

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1177016

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year
Ended 31 March 2024
for
Devizes Assize Court Trust

Devizes Assize Court Trust

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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Devizes Assize Court Trust

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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
Mr. David Morrison
Mrs. Laura McNicholas
Ms. Lucy Maxwell-Scott
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 2024

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 continued to undertake various necessary repairs to ensure that the derelict former Assize Court building is wind and weathertight. Its condition is being monitored on a regular basis. During the year 2023-24, additional minor repair works were also undertaken to ensure that the building remains secure.

During the course of the year, WANHS (Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society) received a £300,000 + Stage 1 Development Grant and the Trust received initial support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to help the parties progress plans on the renovation, and development of the Assize Court to provide a new location for an expanded and enhanced Wiltshire Museum ("the Project"). This followed on from the Heads of Agreement, entered into the preceding year, whereby the Trust and WANHS agreed to work together to realise the Project. Under the Heads of Agreement the Trust would, at a future date, grant a lease to WANHS of the Assize Court building and adjoining land. An application to the NLHF for a delivery grant will be submitted in 2025.

There were five Trustees meetings held during 2023-24; two of which were joint meeting with the Board of WANHS concerning their approach to the Project. WANHS and the Trust continue to make progress towards defining a strategic approach to the Project, including assessing the options for a full funding strategy.

Additionally, the Project Board, which was established the preceding year to oversee the Development Phase of the project met periodically. A timeline for the progress of the Project was outlined and agreed upon in conjunction with the NLHF.

The Trust in conjunction with WANHS has continued to develop a Funding-Raising Strategy for the delivery of the Project.

As in the preceding year, the Trust has sought to work with Wadworth Brewery, Backhouse Housing Ltd. 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 2023-2024 the Trust has been fully involved in the subsequent discussions and consultations.

The Trust 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, and local organisations and individuals, including a generous legacy.

Devizes Assize Court Trust
Report of the Trustees
for the Year ended 31st March 2024

Review of activities - Continued

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

FINANCIAL REVIEW

During the year the Trust received substantial donations of £66,274 (2023 - £72,813) 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 £87,311 (2023 - £43,574). The Trust will also maintain a contingency fund in case additional emergency repair becoming necessary.

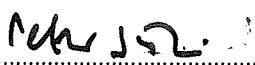
TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

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 on13/12/2024..... 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 2024, 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:13/12/2024.....

Devizes Assize Court Trust
Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

		Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	Year Ended 31.3.24 Total funds	Year Ended 31.3.23 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
INCOME					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		66,274	-	66,274	72,813
Investment income	2	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total income		66,274	-	66,274	72,813
EXPENDITURE					
Raising funds	3	6,234	-	6,234	13,625
Charitable activities					
Devizes Assize Court Restoration		<u>87,311</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>87,311</u>	<u>43,574</u>
Total expenditure		<u>93,545</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,545</u>	<u>57,199</u>
Net income		<u>(27,271)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(27,271)</u>	<u>15,614</u>
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>(27,271)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(27,271)</u>	<u>15,614</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:					
TOTAL FUNDS BOUGHT FORWARD		<u>226,410</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>226,410</u>	<u>210,796</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>199,139</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>199,139</u></u>	<u><u>226,410</u></u>

Devizes Assize Court Trust

Balance Sheet
At 31 March 2024

		Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	31.3.24 Total funds	31.3.23 Total funds
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	7	148,496	-	148,496	148,496
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank		<u>58,511</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>58,511</u>	<u>91,393</u>
		58,511	-	58,511	91,393
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(7,868)	-	(7,868)	(13,479)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>50,643</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50,643</u>	<u>77,914</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>199,139</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,139</u>	<u>226,410</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>199,139</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>199,139</u>	<u>226,410</u>
FUNDS	10				
Unrestricted funds				199,139	226,410
Restricted funds				-	-
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>199,139</u>	<u>226,410</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 13/12/2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr. Nicholas Elliott - Trustee

