



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 6th April 2023
Period end date

Period start date To 5th April 2024

Charity name: Clipsham Yew Tree Avenue Trust

Charity registration number: 1178614

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	In summary, the objects of the charity are: For the public benefit <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) To promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of the Clipsham Yew Tree Avenue amenity and related areas2) To advance the education of the public in the natural history of the flora and fauna of the Clipsham Yew Tree Avenue amenity3) To assist with the provision of facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation in order to improve conditions of life for those living, visiting or working in the area of benefit.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	During the year the main activities carried out, having regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission, on public benefit, are as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Professional trimming of 137 mature yew trees during September and October 2023 to restore the shape and texture of the trees2. Early season grass cutting of the rides and end of season (August) cutting, baling and removal from site of hay to encourage wild flower meadow creation of the main ride.3. Cutting of hedges and removal of arisings4. Strimming and clearing of ditches and water courses and removal of arisings.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Our team of volunteers has carried out a range of duties including periodic visitor surveys and litter picking. Arrangements have continued with Rutland County Council to provide a litter bin and a regular collection.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	When we completed our negotiations with Forestry England in June 2018 and our agreement to care for the site was first established, the yew trees had not been cut for 4 years. The professional clipping in September 2019 achieved a remarkable degree of restoration. This work has continued with an annual professional clip of all trees each year (September 2020, October 2021, October 2022 and October 2023), further improving their health and appearance every year. Similarly, annual maintenance of the grassland in accordance with professional ecology and biodiversity advice, has improved the nature of the site as a visitor attraction.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	Each year we agree with Forestry England a Management Plan for the Yew Tree Avenue for the year ahead, and at the end of the year, we report on the achievement of that Plan.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Since 2019 our fund-raising efforts can be considered entirely successful, based upon our success in gaining specific grant funding for defined projects and supported by very generous donations from a few local individuals. However, we have to report that the climate for fund-raising has significantly deteriorated since the Covid pandemic began in March 2020 and we can no longer be confident that we will be able to continue to raise the £15k to £20k per annum which is necessary to maintain this site in a welcoming condition. We also note that the Covid pandemic is also partly responsible for our site receiving a significant additional number of visitors compared with earlier years and a good number of these are coming from greater distances than before.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable
Other		Not applicable

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Our Charitiy's cash reserves at the 5th April 2024 was £6,419 Funds raised after that date will allow us to clip approximately half of the Avenue again in September 2024. Whether the situation will permit a further full clip in 2025 is less certain at the present time.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Our financial policy is to ring-fence sufficient funds as soon as they are available for the main clipping project which is estimated to cost £13k to £15k each September. Maintaining the grassland, ditches and hedges is also an essential requirement and is estimated to cost a further £2,000 at present day prices. Any other desired improvements for the public experience need to be successfully funded by new grant applications before any commitments are made.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	See paragraph 1.41 above.
Other		Not applicable

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CYTAT is established as a Foundation CIO
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Foundation CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The three founding trustees remain in post. It is not our present intention to admit additional Trustees. If and when additional Trustees are invited the three founding trustees will reach agreement on candidates and appointments.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Clipsham Yew Tree Avenue Trust
Other name the charity uses	Not applicable
Registered charity number	1178614
Charity's principal address For Contact	Mr Clifford Bacon The Old Schoolhouse, CLIPSHAM Oakham Rutland LE15 7SE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Dr Patrick Candler	Chairman		
2	Mrs Sue Thomas	Publicity and Website		
3	Mr Cliff Bacon	Secretary and Treasurer		
4				
5				
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17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
Not Applicable		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
Not applicable		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	Not applicable
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable

Other optional information

Not applicable.

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	C J Bacon	Sue Thomas
Full name(s)	Clifford James Bacon	Susan Mary Thomas
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Secretary and Treasurer	Trustee
Date	31 st July 2024	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Clipsham Yew Tree Avenue Trust

1178614

Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period
from

6th April 2023

To

5th April 2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	2,401	3,590	-	5,991	3,485
Charitable Donations		3,400	-	3,400	1,969
Other Income	514		-	514	457
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	2,915	6,990	-	9,905	5,911
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	2,915	6,990	-	9,905	5,911
A3 Payments					
Yew Tree Clipping		12,708	-	12,708	12,540
Site works			-	-	380
Grass & hedge maintenance	-	1,661	-	1,661	1,651
Insurance	561	-	-	561	551
Website maintenance	119	-	-	119	58
Printing and stationery	398	-	-	398	394
Sundry	69		-	69	70
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,147	14,369	-	15,516	15,644
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,147	14,369	-	15,516	15,644
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,768	- 7,379	-	- 5,611	- 9,733
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	9,683	2,348	-	12,031	21,764
Cash funds this year end	11,450	- 5,031	-	6,419	12,031

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	BANK ACCOUNT	11,450	- 5,031	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	11,450	- 5,031	zero
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	#VALUE!
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
		-	-	-
	Not applicable	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details			
			-	-
	Not applicable		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details			
			-	-
	Not applicable		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details			
			-	
	Not applicable		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	C J Bacon	Clifford James Bacon	31/07/2024	
	Sue Thomas	Susan Mary Thomas	31/07/2024	