FRIENDS OF BAILEY HILL / FFRINDIAU BRYN Y BEILI

England & Wales · Charity number 1179312

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2018-07-24
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	Rivendell Denbigh Road Mold CH7 1BL
Phone	07702094040
Email	fobhmold@btinternet.com
Website	www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Bailey-Hill-1442020782754561/

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:(A) TO PROMOTE FOR THE INHABITANTS OF MOLD, FLINTSHIRE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION AT BAILEY HILL FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE OF RESIDENTS AND VISITORS.(B) TO PROMOTE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AT BAILEY HILL BY PROMOTING BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND TO RESPECT THE HISTORY OF THE SITE, ITS SPECIAL LANDSCAPE FEATURES AND STATUS AS A SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENT. (C) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC BY PROMOTING OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN BAILEY HILL FOR LEARNING ABOUT THE HERITAGE OF THE PUBLIC PARK AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT THROUGH STRUCTURED TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES.

Activities: Conserving and upgrading BAILEY HILL PARK, for the people of Mold, and Flintshire, and the surrounding area: encouraging provision of recreational facilities; conservation of the physical and natural environment (including biodiversity, landscape features and the scheduled ancient monument); respecting the site's history, and advancing public education through structured educational programmes.

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Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Education/training, Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Flintshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-05	£9,349	£4,723	-	-
2024-04-05	£767	£1,460	-	-
2023-04-05	£1,068	£4,716	-	-
2022-04-05	£11,573	£4,926	-	-
2021-04-05	£677	£894	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
EIRA HUGHES	Chair	2018-02-06
HELEN HAYES		2020-09-20
Hilary Preece		2019-03-22
John ATKINSON		2021-09-23
John Chadwick		2023-09-16
MICHAEL ANTONY BUNTING		2018-02-06
Mary CONSIDINE		2021-09-23
Prudence Jane Delaney		2023-09-16
RICHARD TREFOR JONES		2018-02-06

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FRIENDS OF BAILEY HILL / FFRINDIAU BRYN Y BEILI

England & Wales - Charity number 1179312

Accounts

7

ANNUAL REPORT

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1179312

FY 2024-2025 (7th Annual Report)

friends of BAILEY HILL ffrindiau BRYN Y BEILI

friends of BAILEY HILL ffrindiau BRYN Y BEILI

friends of BAILEY HILL ffrindiau BRYN Y BEILI

Friends' Spring 2025 pots – lemon-cream coloured hyacinths, an old variety, called 'City of Haarlem' (1893) – with tulips and Ornithogalum growing below them, to follow on.

[Front cover image: The Friends using the compost supplied by Tate & Lyle, filled the first section of the gutter on the Inner Bailey events lawn in the spring of 2025.]

friends of BAILEY HILL
ffrindiau BRYN Y BEILI

CONTENTS

The Board of Trustees	4
The Charity	5
Chair's Introduction	6
Overall Progress	8
Good Governance, Organisation & Delivery	10
Sustainable Funding & Finance	13
Volunteering	14
Practical Action in the Park	16
Structured Education / Training	23
Engagement & Influencing	25
Grant-Aiders to be Thanked	26
Summary of Accounts FY 2024-2025	28
Current Trustees	31

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Our Current Board of Trustees

Twelve (maximum) Trustees are allowed under our current Constitution. There were 9 Trustees throughout the 2024-25 Financial Year (FY):

- Eira Hughes: Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – Chair
- Richard Trefor Jones: Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – Communities Secretary, and Quartermaster
- Mike Antony Bunting: Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – General Secretary
- Hilary Preece: Trustee (from 22 March 2019), Vice-Chair, and Director of Finance
- Helen Hayes: Trustee (from 20 September 2020) – Data Lead
- John Atkinson: Trustee (from 23 September 2021) – Events Manager, and Wildlife Recorder
- Mary Considine: Trustee (from 23 September 2021), and Education Lead
- John Chadwick: Trustee (from 16 September 2023). and Operations Manager
- Prudence Jane Delaney: Trustee (from 16 September 2023), and Biodiversity Lead.

The current 9 Trustees in post produced this Report. Their short biographies appear at the end of this Report. Formal Trustees Meetings (TM): Trustees met during FY 2024-25 on - 24 April, 26 June, 24 July, 9 October, 27 November, in 2024; and then in 2025, on 15 January and 5 March. We meet at Bethesda Chapel, New Street, Mold. (Note: We also met, on 10 December for a ‘trustees and spouses’ Christmas Dinner at Pen-y-Bont Farm, Mold.)

Changes in the Board of Trustees during FY 2024-2025

No changes to report: other than John Atkinson agreeing to become our Events Manager, going forward.

Recruiting New Trustees

Under our Constitution: Trustees must be signed-up Friends/Members with voting rights. Before an AGM, we firstly ascertain which of the current Trustees wish to continue. Trustees are appointed or re-appointed, annually, at an Annual General Meeting (AGM), and the Board must have between 3 and 12 Trustees. Roles for our Trustees are decided after discussion by the AGM-appointed Board of Trustees soon after the AGM. We periodically invite Friends, via email, to self-nominate themselves as potential Trustees, during the year, for the AGM to consider. We can also recruit/co-opt extra new Trustees between AGMs.

Independent Auditor

Our auditor for FY 2024-25 was Phillip Hughes ACA, again. We thank him once again for his guidance.

THE CHARITY

‘FRIENDS OF BAILEY HILL – FFRINDIAU BRYN Y BEILI’ (FoBH-FfByB)

The Charity

FoBH-FfByB is an independent body, formed on 6 February 2018. It became a registered charity (Reg. No.1179312), on 24 July 2018. It is a charitable incorporated organisation (a ‘CIO’) set up as an ‘association’, whereby the wider membership, and not just the founding trustees, have voting rights.

Our Charitable Objects

- *“To promote for the inhabitants of Mold, Flintshire and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation at Bailey Hill for the public at large - in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of residents and visitors.*
- *To promote for the public benefit the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment at Bailey Hill - by promoting biological diversity and to respect the history of the site, its special landscape features and status as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM).*
- *To advance the education of the public - by promoting opportunities within Bailey Hill for learning about the heritage of the public park and the natural environment through structured training and educational programmes.”*

Official Addresses

Post: FoBH-FfByB (General Secretary), ‘Rivendell’, Denbigh Road, Mold. CH7 1BL

Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Bailey-Hill-1442020782754561/

Email: fobhmold@btinternet.com

Tel: 07702 09 40 40

Our Financial Year: begins on April 6th – and continues until April 5th.

Relevant Roles

> Bank: Lloyds Bank

> Solicitors: Llewellyn-Jones, Mold.

> Independent Examiner of Accounts: Phillip Hughes ACA (February 2021 onwards).

CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

THE FINANCIAL YEAR (FY) 2024-25 REPORT

It is an honour to present the **7th Annual Report** of the charity - for FY 2024-25.

It was agreed a couple of years ago at a tripartite seminar that further progress at Bailey Hill needed to focus on (i) heritage interest, and (ii) horticulture. The charity continues to do so, and FY 2024-25 showed ample evidence of our commitment - most especially through the 57 practical volunteering 'gardening and wildlife' sessions which Friends delivered, in the Park.

This last year has been an exceptionally busy one for the Friends. Critically, we managed to attract sufficient monies to advance several long-cherished small projects to improve the Park. They included: organising the restoration of the old Bowling Green Man Gate on the Inner Bailey; plus, the restoration and bilingualisation of the Memorial Stone (near the War Memorial). Then, towards the end of the FY 2024-25, we were able to start the project to fill the 'gutters' on the western and northern edges of the Inner Bailey 'events' lawn, which will make it safer, and better for wildlife (as we have added clover and bird's foot trefoil seed to the reseeded areas).

Our charity's field study visit to the Wirral, to meet Port Sunlight Village Trust's officials was very informative and inspiring – as the Trust's staff explained their approach to seeking heritage grants, site management practice, and, preparing the horticultural displays.

Looking forward

We have a clear idea of what the charity needs to do next. Strategically, we need to:

(a) ensure we continue to add quality to the Park (while the basics - the boundary walls, paths, woodland, lawns and buildings - are for FCC and the lessee of 'the Centre' to manage),

(b) support Flintshire County Council (FCC) efforts to retain Green Flag status for the Park for the 7 year minimum demanded by the NHLF (2021>2028),

(c) do our bit to help ensure that key promises made to funders and the public are honoured, and to ensure that the Bailey Hill Visitor Centre is a well-used and vibrant centre in the Park; and,

(d) encourage FCC/Gwella's further progress on the full and proper interpretation of the Scheduled Ancient Monument.*

[Note: the information boards have yet to be completed and erected, having been much delayed awaiting detailed 'final' archaeological reports on the 2020 and subsequent digs and related researches.]*

The Friends' key contributions will be to make further progress on improving the Beds (26 in all now) adding bulbs and corms; plus the display of large pots on the decking and near the War Memorial - to bring extra colour in the spring, summer and autumn.

By the end of 2025, the really hard graft to bring the physical condition of the park up to a 'good conservation standard' throughout - through collective tripartite effort - should be done.

So, our charity's new Business Plan for the next three years anticipates more emphasis on maintaining a steady-state, with Friends ensuring a good standard of 'extra' gardening. That may allow us scope to focus more on nature study and further exploration of the Hill's history and heritage. There should also be scope for Friends to do a few small events in the Park annually - which fit well with our charitable objects. The latter of course would be subject to having sufficient active volunteers available.

Currently, we rely greatly on a dozen very committed regular volunteers, and a few others who help from time to time. We could do with a few more of you to help us in the Park, to conserve it and present it, and to make it more beautiful and enjoyable 'small heritage park' to visit; and, to help us to run small events.

We are still aiming for a membership of c. 200 - and to ensure that 25% of those are active volunteers. We have 'light tasks' to offer at every session. If you are able and willing to spare a few Saturday mornings a year to help us on site, or with other tasks, that would be great.

Thank you all for your continued support and interest.

Eira Hughes DipLA, MCD, MRTPI (ret'd), CMLI (ret'd)

July 2025

friends of BAILEY HILL
ffrindiau BRYN Y BEILI

OVERALL PROGRESS

Creating a High-Quality Park at Bailey Hill

Creating a fine, high-quality public park remains 'what it is all about' for the Friends of Bailey Hill. In 2024-25 we made significant progress on sorting a few on long-planned further small improvements to the Park.

The Significant Contribution of the Friends

Very significant hours of effort were invested again by Friends in the effort to improve the Park during FY 2024-25 (our seventh financial year).

We continued to work tripartitely - with FCC and Mold Town Council (MTC) - to forge an understanding on how the Bailey Hill work should roll forwards strategically.

Tripartite Partnership work

(following on after the concluded HLF Plus Project, 'Revealing Bailey Hill / Mold Castle')

During FY 2024-25, the 'Tripartite Partnership' continued to meet regularly to ensure proper follow-up of the HLF Plus Project.

Issues which needed discussion included:

- the lead role for FCC being transferred to FCC's Countryside Unit (under Tom Woodall), and, Aura/Gwella winding-down its active supporting role,
- scope for MTC - and others - to use the Centre for appropriate activities related to the park over the longer term,
- discussing the best way forward for improving the 'Old Wooden Steps' in the north-east corner of the Park.

What did we achieve during FY 2024-2025?

In FY 2024-25, our Trustees contributed to tripartite partnership work (with FCC and MTC) as follows -

- *we attended 6 meetings with FCC and MTC – on Bailey Hill business (Site Visits and formal meetings)*
- *we commented, from the Friends' perspective, on relevant issues to progress matters tripartitely*
- *we continued to use our licence for working in the park granted by FCC (which will run through to mid-August 2026)*

- *we secured a verbal permission to continue using the new Centre (leased to MTC) – as agreed on 5 September 2023 - on Saturdays, plus Thursdays (usually afternoons); and Wednesday during its 'open' hours (with FCC covering the cost of our water and electricity use).*
- *we continued to observe the tripartite Bailey Hill Management and Maintenance Plan - which still includes the agreed recipes for improving each of the Park's 'Landscape Character Areas' (LCA 1-7).*

NEXT: during 2025-26, we will:

- *seek to formalise a new User Agreement with MTC - to access the new Centre to ensure an acceptable level of access and 'quality of experience' for all the voluntary gardening and wildlife work done regularly in the Park by the Friends*
- *help ensure continued Green Flag status for the whole Park annually, up to 2029-30, as promised*
- *do what we reasonably can to help secure the future of the new Centre as a vital and well-used facility in the Park.*

GREEN FLAG STATUS:

Green Flag status is applied for annually by FCC. It is a requirement of the HLF grant process that it be retained for 7 years by FCC. A first Green Flag was awarded in 2021. Green Flag status was secured again in 2022, 2023, and 2024.

The inspection for the 2025 process took place on 24 April 2025.

This spring, we replaced the Green Flag which is usually displayed on the new flagpole, for a few days, with the Welsh national flag – to mark St.Davids' Day (March 1st 2025).

GOOD GOVERNANCE, ORGANISATION & DELIVERY

The Importance of Good Governance

We had a very busy year again, and focussed on making progress on all fronts steadily, well and safely.

Our Independence as a Charity

We continued to cherish and maintain our independence of thought and action as a charity, and a strong focus on our three formal 'charitable objects', in accordance with official guidance issued by the Charity Commission (CC); and, as guided, from the start, by the Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC).

What did we achieve during FY 2024-25?

In FY 2024-2025, we had another very busy year, as we -

- *arranged and held our 6th Annual General Meeting, at St David's Church Hall, Mold*
- *made our 6th Annual Return to the Charity Commission*
- *held 7 formal meetings of the full Board of Trustees (39th > 45th TM)*
- *organised and ran 11 Small Team Sessions (STS) on Saturday mornings in the Park*
- *organised and ran a further 46 Mini-Team Visits (in the intervening weekends) in order to tend our Outdoor Pots Display and to do additional planting and tidying jobs in the Park; and, many of those evolved into more substantial 'Extra Work' sessions over and above the normal routine weekend visits (to handle special projects and make up for cancellations due to spells of cold and icy weather).*
- *also organised weekly visits to the new Bailey Hill Centre – to tend the Friends' Indoor Plants Display at the Centre at times of the week convenient for Friends and MTC's lead officer for the Bailey Hill Visitor Centre.*

And, we -

- *updated our Communications Policy*
- *monitored safety standards – we worked in the Park without sustaining any significant accidents (and noted any near misses and/or 'lessons to be learned' as we went)*
- *maintained our Annual Log / a Record of Our Practical Work in the Park – to report our progress on practical work, consistently, and to inform partners, funders and key contacts*

- *kept Friends informed on our progress – via Facebook / emails / information offered to the local press – especially the local Welsh-language paper 'Papur Fama'*
- *researched information sources to identify opportunities to apply for small grants for specific purposes,*
- *made progress on updating the 'draft website' text and related materials.*

NEXT, during 2025-26:

DELIVERY: We will continue to deliver a programme of weekly visits to check our Pots and the Park, with one session a month to tackle a wider range of tasks.

COMMUNICATIONS: Our website development is moving forward, and we are hoping it will be ready to go live in the autumn of 2025.

