

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1177016

Report of the Trustees and  
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year  
Ended 31 March 2023  
for  
Devizes Assize Court Trust

Devizes Assize Court Trust

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

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## Devizes Assize Court Trust

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The Devizes Assize Court Trust (DACT) was formed in 2018 following an initiative by the Wiltshire Historic Buildings Trust Ltd, Wiltshire Council, and the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (WANHS). The principle aim of the Trust is to save the former Assize Court in Devizes and provide it with a new public use and a long-term sustainable future.

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Charity number**

1177016

##### **Principal address**

1st Floor The Syms Building  
Bumpers Way  
Bumpers Farm  
Chippenham  
Wiltshire  
SN14 6LH

##### **Trustees**

Mr Peter Troughton (Chair)  
Mr. Robert Hunt-Grubbe (Vice-Chair)  
Councillor Mrs. Laura Mayes  
Mr. Nicholas Elliott  
Mr. Martin Nye  
David Bedingfeld Scott  
Mr. Stuart Wheeler (Appointed 09/11/2022)  
Mr. David Morrison (Appointed 16/09/2022)  
Mrs. Laura McNicholas (Appointed 16/09/2022)  
Ms. Lucy Maxwell-Scott (Appointed 16/09/2022)  
Dr. Martin Clarke (Appointed 15/09/2023)

Officers for the year were:

Mrs. Tanya Williams - Treasurer  
Mr. Colin Johns - Architect  
Mr. David Dawson - Museum Adviser

No remuneration was paid during the year to any of the members.

##### **Independent examiner**

Pillow May Ltd  
The Dutch Barn  
Bremhill Grove Farm  
East Tytherton  
Chippenham  
Wiltshire  
SN15 4LX

##### **Solicitors**

Goughs  
2 Fore Street  
Trowbridge  
Wiltshire  
BA14 8H

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust and constitutes a charitable incorporated organisation.

The charitable incorporated organisation company number is CE013153.

## Devizes Assize Court Trust

### Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Risk management**

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

##### **Appointment of trustees**

Any person who is willing to act as a Trustee, and who would not be disqualified from acting, may be appointed to be a Trustee by a decision of the Trustees or a Member Organisation serving notice of his or her appointment in writing. Wiltshire Historic Buildings Trust and Wiltshire Council shall each be able to appoint up to two Member Trustees and Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society shall be able to appoint one Member Trustee. The Trustees shall aim to have at least two Co-opted Trustees in office at any time, appointed by a decision of the Trustees.

The Trustees will make available to each new Trustee, on or before his or her first appointment; a copy of the constitution and any amendments made to it and a copy of the Charity's latest trustees' annual report and statement of accounts.

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives and aims**

The objects of the charity are for the benefit of the public:

- 1) to preserve property and buildings of historic or architectural interest or importance, in particular (but not limited to) in the area of Wiltshire;
- 2) to advance the education of the public in the arts, culture and history, in particular through the maintenance of a museum; and
- 3) to further such exclusively charitable objects according to the laws of England and Wales as the Trustees in their absolute discretion from time to time determine.

##### **Review of activities**

Since acquisition in 2019 the Trust has undertaken a range of repairs to ensure that the formerly derelict Assize Court building is wind and weathertight. Its condition is being monitored on a regular basis and, during the year 2022-23, additional minor repair works were undertaken to ensure that the building remains secure.

During the course of the year, the Trust entered into a Heads of Agreement with WANHS (Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society). Under the Heads of Agreement, the parties agreed to work together on the renovation, and development of the Assize Court to provide a new location for an expanded and enhanced Wiltshire Museum ("the Project") and included a provision that DACT would at a future date grant a lease to WANHS of the Assize Court building and adjoining land.

Additionally, during the course of the year a Project Board, which was to meet monthly, was established for the purposes of preparing the submission of a Stage 1 bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund. The Trust in conjunction with WANHS has continued to develop a Funding-Raising Strategy for the delivery of the Project.

