

Charity registration number 1172230

Company registration number 10670170 (England and Wales)

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024



THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	I Bratby M Clements B Coyne W S Cronan A J Fairweather-Tall J Fry J G M Gay: Vice Chair J V Gould C E Hilliard A J Hollingsworth E F Joint G R Jones P L Kennedy J L Mactaggart: Chair E Mundy S Pressel C M Simm C S F Snowton J H Tomes J K Williams	(Appointed 25 October 2024)
Secretary and Chief Executive	Mr R Eve	
Charity number	1172230	
Company number	10670170	
Registered office	The Office Stones Court St Clements Oxford OX4 1AP	
Auditor	Gravita Audit Oxford LLP First Floor, Park Central 40-41 Park End Street Oxford OX1 1JD	
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc 54 Cornmarket Street Oxford OX1 3HS	
Investment advisors	Cazenove Fund Management Ltd 1 London Wall Place London EC2Y 5AU	

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

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THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The charity's objects are:

- To provide housing accommodation for persons in need, hardship, or distress, who reside in Oxford.
- For relief of persons who are resident in Oxford who are in need, hardship, or distress.
- For the relief of persons in need who are resident in Oxford and the neighbourhood thereof who are sick, convalescent, disabled, handicapped or infirm.
- The provision of education assistance to persons in need who are under the age of 25 and resident in Oxford.

The trustees have confirmed that they have complied with the duty in section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the guidance published by the Charity Commission.

Achievements and performance

Inflationary pressures impacted the income and operational costs of running the almshouses and the cost of living crisis continues to put pressure on the funds used to support those in need in the city.

We have continued to manage, invest in, and improve the almshouses at Stones Court. Four flats became vacant during the year but demand for good accommodation remains high and so voids were minimised.

Preparations for the refurbishment of the Parsons building have continued, in anticipation of funds from the sale of the Gosford development land becoming available. The initial design and engineering work has been completed and outline costings assessed.

The investment portfolio has generated a good income, and the commercial properties have been fully let throughout the year.

The sale and development of the land at Gosford continues to move forward although slowly. Planning approval was given in late 2023, and in 2024 there was resolution to various issues including archaeological surveys. It is hoped that S106 demands are the last major hurdle and that 2026 will see contract negotiations with the developer.

The requests for Relief in Need and in Sickness, and for Education grants remained high but changes to the law on Debt Relief Orders cut demand significantly. The Charity's focus on early years resulted in another year of increased educational grants supporting children from the most deprived parts of the city. During 2024 (comparable figures for 2023 are given in brackets) grants for Relief in Need and in Sickness were made to 195 (186) persons/organisations, totalling £122,719 (£110,152), plus 4 (13) grants to assist with Bankruptcy fees amounting to £2,670 (£3,980); and Education Grants to 31 (23) persons /organisations amounting to £28,134 (£26,586).

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Financial Review

a) Investments

The main investment objective is to deliver a total return of not less than 4.0%. Cazenove has continued as the charity's investment managers. The value of the portfolio year-end after costs and drawdown was £4M, an increase of circa £260,000 over the balance at the start of the year. The total drawdown was held at £155,000 or 3.9%. The board were content to increase the level of investment risk. This was achieved during the year by selling down approximately £300K of property investments and moving the funds into global, north American and technology stocks.

As regards the Extraordinary Repair Fund and our general savings our aim is to keep pace with inflation and increase overall value through accrued interest.

b) Commercial Properties

58A St. Clements and 15 Alma Place were fully let throughout the year and have been professionally valued for accounting purposes. The value of both has increased and the revised year-end value is £1.69M. Both properties were fully let throughout the year generating a gross return of 6.2 %.

c) Stones Court

It is the policy of the Trustees to set the Weekly Maintenance Contribution (WMC) for all flats at levels below 'fair rent' but sufficient to cover the expenditure on Stones Court. The WMC includes a welfare charge and where this payment may cause hardship to individual residents, we consider their circumstances and where appropriate make grants for Relief in Need to those concerned, whilst keeping this subsidy to a minimum.

Following two years of exceptional repair costs to the Stones Court buildings, 2024 saw a sharp reduction in building repairs and maintenance. Maintaining buildings which are 300 years old and listed remains a challenge and budgets must be robust to take account of the unexpected.

d) Reserves Policy

Our Reserves Policy aims to mitigate the risk of a financial disaster and to build up funds for major repairs and refurbishments. It is the policy that any additional surplus income will be applied for charitable purposes. Borrowings will be reduced when appropriate. Any reduction in endowment income would have the effect of reducing our capacity to make grants at the same level.

Unrestricted funds totalling £1,823,632 on 31 December 2024 consist of fixed assets for charity use (less loans to finance) of £1,036,211, designated funds set aside for extraordinary repairs of £134,272 leaving free reserves of £653,149. £500,000 of this was represented by an investment property leaving cash reserves of £153,149.

e) Financial management

Income and capital values are monitored on a quarterly basis.

Risk review

The Charity maintains a risk register. All risks are monitored and reviewed regularly, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. The principal risks are the deterioration in the buildings at Stones Court leading to difficulties in getting new residents; a fall in local government funding of needy residents; a fall in the value/income of investments; or a loss of key staff.

Plans for future periods

The almshouses at Stones Court will continue to be maintained to a high standard, and the essential refurbishment of the Parsons building will start when sufficient funds are available.

The funds from the Gosford land sale will be used for the refurbishment and to finance further grant making activities. The strategy is to expand grant making activities supporting more individuals in need and organisations which support them. This will involve extending the outreach programme thereby ensuring that funds are used effectively across the City

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Structure, governance and management

The Charity operates as a company limited by guarantee. The Charity's Scheme, approved by the Charity Commission in 2004 is incorporated in the company's Articles of Association.

All assets and liabilities, except the Stones Court properties, are owned by the limited company. The unincorporated body continues to hold the almshouses as its only asset.

The Trustees are the Directors, and administer the company assisted by the Clerk as Chief Executive and Company Secretary. The Chairperson of Trustees is the Chair of the Board.

The Trustees are appointed to sub-committees (Finance and General Purposes, Grants, Education, Stones Court). There is a scheme for induction of new trustees. When a vacancy for a co-opted Trustee occurs, the needs of the trust are considered after a skills audit has been undertaken, and the trustees are invited to suggest suitable candidates, from whom an appointment is made

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

I Bratby

Miss C E Christie

(Resigned 25 October 2024)

M Clements

B Coyne

W S Cronan

A J Fairweather-Tall

J Fry

J G M Gay: Vice Chair

J V Gould

C E Hilliard

A J Hollingsworth

E F Joint

(Appointed 25 October 2024)

G R Jones

P L Kennedy

J L Mactaggart: Chair

E Mundy

S Pressel

C M Simm

C S F Smowton

J H Tomes

A L Warner May

(Resigned 26 July 2024)

J K Williams

Funds held as custodian trustee

We hold no funds as custodian trustee

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Disclosure of information to auditor

Each of the trustees has confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditor is aware of such information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Small Companies Regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



J L Mactaggart: Chair
Trustee

Date: 25.25

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees, who are also the directors of The City of Oxford Charity Limited for the purpose of company law, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The City of Oxford Charity Limited (the 'charity') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the summary income and expenditure account, the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of our audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared, which includes the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law, is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the directors' report included within the trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemptions in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees, who are also the directors of the charity for the purpose of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our knowledge and experience;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence where applicable; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the charity's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims;
- reviewing relevant correspondence.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the directors and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Robert Kirtland

(Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Gravita Audit Oxford LLP, Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

First Floor, Park Central

40-41 Park End Street

Oxford

OX1 1JD

Date: 12/5/2025.....

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

		Unrestricted funds	Endowment funds	Total	Unrestricted funds	Endowment funds	Total
	Notes	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	1,861	-	1,861	20,661	-	20,661
Charitable activities	4	186,356	-	186,356	199,267	-	199,267
Other trading activities	5	56,481	-	56,481	19,275	-	19,275
Investments	6	201,911	-	201,911	214,508	-	214,508
Total income		446,609	-	446,609	453,711	-	453,711
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	7	13,918	16,217	30,135	13,954	15,784	29,738
Charitable activities	8	475,740	-	475,740	506,419	-	506,419
Total expenditure		489,658	16,217	505,875	520,373	15,784	536,157
Net gains/(losses) on investments	13	100,000	531,613	631,613	-	3,438,175	3,438,175
Net income		56,951	515,396	572,347	(66,662)	3,422,391	3,355,729
Transfers between funds		65,439	(65,439)	-	71,271	(71,271)	-
Net movement in funds	11	122,390	449,957	572,347	4,609	3,351,120	3,355,729
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 January 2024		1,701,242	9,400,656	11,101,898	1,696,633	6,049,536	7,746,169
Fund balances at 31 December 2024		1,823,632	9,850,613	11,674,245	1,701,242	9,400,656	11,101,898