Devizes Assize Court Trust
Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

		Year Ended 31.3.24 £	Year Ended 31.3.23 £
Cash flows from operating activities	Notes		
	1	(32,882)	18,501
Cash flows from investment activities	2	-	-
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
(Decrease)/increase in cash in the period		<u><u>(32,882)</u></u>	<u><u>18,501</u></u>
<hr/>			
Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt	3		
Increase in cash in the period		<u>(32,882)</u>	<u>18,501</u>
Change in net debt resulting from cash flows		<u>(32,882)</u>	<u>18,501</u>
Movement in net debt in the period		(32,882)	18,501
Net debt at 1 April		<u>91,393</u>	<u>72,892</u>
Net debt at 31 March		<u><u>58,511</u></u>	<u><u>91,393</u></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 2024

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

	Year Ended 31.3.24 £	Year Ended 31.3.23 £
Net (outgoing)\incoming resources	(27,271)	15,614
Interest received	-	-
Impairment Losses	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	-	-
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<u>(5,611)</u>	<u>2,887</u>
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	<u><u>(32,882)</u></u>	<u><u>18,501</u></u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES

	Year Ended 31.3.24 £	Year Ended 31.3.23 £
Returns on investments and servicing of finance		
Interest received	-	-
Capital expenditure and financial investment		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Cash flows from investment activities	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>

3. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.24 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	<u>91,393</u>	<u>(32,882)</u>	<u>58,511</u>
Total	<u><u>91,393</u></u>	<u><u>(32,882)</u></u>	<u><u>58,511</u></u>

Devizes Assize Court Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

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 2024

2. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Year Ended 31.3.24 £	Year Ended 31.3.23 £
Deposit account interest	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

3. COSTS OF RAISING FUNDS

	Year Ended 31.3.24 £	Year Ended 31.3.23 £
Support costs	2,381	7,195
Governance costs	<u>3,853</u>	<u>6,430</u>
	<u>6,234</u>	<u>13,625</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2024 or year ended 31 March 2023.

5. STAFF COSTS

There were no employees during the year.

6. FEES FOR EXAMINATION OF THE ACCOUNTS

£420 will be payable to Pillow May Limited in respect of the annual independent review.

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £
COST	
At 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2024	<u>148,496</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2024	<u>148,496</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>148,496</u>

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

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Other debtors	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

Devizes Assize Court Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.24 £	31.3.23 £
Trade creditors	-	-
Other creditors	<u>7,868</u>	<u>13,479</u>
	<u><u>7,868</u></u>	<u><u>13,479</u></u>

10. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	226,410	(27,271)	199,139
Restricted funds			
Urgent Works	-	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>226,410</u></u>	<u><u>(27,271)</u></u>	<u><u>199,139</u></u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfer between funds £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	66,274	(93,545)	-	(27,271)
Restricted funds				
Urgent Works	-	-	-	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>66,274</u></u>	<u><u>(93,545)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(27,271)</u></u>

Devizes Assize Court Trust
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Year Ended 31.3.24 £	Year Ended 31.3.23 £
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Voluntary income		
Donations	66,274	72,813
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	-	-
Total incoming resources	66,274	72,813
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Raising Funds		
Support costs		
Insurance	1,455	1,383
Sundries	906	325
Fundraising consultant	-	5,460
Bank charges	20	27
	2,381	7,195
Governance costs		
Accountancy	1,838	1,536
Independent examination	472	384
Legal and professional fees	1,543	4,510
	3,853	6,430
Total Raising Funds	6,234	13,625
Charitable activities		
Building insurance	23,116	24,113
Architect and planning fees	5,446	11,309
Devizes assize court emergency works	3,749	8,152
Grants to institutions	55,000	-
	87,311	43,574
Total resources expended	93,545	57,199
Net (expenditure)/income	(27,271)	15,614

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements