

WINCHCOMBE TOWN TRUST
Registered Charity 1173052

TRUSTEES' REPORT for year ending 31st December 2024

A Constitution

Winchcombe Town Trust was originally established by a Deed of Trust dated 28th March 1890. This charitable Scheme was arranged pursuant to the Municipal Corporations Act 1883, following the dissolution of the Corporation of Bailiffs and Burgesses of Winchcombe.

The Trust received various properties and artefacts (including the historic maces and the rights to fairs), but little cash.

The Trust has now re-formed as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("CIO"). It was incorporated on 16th May 2017 with a new registered number 1173052 and merged with the previous 1890 charity (234734) in December 2021

The Trust has its main activity based at the Old Town Hall, High Street, Winchcombe, GL54 5LJ

B Objects

The objects of the CIO in its Trust Deed are: -

- (1) To promote the benefit of the inhabitants of Winchcombe and the surrounding area ("the area of benefit"), by working with local voluntary and community organisations, inhabitants and other authorities in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving conditions of life for the said inhabitants, without distinction of age, disability, nationality, race, sex, sexual orientation, political, religious or other opinions by the provision of maintaining and managing the Town Hall.
- (2) The relief of poverty of persons resident in the area of benefit by making grants of money to them or providing or paying for goods, services or facilities for them or making grants of money to other persons or bodies who provide goods, services or facilities to those in need. In exceptional cases the trustees may decide to assist someone (who is otherwise qualified) who is resident outside of (or only temporarily resident in) the area of benefit.
- (3) To advance education of the public in the history of Winchcombe, in particular by the provision of a museum.

C Trustees and Museum Committee

The Trustees as at the date of this report are:

Mr. D.M.F Dufton
Mr. P. Hazel Chairman (appointed February 2024)
Mr. A Herod
Mr. A. Robinson
Mr. V. Royle
Mr. A.B. Thomas
Mr. R Wakeford
Mr R Wilcock (appointed Jan 2024)

The Trust continues to seek more trustees and volunteers to join the team. Trustees are elected by resolution of the Trust and serve for an initial period of 5 years, renewable once.

There is a separate dedicated Museum Committee, which focusses on the daily operation of the Winchcombe Museum, engaging with a dedicated group of hard-working volunteers without whom the Museum would not be able to operate.

D Activities in 2024

The Trustees determined in 2017 that Winchcombe Museum must be completely revamped in order to best display its collections and to provide a key focal point for presenting the Heritage and History of Winchcombe town. I am very pleased to report that all the work has been successfully completed leaving the Museum in a wonderful position to capitalise in the future on the splendid infrastructure improvements that have been made including the raised ceiling, Undercroft refurbishment, new lift to the first floor, improved toilet facilities and finally the installation of solar panels in order to reduce operating costs.

The Trust has been successful in attracting a few new museum volunteers during the year, but more new helpers will be much appreciated.

The new Undercroft retail outlet, operated under licence by the owners of two complimentary local businesses, had a slow start to the year but overall, the performance is in line with expectations for a new venture.

We were delighted to have a short-term exhibit of the Postlip Hoard during the second half of the year. These were a collection of ancient coins found by local detectorists and proved to be very popular with all our visitors.

In the last quarter of the year, we were delighted to organise the repair to the Town Clock which is again fully functioning and providing a wonderful asset and attraction for the town.

The Trust has continued with its popular series of monthly talks about local history and the Museum collection during the winter months.

Measurement of activity

The principal criterion being used to measure the growth of the Museum is visitor numbers. As such the Museum is delighted to report a record number of 7228 visitors last year. It is hoped to increase this figure in the current year.

E Finance

The Trust financial position continues to require careful management as the Trust has very limited resources of its own for financing major projects and operating the Museum.

F Volunteers

The volunteers are indispensable element in the functioning of the Trust and the Museum. Volunteers are the principal source of Trustees and also those people who maintain the building and Museum.

They provide the essential resource to operate the Museum during opening hours and importantly help educate visitors about the wide range of fascinating exhibits to be found at the Museum.

The vast majority of such volunteers are based in Winchcombe. Where more specialist skills are required, the Trust has been fortunate to find individuals who have been able to help with the major projects.

G Achievements to date

The financial position of the Trust is adequate for the time being. However, some projects will require financing through grants or fund-raising.

The Museum has a good body of volunteers to help with enhancing visitor experience.

The Museum has a good reputation in Winchcombe and is engaging more effectively both through talks, exhibitions and publications as well as numerous social media routes.

H Challenges

The principal challenge is to increase visitor numbers to the Museum and to spread the word about what an excellent facility the Museum is for locals and visitors to Winchcombe.

A continuing challenge, which many charities face, is the age profile of the trustees and most of the volunteers and as such much work still remains to be done to attract younger people to volunteer.

I Future Plans

Following the success of the continuing Meteorite exhibition and the short term Postlip Hoard exhibition, more temporary exhibitions are being planned for the current and future years. So far in 2025 we have held the successful Audrey Hammond art exhibition which will be closely followed in May and June with Winchcombe at War, in cooperation with Sudeley Castle. Later in the year we will welcome the Winchcombe Hoard on loan from The Wilson in Cheltenham.

