

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT LEOMINSTER IN BLOOM 2023

Period 01.01.2023 – 31.12.2023

Charity Name Leominster in Bloom

Charity No: 1178381

Charity's principal address:

LEOMINSTER DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOC
LEOMINSTER COMMUNITY CENTRE
SCHOOL ROAD
LEOMINSTER
HR6 8NJ

Phone: 01568616460

The Objects of the CIO are

- 1) TO PROMOTE HORTICULTURE AND FLORICULTURE FOR THE PUBLIC GENERALLY AND ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO LIVE IN OR VISIT LEOMINSTER BY PROVIDING AND ENCOURAGING THE PROVISION OF DISPLAYS FLOWERS SHRUBS TREES AND LANDSCAPES IN PLACES VISIBLE TO THE PUBLIC AND FOR THE GENERAL ENHANCEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT.
- 2) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY, CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY.
- 3) FORGING RELATIONSHIPS WITH LOCAL CLUBS, SCHOOLS AND CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE TOWN.

Trustees

Geoffrey Crofts	Chair	Appointed: 14.11.2018
Councillor Felicity Norman		Appointed: 22.03.2018
Gillian Ding	Secretary	Appointed: 18.01.2018
Vivien Melia	Treasurer	Appointed: 15.01.2021

LEOMINSTER IN BLOOM 2023

I will always think of the year as the year of THE BEGONIA although of course it was a "Right Royal Carnival" the year of the Coronation of Charles III

The town was awash with colour, and the flowers looked tremendous, with us using as much peat free compost as we could get. Following our experiment the previous year we decided we would try to help the environment and follow the guidelines given by the RHS, not always possible, but we did our very best.

Our sponsors once again seemed to pull out all the stops and got behind us with their support, a display like we provided can only be done with this financial backing. It is amazing how generous our local businesses are, and we look forward to the continued support that they give us, a huge thank you to all.

Our involvement in the community grows year on year with Echo, Clever Betsy, The Meeting Place, Scouts and Brownies and this year Herefordshire Wildlife Trust. Leominster Priory has become part of our group and the various Nursing/Care Homes that also are now so involved, we are grateful for their involvement.

We have so many volunteers who give their time and make the whole project so rewarding and worthwhile. It is a pleasure talking to visitors and indeed locals who say how beautiful the town looks and how we should be proud of all we do.

The local schools have become very involved, and this last year saw over 1000 entries being put on display in the Library and other venues/shop windows around town, thank you all so much.

Leominster Town Council continue to give their support and the Groundsman Team have once again made our displays so vibrant with regular watering, which is so vital, and indeed many other forms of help, thank you all.

We are so grateful for the regular, usually Sunday morning group, who litter pick, making a massive contribution to the cleanliness of the town. one wonders why people have to be so mindless in leaving rubbish.

We have held very successful fund-raising events and stalls at other events, getting our message out there, the Plant Fair's being so important.

POM POMS are two words which conjure up so many different pictures in our minds, the countless people in the community that provided them in their hundreds and they were all put to good use with the crowning glory when almost all of the bollards in the town ended up with a crown. Well done to everyone who assisted in any way.

The front Garden competition was a great success and maybe this is something that might be expanded on in the future.

I haven't mentioned anyone by name, but you all know who you are, however I am just going to say thank you Gill and Julia for keeping us informed of meetings. To Viv for keeping our books and Diana for making sure all is well and auditing them. Cynthia for her organisation skills and of course Helena for the fabulous work she puts into the school's competitions.

A massive thank you to all of you as committee members and also all who help but perhaps do not come to committee. The one person who does so much to keep the town so tidy is Richard who is so often seen brushing the pavement with a hand brush, we are so grateful. The person who I have missed out and as we all know she never wants to take the limelight, but Romey we are so very grateful for your huge efforts, planning and time that you give to make us the success we are.

I didn't mention earlier it was Gold again, what next

Geoffrey Crofts

Chair Leominster in Bloom.

LEOMINSTER IN BLOOM

BREAKDOWN OF 2023 INCOME & EXPENDITURE at

	INCOME	EXPENDITURE	SURPLUS	FULL YEAR 2022	
SUBSCRIPTIONS	£ 70.00			£ 120.00	
DONATIONS	£ 1,067.00			£ 1,378.50	
GIFT AID RECLAIM	£ -			£ 126.49	
MARKET STALLS	£ 1,424.33			£ 534.96	
PLANT FAIR	£ 1,983.24			£ 1,786.53	
BUCKET COLLECTIONS	£ 29.43			£ 219.07	
EASY FUNDING/AMAZON	£ 46.96			£ 49.70	
SPONSORSHIP	£ 11,650.00			£ 9,850.00	
FUNDRAISING EVENTS				£ -	
JUST GIVING				£ -	
SUNDRIES				£ 276.00	
BERTIE BARGATES				£ 975.25	
GRANT FUNDING	£ 100.00			£ 1,471.40	
BANK INTEREST	£ 102.58		£ 16,473.54	£ 4.36	£ 16,792.26
RHS EXP		£ 145.00		-£ 145.00	
ADVERTISING		£ -		-£ 249.00	
PLANT FAIR REFUNDS		£ 30.00		-£ 55.00	
EQUIPMENT		£ 1,108.49		-£ 3,867.51	
PRINTING		£ 500.60		-£ 96.00	
STATIONARY		£ 364.17		-£ 142.21	
WEBSITE		£ 50.40		-£ 82.40	
PLANTING		£ 9,253.85		-£ 8,652.20	
SPONSOR SIGNS		£ 300.93		-£ 815.15	
TOMBOLA & MARKET		£ 227.58		-£ 199.17	
SUNDRIES		£ 260.34		-£ 417.39	
			£ 12,241.36	-£ 3,550.28	-£ 18,271.31
TOTAL		Profit	£ 4,232.18	-£ 1,479.05	
				31.12.22	
Petty Cash	£ 16.89			£ 18.49	
CASH IN HAND	£ -			£ -	
CURRENT ACCOUNT	£ 830.47			£ 651.27	
SAVINGS ACCOUNT	£ 11,309.59			£ 8,007.01	
Prepayments	£ 752.00				
TOTAL FUNDS	12908.95			£ 8,676.77	

