Accounts: These Accounts are prepared on the Receipts and Payment basis allowed for small charities.
- Legacy: The late Mr George Cain, a member, has left the Society a substantial legacy for use at its discretion. During this year, instalments of £30,568 have been received. The Estate has now been wound up and the total received is £60,568.
- Membership: Subscriptions of £2,196 represent 402 Adult and 9 Junior members in 243 households. Previous period: £2,095, representing 385 Adult and 8 Junior members in 232 households.
- Gift Aid: Claiming Gift Aid as a CIO has depended on receiving new declarations from Members. The sum of £480 in these accounts partly covers 4 years. Our next claim will include Gift Aid on a donation of £500 received in December.

5 Charitable Expenditure

	2021 £	2020 £
Upkeep of plants & bulb plantings	525	294
Display Equipment	0	214
Litter Picking Safety Equipment	0	60
Competition Prizes etc	153	40
Trifold Leaflets	173	0
Oak trees in Royalty Wood	300	0
Memorial Bench	658	0
	-----	-----
	1,809	608
	=====	=====

The oak trees in Royalty Wood were planted in memory of the late Pat Hatfield and were funded by a donation from her family.

6 Lottery, Calendar and Coach Trip

	Current Year - 2021		2020
	Cost	Sales	Surplus
	£	£	/-Loss £
Lottery	740	1,414	674
Calendar	437	410	-27
Coach Trips -	0	0	0
	-----	-----	-----
	1,177	1,824	647
	=====	=====	=====

7 Voluntary Time

Members and Trustees have been limited in their time on Society business by lockdowns. Nevertheless, a higher level of activity has been achieved and we estimate that a fair assessment of hours is 650, valued at £6,500. (2020, 350 hours at £3,500).

8 Liabilities

There were no liabilities outstanding at the period end.

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