Following on from the successful “Rebuilding the Foundations” programme facilitated by Museum Development South West, we hope to create an Audience Development Plan over the coming months which will focus on what the Museum needs to do in the future to improve our interaction with the local community and visitors to the town.

Paul Hazel
Chairman

22 April 2025

Winchcombe Town Trust**Total Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31 December 2024**

Period	Previous year 2023	Year to Date 2024	
Receipts			
<i>Shop Receipts</i>			
Zettle Shop Sales	3,100	669	
Zettle Cash Sales	669		
Third Party Sales	1,156	70	
Undercroft Rent		1,169	
Undercroft Sales		1,553	
Undercroft Services		1,260	
TIC Rents	3,600	0	
TIC Sales (Net)	3,161	343	
<i>Less Shop Costs</i>			
Stock Purchases	(2,884)	(982)	
Artist Payments	(1,909)	(545)	
Net Shop Sales	6,894		3,536
<i>Museum Donations</i>			
Cash Entrance Donations	4,147	4,713	
Other Donations	1,899	1,820	
Just Giving	86	261	
Less Just Giving Costs	(216)	(216)	
Gift Aid	0	2,697	
Card Entrance Donations	4,717	3,633	
Less SumUp Costs	(180)	(180)	
Net Museum Takings	10,452		12,727
<i>Mop Fair</i>			
Mop Rentals	1,060	1,160	
Less Mop Costs	(130)	(150)	
Mop Fair Income	930		1,010
<i>Museum Talks</i>			
Talk Income	1,147	516	
Talk Book Sales	0	65	
Less Talk Expenses	(165)	(137)	
Talks Net	982		445
<i>Other Income</i>			
Cabinet Donations	6,160		
Glos CC Grant (Solar Panels)		4,999	
Glos CC Grant (Clock Repair)			
Summerfied Trust (Clock Repair)		1,082	
Amazon Smile	48	0	
Other Sales		115	
Mercia Rents	1,200	1,400	
COIF Dividends	50	51	
	7,458		7,647
Total Receipts	26,715		25,364
Payments			
Bank Charges	(302)	(224)	
Refurbishment Expenses	(25,939)	(11,150)	
Building Maintenance	(1,208)	(1,319)	
Conservation	(1,052)	(877)	
Town Clock	0	(2,474)	

Receipts & Payments		
Electricity	(3,048)	(2,193)
Fire Extinguishers	(96)	(105)
Insurance	(3,427)	(2,179)
Gratuity	(39)	(40)
Legal Expenses	0	0
Meetings		(28)
Museum Displays	0	(1,579)
Museum Purchases	0	(43)
Publicity	0	(259)
Security	(433)	(2,618)
SnipCart		0
Staff Costs	(115)	(295)
Subscriptions	0	0
Sumup Purchase	0	0
Sundry	0	(69)
Telephone/WI FI	(696)	(850)
Training	0	0
Water	(269)	(288)
Web Site	0	(3,308)
Window Cleaning	(300)	(225)
COIF Purchase		
Total Payments	(36,923)	(30,123)
Net receipts / (Payments)	(10,209)	(4,759)
COIF Revaluation Gain/Loss	158	(265)
Museum Balance B/F	10,968	20,562
WTT Balances B/F	83,405	63,761
Balance carried forward	84,322	79,298
Made up of:		
Treasurers Account	16,271	8,738
WTT Town Hall Appeal	2,645	0
Museum Cash	20	20
Museum Account	20,562	25,980
Strategic Reserve:		
Treasurers Account	43,000	13,000
COIF	1,825	31,559
	84,322	79,298

Checks - this should equal zero

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(0.00)

Approval of the accounts

The financial statements were approved at a meeting of the Trustees and signed on its behalf by:

Signed:

Name PAUL HAZEL (Trustee)

Date: 10 February 2025

The assets and real estate contained in or or referred to in the Schedule to these accounts are permanent endowment of and inalienable assets and real estate of the Trust

The Schedule

1. The freehold property known as the Old Town Hall, 2 North Street, Winchcombe, Gloucestershire GL54 5LJ.
2. The net sale proceeds and all rights deriving from the Transferor Charity's ownership of two plots of land at Puck Pit Lane, Winchcombe, Gloucestershire, the first containing 2.28 hectares or thereabouts and being number OS5712 (1982 edition) and the second containing 0.28 hectares or thereabouts and being number OS5600 (1982 edition).
3. Two Maces, any remaining items of the original furniture of the Old Town Hall which were owned at the time when the Transferor Charity was granted its 1890 Scheme, the ancient stocks for punishing petty offenders, four oil pictures and a charter of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth I relating to fairs and markets.
4. The standing rights for Abbey Terrace in Winchcombe
5. All items held as part of the Collections of the Museum managed by the Transferor Charity in the Old Town Hall



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

WINCHCOMBE TOWN TRUST

On accounts for the year ended

31 DECEMBER 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1173 052

Set out on pages

1 - 3

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 12 / 2024

As the charity's trustees, 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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below~~ *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

AE Worthington

Date:

13th February 2025

Name:

ANDREW EASTON WORTHINGTON

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

ICAEW

(if any):

Address:

27 GREET ROAD

WINCHCONBE

CHELTENHAM

GL54 5JT

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Signed: Mr. W. W. W. W.
Name: Mr. W. W. W. W.

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body: ICAEW