FY 2024-2025		FRIENDS' MAIN EVENTS - ORGANISED & DELIVERED - in all **57** practical sessions
Start of FY > 6th April 2024		
6 April	√	**Small Team Session (STS 43)** in the Park
13 April	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 122) in the Park
20 April	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 123) in the Park
27 April	√	**Small Team Session (STS 44)** in the Park
4 May	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 124) in the Park
11 May	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 125) in the Park
18 May	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 126) in the Park
25 May	√	**Small Team Session (STS 45)** in the Park
1 June	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 127) in the Park
8 June	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 128) in the Park
15 June	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 129) in the Park
22 June	√	**Small Team Session (STS 46)** in the Park
29 June	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 130) in the Park
6 July	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 131) in the Park
13 July	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 132) in the Park
20 July	√	**Small Team Session (STS 47)** in the Park
27 July	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 133) in the Park
3 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 134) in the Park
10 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 135) in the Park
17 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 136) in the Park
24 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 137) in the Park
31 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 138) in the Park

7 September	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 139) in the Park
14 September	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 140) in the Park
14 September	√	6**th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** - Held at St. David's Church Hall, Mold
21 September	√	**Small Team Session (STS 48)** in the Park
28 September	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 141) in the Park
5 October	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 142) in the Park
12 October	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 143) in the Park
19 October	√	**Small Team Session (STS 49)** in the Park
26 October	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 144) in the Park
2 November	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 145) in the Park
9 November	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 146) in the Park
16 November	√	**Small Team Session (STS 50)** in the Park
23 November	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 147) in the Park
28 November	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 148) in the Park
30 November	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 149) in the Park
7 December	-	*Cancelled due to very high winds and heavy rain*
14 December	√	**Small Team Session (STS 51)** in the Park
21 December	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 150) in the Park
28 December	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 151) in the Park
2025		
2 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 152) in the Park (BG Man Gate removed)
4 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 153) in the Park
11 January	-	*Cancelled due to snow and ice.*
13 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 154) in the Park (Memorial Stone removed)
18 January	-	*Cancelled due to Children's Party booked for BHVC by MTC.*
20 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 155) in the Park
25 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 156) in the Park
1 February	√	**Small Team Session (STS 52)** in the Park
5 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 157) in the Park (Memorial Stone returned)
8 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 158) in the Park
10 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 159) in the Park (BG Man Gate returned)
15 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 160) in the Park
22 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 161) in the Park
27 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 162) in the Park (snowdrop planting)
1 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 163) in the Park
2 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 164) in the Park
15 March	√	**Small Team Session (STS 53)** in the Park
22 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 165) in the Park
29 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 166) in the Park
5 April	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 167) in the Park (topsoil to IB - phase 1)
End of FY – 5th April 2025		

Each practical session is a 'small event' to be scheduled, rostered, work-planned, risk-assessed and logged. That is a considerable task administratively, in addition to the physical effort required for off-site purchasing, and preparation.

SUSTAINABLE FUNDING & FINANCE

Raising Funds for the Future

The Charity has no regular income stream. It relies solely on seeking donations, fundraising locally and securing small grants, plus gift-aid. During the financial year we maintained a steady position, financially.

What did we achieve during FY 2024-2025?

During FY 2024-25:

- *We concentrated on making the most of the monies gathered in over the previous years.*
- *We were successful in attracting a UK Government 'Levelling Up' grant for Flintshire, and a generous contribution from Hartsheath Charitable Trust; and, a small grant from Mold Town Council.*
- *We were awarded funds from contingency savings on the HLF Project Plus to support (i) update and conserve the Memorial Stone, and (ii) buy plants to fill any gaps in the Beds in the years ahead.*
- *We continued to place our Red Charity Pots in various businesses around Mold.*
- *The Charity is registered with HMRC to receive Gift Aid under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme and is able to claim this from donations made to us via the Red Charity Pots.*
- *Trustees and our keen volunteers continued to donate plants, materials, as well as meeting various minor office supplies, home-office running costs, and transport costs (for plant sourcing) – which cumulatively must be worth several hundred pounds over the course of the financial year.*
- *We approached various larger local businesses, seeking general donations, and received one positive response from Tate & Lyle, who supplied compost for us to do the first stage in the 'gutter-filling' work on the Inner Bailey.*

ASSETS: The Charity does not hold property of its own. Its only assets include tools and equipment to undertake volunteer work in the Park, plus bird, bat and hedgehog boxes placed in the Park (with the kind permission of FCC): and, the plants it acquires or grows from seed or cuttings.

STATUS: The powers of the charity as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation may be used, perhaps, in the future.

NEXT: during 2025-26:

- *We will seek a few new grants for specific projects, as/when/if needed, and to support our annual running costs.*
- *Use our Red Charity Pots [Note: we currently have 5 pots in situ. Local businesses report a bit more use of cash again, post-Covid.]*
- *We will consider other fundraising events which are compatible with the continued health and wellbeing of our Trustees and volunteers.*

VOLUNTEERING

Gifting Time

The charity has no employees. Our Trustees give very generously indeed of their time for running the charity, and engaging with other bodies. No Trustees' expenses were claimed or paid during FY 2024-25.

The Trustees and other Friends are not employees, and did not accept any remuneration or other benefits. They act as unpaid practical volunteers, gifting time to the charity's work.

What did we achieve in FY 2024-2025?