Bertie funds

£ 277.95

LIB funds

£ 11,879.00

£ 277.95 BELONGS TO BEI

Declarations.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees report.

Signed

Julia M. Hugg

Full Name

Julia M. Hugg

Position

Vice chair

Date

10/4/24

Fw: Leominster in Bloom

From: dphemes (dphemes@aol.co.uk)

To: dphemes@aol.com

Date: Monday, 5 February 2024, 16:15 GMT

I report in respect of my examination of the Leominster in Bloom accounts 2023

I have completed my examination following Charity Commission guidance CC15d. 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:

*accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
the accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or
the format of the accounts is not correct*

Signed



Diana Emes

5th February 2024

Observations

1. The membership has decreased significantly which suggests administrative workload on individuals has increased. I suggest as well as a recruitment campaign, a corporate membership could be introduced.

2. I recommend expenses are claimed using a standard form especially since a limited circle of members are making the purchases. Receipts when available are attached. Reasons easier record keeping, improve transparency and protect LIB members against

Treasurers Report AGM 13.02.24

Diana Emes has reviewed our accounts, Her report states.

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- a) Accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or*
- b) The accounts do not accord with the accounting records; or*
- c) The format of the accounts is not correct.*

She has made two observations.

- 1) The membership has decreased significantly which suggests administrative workload on individuals has increased. I would suggest as well as a recruitment campaign, a corporate membership could be introduced.*
- 2) I recommend expenses are claimed using a standard form especially since a limited circle of members are making purchases. Receipts when available are attached. Reasons, easier record keeping, improve transparency and protect LIB members against allegations of misconduct.*

I would like to thank Diana Emes for once again reviewing our accounts.

You will find several copies of the accounts here for you to review and take away if you wish.

I will be using these figures when I complete the annual report on the Charity Commission website along with Geoffrey's annual review from this evening's meeting. Also plans for 2024 will be included.

2023 Income

Our income for the year totalled £16474.54 an increase of £656.53 on 2022 when the Bertie Bargates income is removed.

Notable changes

- **Sponsorship** increased by £1800.00.
- **Markets & Plant Fairs** increased by £1086.08. We attended five separate events and held two plant fairs.
- **Grant funding** reduced by £1371.00 (only £100 from LTC for coronation decorating)
- Our **Donations and bucket collections** were down £ 501.14. Bucket collections have dropped considerable, we didn't collect at any supermarkets in 2023.
- The **Easy Funding** income remained static at £47. The reason I mention this is that this could

2023 Expenditure

Our Expenditure totalled £ 12241.36 a reduction of £2479.67 over the previous year when the Bertie Bargates costs are taken out of the equation.

- **Equipment:** The group decided to invest in six new barrels. Also, six troughs from Barrington's were obtained to replace the old ones in Broad Street and West Street. With these we just had to pay for the labour, as Barrington's donated materials. Total cost £1108.49
- **Planting:** An increase of £601.65, more planters sold so more cost to fill.
- **Printing:** An increase of £400.00 over 2022. This was a quantity of double-sided leaflets promoting the Plant & Craft Fair and Front Garden Competition. We also replenished stocks of school's badges and certificates and purchased a new GOLD winner banner.
- **Sponsors Signs:** The smaller, and in some cases single sided sponsor signs meant we were able to make a reduction of £514.22 here.
- **Prizes:** Within the donations above we had money from Jane Lacy, this was expressly for purchasing raffle and tombola prizes, hence the spend of £227 for this purpose. Just over £100 of the money she so generously donated is unspent and carried over to be used in 2024.

Overall, we had a particularly good year with surplus funds of £4232.18.

Bertie Bargates Project

Regarding Bertie, we still hold surplus funds of £277.95 which is ring fenced with in our bank account to be spent on Bertie should any maintenance be needed in the future.

In total as of 31st December 2023 the LIB accounts had the following funds available £11,879.00

PETTY CASH	£ 16.49
CASH IN HAND	£ 0.00
CURRENT ACCOUNT	£ 830.47
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	£11309.59
PREPAYMENTS	£ 752.00
TOTAL FUNDS	£12908.95

BERTIE FUNDS	£ 277.95
LIB FUNDS	£11879.00
SHED DEPOSIT	£ 500.00
WEBSITE TO JUNE 2026	£ 252.00
	£12908.95

Vivien Melia