Following Wadworth Brewery's announcement in 2021 that the Brewery, which adjoins the Assize Court, would be relocated, it entered into a conditional contract for the sale of the New Park Street with a developer, Backhouse Limited. The Trust has been seeking to work with Wadworth Brewery, Backhouse and Wiltshire Council so that the development of their respective sites fit in with the parameters for the regeneration of the wider Devizes Wharf area which includes the Assize Court. Throughout 2022-2023 the Trust has been fully involved in the subsequent discussions and consultations

There were five Trustees meetings held during 2022-23. DACT continues to make progress towards defining a strategic approach to the Project, including assessing the options for a full funding strategy.

DACT is pleased to record its appreciation of valuable help from an increasing range of partners and supporters, including, Historic England, the Dulverton Trust, the Pilgrim Trust, the Baring Foundation, the Swire Charitable Trust, and local organisations and individuals.

In seeking to fulfil its aims the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and in particular guidance on charities for the advancement of culture and heritage. The Trustees confirm therefore that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Devizes Assize Court Trust

Report of the Trustees  
for the Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

During the year the Trust received substantial donations of £72,813 (2022 - £49,795) which has funded the preservation of the building and enabled the project of saving the Assize Court to begin.

The main priority each year is to make sure the building is safe and wind and weathertight. The work carried out during the financial year involved expenditure of £43,574 (2022 - £27,955). The Trust will also maintain a contingency fund in case additional emergency repair becoming necessary.

**TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT**

The Trustees are required to prepare for each financial year financial statements which observe the principles and methods of the Charities SORP and which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the Charity for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable 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 basis applies.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the statutory requirements. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking responsible steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 8/12/2023 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Peter Troughton - Trustee



Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of  
Devizes Assize Court Trust

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages five to twelve.

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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act. 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 did not exceed £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England & Wales.

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

1. the accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Act 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; or
4. there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts.

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.



Pillow May Limited  
The Dutch Barn  
Bremhill Grove Farm  
East Tytherton  
Chippenham  
Wiltshire  
SN15 4LX

Date: 8/12/2023

Devizes Assize Court Trust

Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023


		Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	Year Ended 31.3.23 Total funds	Year Ended 31.3.22 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME</b>					
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>					
Voluntary income		72,813	-	72,813	49,795
Investment income	2	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total income</b>		72,813	-	72,813	49,795
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
Raising funds	3	13,625	-	13,625	8,534
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Devizes Assize Court Restoration		<u>43,574</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,574</u>	<u>27,955</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<u>57,199</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>57,199</u>	<u>36,489</u>
<b>Net income</b>		<u>15,614</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,614</u>	<u>13,306</u>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<u>15,614</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,614</u>	<u>13,306</u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:</b>					
<b>TOTAL FUNDS BOUGHT FORWARD</b>		<u>210,796</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>210,796</u>	<u>197,490</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>226,410</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>226,410</u></u>	<u><u>210,796</u></u>

Devizes Assize Court Trust

Balance Sheet  
At 31 March 2023

		Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	31.3.23 Total funds	31.3.22 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	7	148,496	-	148,496	148,496
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	8	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank		<u>91,393</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>91,393</u>	<u>72,892</u>
		91,393	-	91,393	72,892
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>(13,479)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(13,479)</u>	<u>(10,592)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>77,914</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,914</u>	<u>62,300</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>226,410</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>226,410</u>	<u>210,796</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>226,410</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>226,410</u>	<u>210,796</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	10				
Unrestricted funds				226,410	210,796
Restricted funds				<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>226,410</u>	<u>210,796</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 8/12/2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Mr. Nicholas Elliott - Trustee



Devizes Assize Court Trust

Cash Flow Statement  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

		Year Ended 31.3.23 £	Year Ended 31.3.22 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>	Notes		
	1	18,501	14,823
<b>Cash flows from investment activities</b>	2	-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>(Decrease)/increase in cash in the period</b>		<u>18,501</u>	<u>14,823</u>
<hr/>			
<b>Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt</b>	3		
Increase in cash in the period		<u>18,501</u>	<u>14,823</u>
Change in net debt resulting from cash flows		<u>18,501</u>	<u>14,823</u>
<b>Movement in net debt in the period</b>		18,501	14,823
<b>Net debt at 1 April</b>		<u>72,892</u>	<u>58,069</u>
<b>Net debt at 31 March</b>		<u>91,393</u>	<u>72,892</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Devizes Assize Court Trust