During FY 2024-25, interest in our charitable work increased, and we -

- ❖ *were pleased to retain a membership level of 127 Members*
- ❖ *had several highly active regular volunteers - currently c.12.*
- ❖ *connected with all the Members, via email, the Chair's Updates, and maintained a Quarterly Log – an illustrated record on all the work done in the Park by Friends*
- ❖ *managed to plan and deliver significant progress in improving the Park further, with our strong team of keen and committed volunteers organising our volunteering events*
- ❖ *visited the Bailey Hill Visitor Centre twice a week to pursue weekend and weekday activities in the Park and to keep an eye of the indoor plants mid-week.*
- ❖ *continued our ROSTER system to ensure there would always be a minimum of two volunteers working on any tasks set.*

NEXT: during 2025-26, we will:

- *endeavour to ensure continuation of our formal User Agreement with MTC to allow us to use the loo, the toolstore, water and electricity supply, information board and other facilities at the new Centre*

- *continue with a busy programme of practical sessions in the Park and other events*
- *ensure more of our most regular volunteers are offered training in relevant subjects*
- *continue to do sensitive minor improvements in the wider Park - with input of advice from FCC Countryside Management and Biodiversity officers, and the North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT) as required*
- *maintain planted Beds in the Park as agreed with FCC - especially the Friends' Bed (Bed 18), the Hydrangeas Bed (Bed 19) and other areas (of Bed 6 etc.) planted-up by the Friends, plus general care (fertilising/weeding/clipping/bulb-planting) in the other Beds, if and as resources allow*
- *plan, prepare and manage seasonal flowerpots (to be placed on the decking and flanking the Cenotaph as agreed with HDD), generally 4 pots (and sometimes 6 or 8 for greater seasonal effect)*
- *support FCC, Gwella and MTC's Bailey Hill Officer's efforts to interpret the ancient monument, and to make good use of the revamped Park and the new Centre*
- *do minor improvements for example, to the Perimeter Path for the benefit of the less able - to the extent our licence, risk assessment and insurance will allow*
- *invite and encourage more of the Members to become active volunteers.*

New Volunteer Dave (far right) - provided some extra muscle to help us with a big task in the Spring of 2025.

PRACTICAL ACTION IN THE PARK

Getting things done - to enhance the Park

The Charity has no regular income stream. It relies solely on seeking donations, fundraising locally and securing small grants, plus gift-aid.

During the financial year we secured a good sufficiency of funds for all we needed to do and plan, financially; and, continued to work hard throughout the year on enhancing the Park – through a number of new initiatives and direct actions (large and small).

A lighter task: just adding a few bulbs (big snowdrops) to Bed 11 by the Toolstore (MTV 162 / Feb 2025)

A. HABITATS WORK IN THE PARK

This year was a year in which we continued to take stock, given that many trees across the park had been felled.

We kept an eye on the c.25 bird-boxes, removing any which were damaged and seeking new positions for replacements next winter (in FY 2025-26).

Taking a rest after a vigorous session - thinning self-sown seedling trees in the ecologically-sensitive north-west corner of the Park - at MTV 166 (in February 2025).

B. PARK & GARDENS WORK IN THE PARK

It was another very busy year for us in the Park.

Examples:

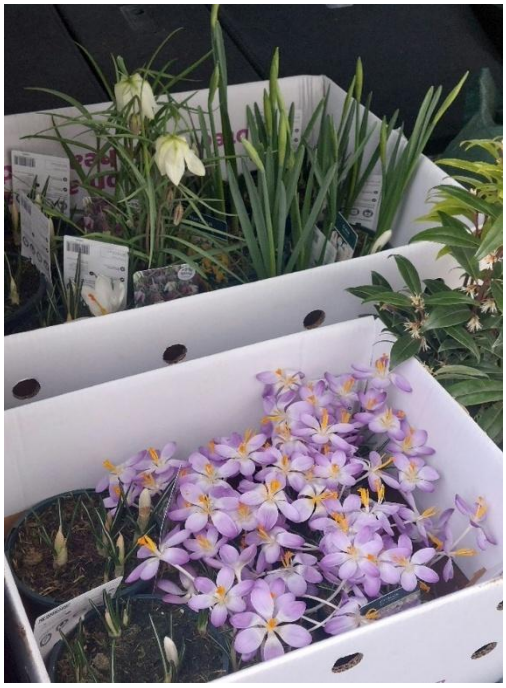
Friends completed work on building the Composting Station in May 2024.

Friends engaged in replacing failed artemisia plants with tougher, blue-grey (grass) plants – to maintain the grey-leaved appearance as designed - in Bed 8, behind the Memorial Stone (in September 2024).

On a damp day (in November 2024) 'the land girls' team cleared leaves out of the main beds on the Inner Bailey

Pot-rejuvenation: adding new ivies and mulch to the established holly-pots on a sunnier November day (in 2024).

One last bag – the Friends completing the 'big compost-shift' to the Inner Bailey to fill the gutter on the lawn edge (in the Spring of 2025).



Plants acquired and ready to go to the Park in early Spring 2025.

C. OTHER TASKS DONE BY FRIENDS IN THE PARK

Friends also do small tasks to keep the paths passable, removing small hazards.

Friends removing waste metal found within the Perimeter Path, which was becoming hazardous (in November 2024).

An exposed root on the Perimeter Path was packed around by Friends with material to make it less of a trip hazard: in November 2024). [JA's photo].

What did we achieve in FY 2024-2025?

During FY 2024-25, we:

- *did very extensive and quite physical work within the Park (over 57 practical sessions)*
- *got the new Composting Station into action, to make compost (slowly)*
- *continued to develop the skills of all our regular volunteers*
- *helped to retain Green Flag status for the Park*
- *added more new plants as per the M&MPlan and LCA 1-7 'planting recipes'*
- *planted various wildflowers and nurtured more off-site for the Park*
- *attended and managed all our Indoor Pots in the Centre weekly*
- *added a few more types of heritage daffodil to the Beds*
- *added herbaceous plants to provide a bit more autumn colour in the Beds*
- *managed all the Outdoor Pots, at the Entrance, weekly – changing them seasonally*
- *ensured all the practical work done was in accordance with our FCC licence (and any subsequent small permissions given by FCC staff)*
- *respected the now significantly increased archaeological significance of the 'Mold Castle' site.*

NEXT: during 2025-2026, we will be:

- completing our planting programme across the Park
- adding seedling rowans to the Outer Slopes as planned
- continuing to make small improvements to help sustain Green Flag standards of tidiness and beauty
- improving the state of the Perimeter Path and the woodlands as natural / wildlife habitat (through small selective interventions).

We will support FCC's efforts to improve the Wooden Steps area; and, to consider further options for dealing with the scarring on the Motte.

We will continue to take into account the plants favoured by Edward Kemp (1817-1891) - the famous landscape gardener who advised the Mold Local Board in 1871, on what might best grace the Park, after it came into public hands in 1870/71. We will also respect the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust (WHGT)'s suggestions and its keen interest in this aspect of the Park's history.

We will continue to help maintain the new planting areas in the new Numbered Beds (now 1-26, including those added in the new Children's Play Area on the Outer Bailey) to augment FCC's usual, regular, basic maintenance work in the Park.

We remain committed to doing our part - as promised - to deliver the Park's longer-term tripartite M&M Plan, together with FCC and MTC.

STRUCTURED EDUCATION / TRAINING

Education – is part of our remit as an independent charity.

2024-25 was a year when we continued to pass on skills to recent recruits but we did not roll out any formal training.

What did we achieve in FY 2024-2025?

During FY 2024-25, we:

- *undertook a Friends' Study Visit to meet staff of the Port Sunlight Village Trust and to look at their work in the village – in October 2024.*
- *continued to teach recent new volunteers the relevant skills - to help care for the Beds, Pots, Indoor plants, etc. in a public park, to a good 'parks' standard*
- *ensured that any new volunteers were integrated into the Friends' regular volunteers team and had a chance to contribute to all aspects of the Friends' practical 'parks and gardens' work in the Park and to help with the charity's wider set of tasks, if interested.*

NEXT: during 2025-26 –

We will consider updating our training lecture modules to suit a further batch of new volunteers.

Trustees taking a good look at Port Sunlight Village Trust's horticultural work (in October 2024).

[Photo: by David Brightmore]

HISTORY researches

Many of 'the Friends' were involved in the 'Bailey Hill Project' (2019-2023) in another capacity, as History Research Volunteers, Poetry Volunteers, Guided Tours Volunteers, and Visitor Volunteers (all under a Bailey Hill Project Officer's direction, with MTC insurance-cover and risk assessment, and within the terms of its own arrangements with FCC Estates). Others helped with the archaeological digs in the past few years. So, people who are Members of FoBH-FfByB are already heavily invested in understanding and improving the Park and presenting it to the public.

In March 2025, we found a second clump of heritage daffodil ('Van Sion') growing in the Park.

ARCHAEOLOGY update

Sophie Fish (Museums, Culture and Heritage Manager for Flintshire, now embedded within Gwella), gave a lecture at Ebenezer Chapel on 25th January 2025 on 'The Bailey Hill Skeletons'.

She revealed that skeletons found in the Bailey Hill were laid out east-west (suggesting they were Christian) under the Inner Bailey lawned area. Durham University had identified the bones of ten separate individuals, from different periods in the C12th. Analysis suggested most were women, and that most were local to the 'Mold area' .

ENGAGEMENT & INFLUENCING

Networking with and persuading others

The Trustees continued to devote much time to creating positive relationships with other agencies, as well as doing our utmost to be effective and reliable partners within the tripartite partnership.

What did we achieve in FY 2024-2025?

During FY 2024-25, we continued to engage effectively with, and respect the advice of:

- *FCC and MTC, and Aura (now Gwella) which looks after leisure services, libraries and heritage for FCC: and, we attended 6 meetings with FCC/MTC as the 'Bailey Hill Partnership Board' and associated 'Site Meetings'.*
- *the local historians: we continued to maintain close contact with local historians and researchers.*
- *archaeologists - Chris Matthews of Heneb (the new name for CPAT) kindly gave an illustrated talk about recent archaeological digs in Flintshire at our 6th AGM on 14 September 2024. Many thanks go to him for an inspiring and very informative lecture.*

We made much use of:

- *Facebook – using our FoBH Facebook Page, we continued to draw attention to good-practice exemplar small parks and gardens with strong historic interest, as well as presenting aspects of our work and relevant information, bilingually (to engage effectively with the local population and Welsh learners).*
- *We currently have c. 796 followers on our bilingual FoBH Facebook Page > see > https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Bailey-Hill-1442020782754561/*
- *Papur Fama – we provided several short articles to the Welsh-language local community paper to inform and interest the local community of Welsh speakers and learners about our work on Bailey Hill.*

NEXT: during 2025-2026, we will sustain and develop the key relationships, and we hope to complete our website.

GRANT-AIDERS in FY2024-25 - to be thanked

We thank, in respect of FY 2024-2025:

- UK Government's 'Levelling Up' / Flintshire Community Fund - for funds to cover the cost of restoring the Bowling Green Man Gate, on the Inner Bailey.

The restored gate, with a new decorative panel, in plain metal. Flintshire Fabrications was engaged, by the Friends, to do the work.

- Hartsheath Charitable Trust, Mold Town Council, Vron Landscaping and EE Civils Ltd – for their generosity
- Tate & Lyle, for the compost supplied to enable stage one of the work to fill the gutter on the Inner Bailey.

John seeding the first stage of the gutter-filling work done by Friends on the Inner Bailey.

- ❖ <u>Heritage Lottery Fund, and its supporters</u> – for supporting the tripartite partnership (Friends of Bailey Hill / Flintshire County Council / Mold Town Council) work by enabling FCC to draw down a significant special package of project monies from the Heritage Lottery Fund, plus Welsh Government ('TAIS grant'), Cadwyn Clwyd, Landfill Funds, etc. to upgrade the Bailey Hill Park (from 2019 through to March 2023).

Contingency fund savings on the HLF Project Plus Fund helped to meet the cost of a project organised by the Friends to conserve and bilingualise the Memorial Stone. Blackwell Stonecraft was engaged by Friends to do the work.

See above – a photo showing the Memorial Stone being removed for off-site work in January 2025..

See below - the reinscribed Memorial Stone returning to the Park, in February 2025.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FY 2024-25

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 06/04/2024 TO 05/04/2025

	£ INCOME	£ EXPENDITURE
INCOME :		
DONATIONS :		
Red Pots (1)	£ 215.69	
Cash Donations	£ 110.00	
GRANTS :		
EE Civils Ltd	£ 200.00	
Mold Town Council	£ 250.00	
Hartsheath Charitable Trust	£1,000.00	
Flintshire Community Key Fund	£1,932.00	
Vron Landscaping	£ 50.00	
Heritage Lottery Funding	£5,500.00	
GIFT-AID – GASD (2)	£ 91.00	
TOTAL	**£9,348.69**	
EXPENDITURE :		
Insurance		£ 312.20
Donation (Speaker at AGM)		£ 40.00
Project – Bowling Man Gate		£1,932.00
Project – Memorial Stone		£1,680.00
Composting Bins		£ 107.09
Equipment/tools/bird & bat boxes/bird feed		£ 61.36
Plants & compost		£ 590.17
TOTAL		**£4,722.82**
Surplus for the year		**£4,625.87**

BALANCE SHEET 5 April 2025 5 April 2024

Bank/cash balance	£9,517.64	£4,891.77
Net Assets	**£9,517.64**	**£4,891.77**
Restricted Funds	£5,391.36	£1,712.09
Unrestricted Funds	£4,126.28	£3,179.68
Total Funds	**£9,517.64**	**£4,891.77**

Status – FoBH/FfByB is a Registered Charity since 24 July 2018 – Registered Charity No 1179312

Notes:

(1) Red Pots – these are collection pots placed in local businesses around Mold. They are emptied and monies banked on a regular basis through the financial year.
(2) Gift-Aid – Applications are made to HMRC for Gift-Aid on donations within the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme.

This STATEMENT is based on the accounts up to 5 April 2025, which were checked at the Charity's Financial Sub-Committee on **30 April 2025.**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Friends of Bailey Hill

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Friends of Bailey Hill trust (the Trust) for the year ended 5 April 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

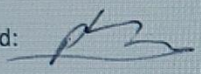
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 Trust 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: Philip Hughes

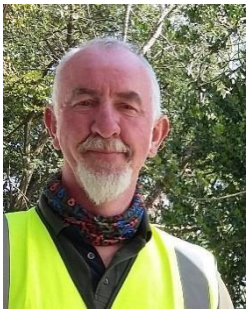
Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACA (member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales)

Address: Llangoed, Ruthin Road, Mold, CH7 1QQ

Date: 13th May 2025

CURRENT TRUSTEES

In alphabetical order >



ATKINSON, John (Trustee, Wildlife Recorder and Events Manager): John's career has focussed on purchasing and procurement functions within the nuclear energy generation industry, nationally and internationally. He was chartered in purchasing and supply. He has skills in planning and organising: and report-writing skills. He is also very interested in local history, especially prehistory and archaeology (including working as a volunteer for Heneb (previously CPAT) on their recent digs on Bailey Hill). He is also a keen amateur ornithologist. He was for many years a junior football team coach (and a committee member) for Mold Alex Juniors. He is currently learning Welsh.

BUNTING, Michael Antony (Trustee, and General Secretary): a retired Chartered Engineer and Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, and for the last 10 years of his career, he was a Company Director and ran Rivendell Enterprises Ltd providing consultancy services to the electricity supply industry in the UK and also Europe. Much experience of project management, quality control systems, and health and safety matters. Well-versed in the use of computer spreadsheets and project planning. Experience of working for a local church and other local bodies.

CHADWICK, John (Trustee, and Operations Manager): is an environmental scientist by background: he specialised in animal parasitology and livestock husbandry in the UK. He was Principal Scientist and then Head of Environmental Science (with responsibility for 30 scientific experts) at the Health and Safety Executive's headquarters in Bootle and York, focussing on environmental toxicology issues. He has a PGCE in biology and was associate course leader in environmental toxicology at the University of Central Lancashire. Also a member of the Royal Society of Chemistry's toxicology group and was involved in teaching PhD students' environmental toxicology. Since retiring, he has become a very active volunteer in North Wales. He is skilled in coppicing, hedge-laying, habitat conservation, dry stone walling, and lime-mortaring. He has extensive experience of small-scale wildlife conservation work. Recently, he monitored several sites for otter activity to inform Cardiff University's periodic otter survey. He is a regular volunteer on gardening and wildlife tasks for FoBH-FfByB in Mold. He is also a keen gardener, and explorer of North Wales.