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

All income funds

	2024 £	2023 £
Gross income	446,609	453,711
Gains on investments	100,000	-
Transfer from endowment funds	65,439	71,271
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income in the reporting period	612,048	524,982
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenditure from income funds	489,658	520,373
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income for the year	122,390	4,609
	<hr/>	<hr/>

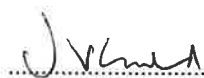
THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15	1,566,442		1,635,337	
Investment properties	16	6,190,000		5,900,000	
Investments	17	4,032,528		3,765,557	
			11,788,970		11,300,894
Current assets					
Debtors	19	6,032		11,826	
Cash at bank and in hand		334,223		384,763	
			340,255		396,589
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	21	(99,077)		(142,456)	
Net current assets			241,178		254,133
Total assets less current liabilities			12,030,148		11,555,027
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	22		(355,903)		(453,129)
Net assets			11,674,245		11,101,898
Capital funds					
Expendable endowment		9,850,613		9,400,656	
	25		9,850,613		9,400,656
Income funds					
Unrestricted funds					
Designated funds	26	134,272		108,027	
General unrestricted funds		1,689,360		1,593,215	
			1,823,632		1,701,242
			11,674,245		11,101,898

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 2nd MAY 2025



J V Gould
Trustee

Company Registration No. 10670170

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The City of Oxford Charity Limited is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is The Office, Stones Court, St Clements, Oxford, OX4 1AP.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The charity acquired the net assets of unincorporated City of Oxford Charity (registered office as above) on 1 December 2017 and this has been accounted for using merger accounting as required by the FRS 102 SORP in order to present a true and fair view.

For assets under a Charity Commission Scheme, The City of Oxford Charity Limited is now the sole Trustee of that Scheme and the assets under the Scheme are now under the control of this charity and included in its financial statements.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds represents assets, mainly investments, where the intention is for those to be held long term for the benefit of the charity. Income from the main expendable endowment is unrestricted. Any capital gains or losses form part of the fund.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Grants are included in the accounts once they are approved for payment by the trustees. These are grants to individuals and organisations for small amounts.

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

The properties concerned are stated in the accounts at cost. Prior to 2007 all repairs and improvement to Stones Court were included in the Statement of Financial Activities. However, the charity has undertaken two major improvements to Stones Court which have been mainly funded by bank loans and a loan from the endowment. Given these enhanced Stones Court, these major improvements have been capitalised and are being depreciated

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold buildings	30 years
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1.7 Investment properties

Investment property, which is property held to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation, is initially recognised at cost, which includes the purchase cost and any directly attributable expenditure. Subsequently it is measured at fair value at the reporting end date. The surplus or deficit on revaluation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.8 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.9 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.11 Retirement benefits

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as an expense as they fall due.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

Critical judgements

Land value

Valuation of land with potential development value - see Investment Property note for more details

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Donations and gifts	1,861	661
Legacies	-	20,000
	<u>1,861</u>	<u>20,661</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Stones Court		
Charitable rental income	190,100	202,962
Less: Grants payable to residents	(3,744)	(3,695)
	<u>186,356</u>	<u>199,267</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Stones Court commercial rents	<u>56,481</u>	<u>19,275</u>

6 Investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Rental income	103,975	120,397
Income from investments & interest	97,936	94,111
	<u>201,911</u>	<u>214,508</u>

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

7 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Endowment funds general	Total	Unrestricted funds	Endowment funds general	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Commercial let costs	10,777	-	10,777	5,352	-	5,352
Investment property expenses	3,141	-	3,141	8,602	-	8,602
Trading costs	13,918	-	13,918	13,954	-	13,954
Investment management fees	-	16,217	16,217		15,784	15,784
	13,918	16,217	30,135	13,954	15,784	29,738