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

**1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOMING RESOURCES TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	Year Ended 31.3.23 £	Year Ended 31.3.22 £
Net (outgoing)\incoming resources	15,614	13,306
Interest received	-	-
Impairment Losses	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	-	-
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>2,887</u>	<u>1,517</u>
<b>Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities</b>	<u><u>18,501</u></u>	<u><u>14,823</u></u>

**2. ANALYSIS OF CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES**

	Year Ended 31.3.23 £	Year Ended 31.3.22 £
<b>Returns on investments and servicing of finance</b>		
Interest received	-	-
<b>Capital expenditure and financial investment</b>		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Cash flows from investment activities</b>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

**3. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

	At 1.4.22 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.23 £
<b>Net cash</b>			
Cash at bank	<u>72,892</u>	<u>18,501</u>	<u>91,393</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>72,892</u></u>	<u><u>18,501</u></u>	<u><u>91,393</u></u>

## **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

### **Accounting convention**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in UK & Republic of Ireland (FRS102), the Charities Act 2011 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

The trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

### **Income recognition**

All income is included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

### **Expenditure recognition**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

### **Related party disclosure**

There are no related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

### **Tangible fixed assets**

Capital expenditure is treated as additions to tangible fixed assets. Any profit on disposal is credited to the Income and Expenditure Account at the date of sale. Losses are provided for when it becomes clear that such losses will be substantial.

An impairment provision has been put in place over the Assize Court building as an independent valuation carried out by the trustees showed that it had a negative residual value.

No depreciation is provided on fixed assets as any such depreciation is not considered to be material.

### **Debtors**

Debtors are amounts due to the charity for grants agreed and cleared for payment by the reporting date. Debtors are recognised at the transaction price.

### **Cash at bank**

Cash at bank comprises cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

### **Trade creditors**

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the company does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer the settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months, after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised at the transaction price.

### **Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Devizes Assize Court Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

**2. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	Year Ended 31.3.23 £	Year Ended 31.3.22 £
Deposit account interest	-	-

**3. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS**

	Year Ended 31.3.23 £	Year Ended 31.3.22 £
Support costs	7,195	4,534
Governance costs	6,430	4,000
	<u>13,625</u>	<u>8,534</u>

**4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 or year ended 31 March 2022.

**5. STAFF COSTS**

There were no employees during the year.

**6. FEES FOR EXAMINATION OF THE ACCOUNTS**

£402 will be payable to Pillow May Limited in respect of the annual independent review.

**7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold property £
<b>COST</b>	
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023	<u>148,496</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2023	<u>148,496</u>
At 31 March 2022	<u>148,496</u>

The historic cost of the freehold property is £627,547.

**8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Other debtors	-	-

Devizes Assize Court Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

**9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Trade creditors	-	3,795
Other creditors	<u>13,479</u>	<u>6,797</u>
	<u><u>13,479</u></u>	<u><u>10,592</u></u>

**10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.23 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	210,796	15,614	226,410
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Urgent Works	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>210,796</u></u>	<u><u>15,614</u></u>	<u><u>226,410</u></u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfer between funds £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	72,813	(57,199)	-	15,614
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Urgent Works	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>72,813</u></u>	<u><u>(57,199)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>15,614</u></u>

Devizes Assize Court Trust

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Year Ended 31.3.23 £	Year Ended 31.3.22 £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		
<b>Voluntary income</b>		
Donations	72,813	49,795
<b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	-	-
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	72,813	49,795
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>		
<b>Raising Funds</b>		
<b>Support costs</b>		
Insurance	1,383	1,362
Sundries	325	216
Fundraising consultant	5,460	2,940
Bank charges	27	16
	7,195	4,534
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Accountancy	1,536	1,591
Independent examination	384	348
Legal and professional fees	4,510	2,061
	6,430	4,000
<b>Total Raising Funds</b>	13,625	8,534
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Building insurance	24,113	17,469
Architect and planning fees	11,309	5,850
Devizes assize court emergency works	8,152	4,636
	43,574	27,955
<b>Total resources expended</b>	57,199	36,489
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>	15,614	13,306

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements