

Charity Registration No.1173070

BERWICK BARRACKS HERITAGE TRUST
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

BERWICK BARRACKS HERITAGE TRUST

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees:

Stuart Bankier – re-appointed 24 January 2024

John Elliott – appointed 24 March 2022

Julien Lake – re-appointed 24 March 2022 (resigned 21 November 2023)

Jonathan Lang – re-appointed 25 October 2023

Sir Philip Mawer – reappointed 26 May 2024

Scott Sherrard – appointed 24 March 2022

Charity Number:

1173070

Principal Address:

c/o Berwick Community Trust

William Elder Building

56-58 Castlegate

Berwick-upon-Tweed

Northumberland

TD15 1JT

Independent Examiner:

Robert Ian Guthrie

4 Tweed Close

East Ord

Berwick-upon-Tweed

TD15 2LU

Bankers:

TSB Bank plc

Excel House

30 Semple Street

Edinburgh

EH3 8BL

BERWICK BARRACKS HERITAGE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

For the Year ended 31 March 2024

The principal focus of the Trust continues to be on the preservation and promotion of Berwick-upon-Tweed's Grade 1-listed Barracks as a culture and heritage centre for Berwick and its surrounding area, and as a means of assisting the economic regeneration of the town. The charity's objects also give its Trustees discretion to undertake other work which advances the Arts, cultural, educational and heritage activities. The year under review was a relatively quiet one for the Trust but, as we submit this report and for the reasons we go on to describe, the achievement of our principal objective has recently taken an important step forward and the pace of activity seems likely to quicken in the year ahead.

The 'Living Barracks' Project

In our last report, we referred in some detail to this project, to the development of which the Trust has contributed significantly over the years, and which is currently being taken forward principally by a Partnership Board, including representatives of the King's Own Scottish Borderers Association (KOSB), the Maltings (Berwick) Trust (MBT) and Northumberland County Council (NCC), chaired by English Heritage Trust (EHT). The award in 2023 by the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) of a grant of £476,000 to EHT on behalf of the Berwick Barracks Partnership has enabled the preparation of detailed designs and a detailed business plan for the redevelopment of the Barracks site.

One of the first steps in developing the plan was extensive consultation with local community interests through a series of discussion groups about the museum component intended for the redeveloped site. These discussions, held in April – May 2023, revealed strong support for a museum that will tell the story of Berwick and explore the unique nature of the town. Identity and community emerged as strong themes during the discussions, with support for a rich community engagement pilot programme.

Intensive work by the Partnership group, assisted by consultants, has resulted in the drawing up of exciting proposals for new facilities in the Barracks, including a single museum which will house the collections of art, artefacts and military memorabilia held by the Partners, enabling them to be displayed more imaginatively and comprehensively than ever before. The announcement by NCC in May 2023 that it wishes the town's own museum and art collection to remain on the Barracks site was an important step towards achieving this objective. In October 2023, the existing KOSB museum in the Barracks closed and was transferred from the East to the West Block, thus clearing the way for the planned transformation of the East Block to house the new museum. The opportunity has

subsequently been taken to document and assess the condition of the KOSB's collection and to develop a conservation schedule for its contents.

Meanwhile, major work has proceeded on the mobilisation store in the South East corner of the site to enable it to function as a temporary cinema during the closure and complete redevelopment of the current Maltings Theatre complex in Eastern Lane, Berwick. A representative of the Trust spoke in support of the grant of planning permission for the conversion of the store, which will pave the way for it to be re-adapted as a secure archive storage facility when the Maltings redevelopment is complete and its use as a temporary cinema can cease. The store is expected to open in its temporary role as a fully accessible and soundproofed cinema during the latter part of 2024.

Another helpful step forward is the recent award by the North East Combined Authority of funds to enable the opening of some accommodation in the West Block of the Barracks as artists' studios. This development is a result of Berwick's designation as one of the North East's three Culture and Creative Zones, a decision mentioned in our last report.

As well as speaking in support of this and other aspects of the project plan, Trustees have participated in some of the community engagement events mentioned earlier and in the work of some of the task groups set up by the Partners, the results of which have informed the preparation of the business case for further funding of the Living Barracks project. This work climaxed with the submission of the completed business plan to NLHF in the summer of 2024. It is hoped that the result of NLHF's consideration of this funding application will be known in December 2024.