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Stones Court 2024 £	Grant Making 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Stones Court 2023 £	Grant Making 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Direct costs						
Staff costs	32,479	-	32,479	30,645	-	30,645
Depreciation and impairment	79,951	-	79,951	79,951	-	79,951
Loan interest	26,349	-	26,349	44,426	-	44,426
Repairs and maintenance	48,871	-	48,871	94,367	-	94,367
Stones Court heat, light and water	18,886	-	18,886	16,913	-	16,913
Stones Court regular services	22,044	-	22,044	20,999	-	20,999
	<u>228,580</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>228,580</u>	<u>287,301</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>287,301</u>
Grant funding of activities (see note 9)	-	153,523	153,523	-	140,718	140,718
Share of support and governance costs (see note 10)						
Support	40,390	43,929	84,319	33,744	36,184	69,928
Governance	5,591	3,727	9,318	5,083	3,389	8,472
	<u>274,561</u>	<u>201,179</u>	<u>475,740</u>	<u>326,128</u>	<u>180,291</u>	<u>506,419</u>
Analysis by fund						
Unrestricted funds	<u>274,561</u>	<u>201,179</u>	<u>475,740</u>	<u>326,128</u>	<u>180,291</u>	<u>506,419</u>

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

9 Grants payable

	Grant making 2024 £	Grant making 2023 £
Grants to institutions:		
Adapt Charity	-	1,750
Art at the Old Fire Station	1,000	1,750
The Oxford Baby Bank	3,000	1,750
RAW Workshops	1,000	1,750
Connection Support	8,400	-
Home Start	5,000	-
Homeless Oxfordshire	2,000	-
Parasol Project	4,970	-
The Porch	2,000	-
Agnes Smith	1,180	-
	<u>28,550</u>	<u>7,000</u>
Grants to individuals	<u>124,973</u>	<u>133,718</u>
	<u>153,523</u>	<u>140,718</u>

10 Support costs

	Support £	Governance £	2024 £	Support £	Governance £	2023 £
Staff costs	60,896	-	60,896	52,324	-	52,324
Printing, postage, bank charges & sundry costs	23,423	-	23,423	17,604	-	17,604
Audit fees	-	7,800	7,800	-	7,128	7,128
Legal and professional	-	1,518	1,518	-	1,344	1,344
	<u>84,319</u>	<u>9,318</u>	<u>93,637</u>	<u>69,928</u>	<u>8,472</u>	<u>78,400</u>

11 Net movement in funds

	2024 £	2023 £
The net movement in funds is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Fees payable for the audit of the charity's financial statements	7,800	7,128
Depreciation of owned tangible fixed assets	<u>79,951</u>	<u>79,951</u>

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

12 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Total	3	3
Employment costs	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	83,544	74,954
Social security costs	7,913	6,786
Other pension costs	1,918	1,229
	93,375	82,969

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

13 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Gains/(losses) arising on:						
Revaluation of investments	-	341,613	341,613	-	138,175	138,175
Revaluation of investment properties	100,000	190,000	290,000	-	3,300,000	3,300,000
	100,000	531,613	631,613	-	3,438,175	3,438,175

14 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

15 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold buildings	Assets under construction	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 January 2024	2,398,529	17,742	2,416,271
Additions	-	11,056	11,056
At 31 December 2024	2,398,529	28,798	2,427,327
Depreciation and impairment			
At 1 January 2024	780,934	-	780,934
Depreciation charged in the year	79,951	-	79,951
At 31 December 2024	860,885	-	860,885
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2024	1,537,644	28,798	1,566,442
At 31 December 2023	1,617,595	17,742	1,635,337

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

16 Investment property

	2024 £
Fair value	
At 1 January 2024	5,900,000
Net gains or losses through fair value adjustments	290,000
At 31 December 2024	<u>6,190,000</u>

Investment Properties

The fair value of the investment properties of £1,690,000 has been arrived at on the basis of a valuation carried out by Peck Property Consultants, Chartered Surveyors in December 2024.

Land

The council agreed a resolution to grant planning permission subject to S106 and any potential Judicial Review. If residential planning permission is obtained the land could be worth over £6 million. Given the resolution to grant planning permission the trustees have decided to recognise an uplift in value of the land to £4.5 million, which is in excess of its agricultural value previously estimated at £99,000.

