

# HARTFORD CIVIC SOCIETY

Charity Commission Registered Number 1171256

## Receipts and Payments Accounts for Year ending 31 December 2023

	Note	Current Year £	Previous Year £
<b>Income</b>			
Subscriptions	2	2,259	2,327
Donations		171	470
Gift Aid Refund	3	494	650
Interest		540	57
Lottery Income	5	1,416	1,416
Sale of Calendars and Booklet	5	640	526
Sale of Coach Trips	5	1,833	1,410
Agency Receipts	7	593	1,993
Overpayments		25	7
		<hr/> 7,971	<hr/> 8,856
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Communications Cost		344	135
Meeting Expenses		0	401
Insurance		129	99
Charitable Expenditure	4	14,889	13,813
Lottery Prizes & costs	5	740	740
Cost of Calendars	5	539	586
Cost of Hartford I Spy	5	655	0
Cost of Coach Trips	5	1,695	1,170
Agency Payments	7	2,093	493
		<hr/> 21,084	<hr/> 17,437
<b>-Deficit/Surplus for Year</b>		<hr/> <hr/> -13,113	<hr/> <hr/> -8,581
<b>Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2023</b>			
<b><u>Net Worth</u></b>			
<b>At 1 January 2023</b>		64,782	74,863
<b>-Deficit/Surplus for Year</b>		-13,113	-8,581
<b>Creditor (agency)</b>	7	1,500	-1,500
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>		<hr/> <hr/> 53,169	<hr/> <hr/> 64,782
<b><u>Made up of:</u></b>			
Barclays Bank - 10 Day Notice Account		52,314	63,251
Community Account		855	3,031
Creditor (Agency)	7	0	-1,500
		<hr/> <hr/> 53,169	<hr/> <hr/> 64,782

*David Barr CA*

Hon. Treasurer, 19 February 2024

## HARTFORD CIVIC SOCIETY

Charity Commission registered number 1171256

### Receipts and Payments Accounts for the Year ended 31st December 2023 Notes to the Accounts

- 1 Accounts: These Accounts are prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis allowed for small charities.
- 2 Membership: Subscriptions of £2,259 represent 409 Adult and 13 Junior members in 249 households, plus 1 corporate member. Previous period: £2,327, representing 423 Adult and 17 Junior members in 256 households.
- 3 Gift Aid: As a CIO we now have valid declarations from 71% of our membership.

#### 4 Charitable Expenditure

	2023	2022
	£	£
Village Clock contribution	6,000	0
Planter replacement	4,020	0
Green Field Pavilion	2,250	10,000
Hodge Lane Finger Post repaint	950	0
Display Lectern for MALNR	708	0
Upkeep of plants & bulb plantings	380	418
Competition prizes etc	240	243
Royalty Wood plaque	200	0
Walk costs	77	0
Exhibition costs	65	0
Defibrillator	0	1,804
Picnic Bench	0	625
Christmas Lights	0	564
Litter Picking Equipment	0	159
	<u>14,889</u>	<u>13,813</u>

#### 5 Lottery, Calendar, Hartford I Spy and Coach Trips

	Current Year - 2023			2022
	Cost	Sales	Surplus	Surplus
	£	£	/-Loss £	/ -Loss £
Lottery	740	1,416	676	676
Calendar	539	393	-147	-60
Hartford I Spy	655	247	-408	0
Coach Trips	1,695	1,833	138	240
	<u>3,629</u>	<u>3,889</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>856</u>

The deficit shown for Calendars excludes late receipts in the current year and we expect the final result to be at least breakeven. 1,000 I Spy booklets were printed; sales of these will be made over several future years, with no future cost.

#### 6 Voluntary Time

We estimate that some 800 hours of effort was given by Trustees and Members valued at £8,300. This includes the time taken to produce the Hartford I Spy booklet, as well as regular activities. (2022, 700 hours worth £7,000).

#### 7 Agency and Liabilities

On two occasions, the Society was asked to act as paying agents, with no discretion. The £1,500 carried over from last year as a Creditor amount in the Statement of Net Worth was paid out to fund an Arboretum in Royalty Wood. Later in the year we collected stall fees for the Christmas Fayre, totalling £593 on behalf of the organisers, then distributed them to designated local charities.



## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

		Period start date			Period end date		
From		1	January	2023	To	31	December 2023

### 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	David Barr	Treasurer		Elected by Membership
2	Brian Evans			Elected by Membership
3	Margaret Gent			Elected by Membership
4	Rita Hollens			Elected by Membership
5	Jo Mitton			Elected by Membership
6	Patricia Parkes			Elected by Membership
7	Michael Pinchien			Elected by Membership
8	Jean Pritchett		From 20 February 2023	Elected by Membership
9	Michael Sterry			Elected by Membership
10	John Swaffield	Secretary		Elected by Membership
11	John Szostek	Chair		Elected by Membership
12	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)**

Nearly everything we do is for public benefit and not limited to our Members. The charity's trustees had regard to the Commission's public benefit guidance when choosing its projects. One-off projects or activities in 2023 included the production of a 48-page Hartford I Spy booklet informing on Hartford history, ready for the Village Hall centenary celebrations; a "Life in Hartford" photo competition for images for our 2024 calendar; a talk to the u3a local history group; an entry in the scarecrow competition promoting our litter picking, and the refurbishment of the Hodge Lane finger post. Repeating the successes of previous years, we organised 7 local walks, 11 monthly litter picks and two coach trips (Jodrell Bank and the RHS Bridgewater Gardens). We replaced our rusting Chester Road planters, provided and maintained the usual spring and autumn plantings, and planted some more bulbs. We have supported Parish Council projects by contributing the shortfall to the village clock project (planning permission now obtained), and paid half the cost of the Pavilion floor upgrade. We paid to replace one of the information lecterns in Marshalls Arm Local Nature Reserve. We updated and expanded our website, which now gives access to the 76-page history of the village hall, researched and written by one of our Members and we maintained our library of books relating to Hartford.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

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

The list of projects above is evidence of our continued achievements. Promoting our work at Picnic-in-the-Park and the Christmas Fayre, we recruited 19 new Members. Retention of Members is high. We know from feedback that our Members and other residents value what we do for the benefit of Hartford. We registered our objection on the planning application to develop the field at the end of School Lane.

## Section E

## Financial review

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

We have funds well in excess of our £5,000 reserves policy minimum, thanks to the large legacy, which we continue to spend wisely, consistent with our charitable aims.

**Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You may choose to include:



- the charity's principal sources of funds

Subscriptions, the lottery surplus and bank interest were the biggest contributors to our net income, in that order. We aim to break even on our coach trips and our calendars, both organised to promote ourselves and to encourage community engagement in what we do.

## 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 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024