If the application is successful, it will enable work on the refurbishment and re-purposing of the East Block of the Barracks to begin in earnest. At that point, the planned redevelopment of the Barracks will start to become a reality, so raising the question how the Trust can best adapt to ensure it continues to meet its objects and to add value in the next phase of the Barracks' transformation. The Trustees are already giving a good deal of thought to this crucial issue and, in anticipation of increased demands on the Trust, they devoted some time during the past year to upgrading the Trust's website, including defining its privacy and data protection policy and registering with the Information Commissioner's Office. The Trust also joined the Stewardship organisation, in order to make it easier for those who may wish to donate in support of the Trust's work in future to do so.

Publications

Our last report mentioned the assistance given by the Trust to the planned publication of a Guide to County Durham, modelled on the Guide to Northumberland published in August 2022 by Dr Stephen Platten with the help of the Trust. Work on the new book – *County*

Durham – A Guide – is moving ahead well, with the three introductory essays in the book now written. Dr Platten has also begun his programme of visits to the county, out of which will emerge a detailed gazetteer introducing its various landmarks. The publisher has agreed the terms of the contract and the photographs which will illustrate the book are being assembled.

Meanwhile sales of Dr Platten's earlier Guide to Northumberland continue steadily, as do sales of the booklet he authored for the Trust to mark the 300th anniversary of the opening of the Barracks in 1721. The financial implications of this work over the past year are set out in the Annual Accounts of the Trust attached to this Report.

Financial Report

During 2023-24, the Trust received income from sales of the Berwick Barracks History and Guide and received donations made to fund the Guide to County Durham, which is currently being prepared. Details of all income received and of expenditure by the Trust can be found in the Accounts appended to this Report, which have been independently examined.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Trust, which was established on 18 April 2017, is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). Over the course of the past year, the Trustees took steps to refresh their policies for the governance of the Trust, approving a set of Guidance Notes for Trustees on these matters along with an updated policy on the Management of Conflicts of Interest.

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the terms of the constitution. They act in a voluntary capacity and do not receive any remuneration. During the year covered by this Report, they were as listed on page 2.

Mr Julien Lake resigned as a Trustee in November 2023, having been involved with the Trust since its inception. His fellow Trustees wish to take this opportunity to thank him for his contribution to their deliberations over the previous 6 years.

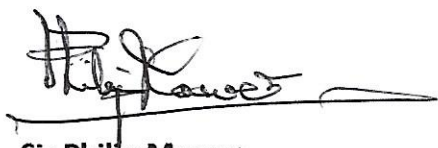
This Trustees' report has been approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on the Board's behalf by -



Stuart Martin Bankier

Trustee

Dated: ~~22~~ October 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sir Philip Mawer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sir Philip Mawer

Trustee

Dated: 20 October 2024

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Berwick Barracks Heritage Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Berwick Barracks Heritage Trust (the Charity) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Charity 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 Charity'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

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do 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.

Signed: 

Name: ROBERT IAN GUTHRIE

Address: 4, TWEED CLOSE, EAST ORD, BERWICK UPON TWEED TD15 2LH

Date: 17 OCTOBER 2024

BERWICK BARRACKS HERITAGE TRUST**Statement of Financial Activities for the year ending 31st March 2024**

	Year Ending 31st March 2024	Year Ending 31st March 2023
Incoming Resources		
Sales of Barracks Books	280	654
Shell Guide Donations	8,715	290
Other Donations	25	
Shell Guide Gift Aid	0	0
Grant: Community Foundation	0	0
Total Income	<u>9,020</u>	<u>944</u>
Resources Expended		
Barracks Books	0	0
Shell Guide	0	(9,768)
English Heritage	0	0
Grant repaid to Community Foundation re Shell	0	(2,000)
Governance Costs	(40)	0
Total Expenditure	<u>(40)</u>	<u>(11,768)</u>
Surplus / (Loss) for the Year	8,980	(10,824)

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2024

	Year Ending 31st March 2024	Year Ending 31st March 2023
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank	43,142	34,163
Debtors	0	0
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	0	0
Total Assets	<u>43,142</u>	<u>34,163</u>
Represented by:		
Unrestricted Funds		
Barracks	32,353	32,088
Shell Guide	10,789	2,075
Restricted Funds	0	0
Total Funds	<u>43,142</u>	<u>34,163</u>