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

17 Fixed asset investments

	Listed investments £	Cash in portfolio £	Total £
Cost or valuation			
At 1 January 2024	3,731,408	34,149	3,765,557
Additions	1,165,471	(1,165,471)	-
Valuation changes	341,613	-	341,613
Movement in cash held	-	(74,642)	(74,642)
Disposals	(1,326,473)	1,326,473	-
At 31 December 2024	3,912,019	120,509	4,032,528
Carrying amount			
At 31 December 2024	3,912,019	120,509	4,032,528
At 31 December 2023	3,731,408	34,149	3,765,557

18 Financial instruments

	2024 £	2023 £
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Instruments measured at fair value through the Statement of Financial Activities	3,912,019	3,731,408

19 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	-	3,344
Other debtors	6,032	8,482
	6,032	11,826

20 Loans and overdrafts

	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans	405,229	500,633
Payable within one year	49,326	47,504
Payable after one year	355,903	453,129
Amounts included above which fall due after five years:		
Payable by instalments	160,494	281,421

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

20 Loans and overdrafts

(Continued)

The long-term loans are secured by a charge over two of the charity's investment properties. £725,000 of the available £750,000 loan had been drawn at the year-end. This loan will be repayable in instalments over 15 years. Interest is payable at 3% above the bank's floating interest rate.

21 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans	20	49,326	47,504
Deferred income	23	20,967	19,532
Grants payable		13,249	6,190
Accruals		15,535	69,230
		<u>99,077</u>	<u>142,456</u>

22 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Bank loans	20	<u>355,903</u>	<u>453,129</u>

23 Deferred income

	2024 £	2023 £
Other deferred income	<u>20,967</u>	<u>19,532</u>

Deferred income is included in the financial statements as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Current liabilities	<u>20,967</u>	<u>19,532</u>
Movements in the year:		
Deferred income at 1 January 2024	19,532	165
Released from previous periods	(19,532)	(165)
Resources deferred in the year	<u>20,967</u>	<u>19,532</u>
Deferred income at 31 December 2024	<u>20,967</u>	<u>19,532</u>

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

24 Retirement benefit schemes

	2024	2023
Defined contribution schemes	£	£
Charge to income and expenditure account in respect of defined contribution schemes	1,918	1,229
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund.

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

25 Endowment funds

Endowment funds represent assets which must be held permanently by the charity. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the assets form part of the fund.

	Balance at 1 January 2023	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains and losses	Balance at 1 January 2024	Expenditure	Transfers	Gains and losses	Balance at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Expendable endowments									
The City of Oxford Charity	6,049,536	(15,784)	(71,271)	3,438,175	9,400,656	(16,217)	(65,439)	531,613	9,850,613
	<u>6,049,536</u>	<u>(15,784)</u>	<u>(71,271)</u>	<u>3,438,175</u>	<u>9,400,656</u>	<u>(16,217)</u>	<u>(65,439)</u>	<u>531,613</u>	<u>9,850,613</u>

The City of Oxford Charity

This is an expendable endowment and represents the investments held by this fund. In addition there is a permanent endowment of the Stones Court land which is still held by the unincorporated City of Oxford Charity. However the historic cost of this is effectively zero and hence there is no fund balance.

The charity is now managing its fixed asset investments on a 'total return' basis and the transfer above represents the amount transferred to unrestricted funds in excess of the actual investment income.

THE CITY OF OXFORD CHARITY LIMITED

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

26 Designated funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	Balance at 1 January 2023	Movement in funds		Balance at 1 January 2024	Movement in funds		Balance at 31 December 2024
	£	Income	Transfers	£	Income	Transfers	£
Extraordinary repairs fund	87,849	178	20,000	108,027	6,245	20,000	134,272
	87,849	178	20,000	108,027	6,245	20,000	134,272

27 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Endowment funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 December 2024 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	1,566,442	-	1,566,442	1,635,337	-	1,635,337
Investment properties	500,000	5,690,000	6,190,000	400,000	5,500,000	5,900,000
Investments	-	4,032,528	4,032,528	-	3,765,557	3,765,557
Loan between funds	(125,002)	125,002	-	(133,337)	133,337	-
Current assets/(liabilities)	238,095	3,083	241,178	252,371	1,762	254,133
Long term liabilities	(355,903)	-	(355,903)	(453,129)	-	(453,129)
	1,823,632	9,850,613	11,674,245	1,701,242	9,400,656	11,101,898

Loan between funds represents a loan from the charity's general endowment to its unrestricted funds. The purpose of this loan is to assist in funding the redevelopment works on Stones Court as authorised by the Charity Commission. This loan is to be repaid over 30 years at an annual rate of £8,333 per annum.

28 Related party transactions

None of the trustees were reimbursed expenses during the (2023: No trustees reimbursed).

The Trustees received no remuneration (2023: nil).

There was one related party transaction in the year worth £95 relating to Almhouses Training (2023: None)