CONSIDINE, Mary (Trustee, and Lead on Education): Mary was a college lecturer at Deeside College for many years, teaching essential literacy and numeracy to adults and older teenagers. She worked for Coleg Cambria, supporting groups of students with learning disabilities. She has a BA in Business Studies and a postgraduate certificate in education. Her experience also includes working in administrative officer roles for civil service departments in London; and she was previously a nursery teacher and nanny. Originally from Limerick, she has a keen interest in history, playing the piano, having fun with the family, and travelling. She can speak Irish and French.

DELANEY, Prudence Jane (Trustee, and Wildlife/Biodiversity Lead): Pru worked for the National Health Service for 30 years. Her career started locally with nursery nursing, then dealing with patients with learning difficulties, before focussing on a wide range of physiotherapy, occupational therapy and rehabilitation services, notably for ten years at the Charing Cross Hospital in London. Since retiring, she has been a very active volunteer in many local conservation and restoration projects with the North Wales Wildlife Trust on NWWT reserves. She had completed many courses for volunteers, and is very knowledgeable on insects and birds. She collects data for the UK BMS Butterfly Monitoring scheme at Aberduna Maeshafn, Flintshire. She is also a regular volunteer for FoBH-FfByB on gardening and wildlife at Bailey Hill park in Mold. She is also able to speak Welsh.

HAYES, Helen (Trustee, and Lead on Data): has over 25 years' experience in a range of roles across financial services, charity and the civil service with much time spent in large transformation programs and projects, and working alongside or within regulatory functions. Previously Head of Digital Programs for the Health and Safety Executive, a senior civil service (SCS) post, she is now a Deputy Director within the Dept. of Work and Pensions (also a SCS post) working on a large technology program. Her experience in voluntary roles includes having been Chair of Ysgol Sychdyn PTA and committee membership of the Sychdyn Village Hall. She enjoys working with volunteers, and community engagement, and involvement with local projects and initiatives. She is keen on researching Mold's local history, and family history.

HUGHES, Eira (Trustee, and Chair): retired former regeneration specialist, town planner, and landscape architect. Ran her own consultancy firm for 10 years, and was a CABE/Design Council (England) Enabler on planning/design/ landscape issues. That followed a series of Director-level, senior management posts, managing large teams, revenue and capital budgets - in local government, the civil service and non-departmental bodies in England and Wales. Has prepared and delivered £MM projects and programmes. Much experience of policy development on sustainability, environmental issues, and conservation; also, of managing 'streetscene' services, a sports/leisure stadium, and many parks, including several Green Flag parks. Amenity gardening skills. Fluent in Welsh.

JONES, Richard Trefor (Trustee, Communities Secretary, and Quartermaster): retired former teacher of geography and biology; a trustee of several local charities and experience of being a Treasurer to several small charities. Assists the 'Mold Spring Clean' initiative, and the 'Daniel Owen Festival'. Translator for FoBH-FfByB's bilingual notices, official correspondence, and newsletters. Fluent in Welsh.

PREECE, Hilary (Trustee, and Vice-Chair, and Director of Finance): retired after a long and varied career in a major UK clearing bank working mostly in North Wales and the north of England. Shortly after retirement Hilary moved back to North Wales. Now living in Mold, she is a passionate dog lover and enjoys dog training, gardening, baking, protecting local wildlife and local history.

This Report is signed and dated by the Chair on behalf of the current Board of Trustees by:

Eira Hughes (Chair/Cadeirydd)

28 JULY 2025

FRIENDS OF BAILEY HILL / FFRINDIAU BRYN Y BEILI

England & Wales - Charity number 1179312

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1179312

FY 2023-2024 (6th annual report)

A ‘Summer 2023’ Outdoor Pot – pelargonium, white bedding begonias, and ivy beside the war memorial.

[Front cover image: The Friends bringing large bags of compost and large quantities of water to the park during the hot summer of 2023 – before access to the water supply at the new Centre was made possible, in September 2023.]

friends of BAILEY HILL
ffrindiau BRYN Y BEILI

CONTENTS

The Board of Trustees	4
The Charity	5
Chair's Introduction	6
Overall Progress	8
Good Governance, Organisation & Delivery	10
Sustainable Funding & Finance	13
Volunteering	14
Practical Action in the Park	17
Structured Education / Training	24
Engagement & Influencing	26
Grant-Aiders to be Thanked	27
Summary of Accounts FY 2023-2024	28
Current Trustees	31

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Our Current Board of Trustees

Twelve (maximum) Trustees are allowed under our current Constitution. There were 10 Trustees at the beginning, and then 9 at the end of Financial Year (FY):

- Eira Hughes: Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – Chair
- Richard Trefor Jones: Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – Communities Secretary, and Quartermaster
- Mike Antony Bunting: Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – General Secretary
- Hilary Preece: Trustee (from 22 March 2019) & Vice-Chair, and Director of Finance
- Helen Hayes: Trustee (from 20 September 2020) – Data Lead
- John Atkinson: Trustee (from 23 September 2021) – Wildlife Recorder
- Mary Considine: Trustee (from 23 September 2021) – Education Lead
- John Chadwick: Trustee (from 16 September 2023) - Operations Manager
- Prudence Jane Delaney: Trustee (from 16 September 2023) - Biodiversity Lead.

The current 9 Trustees in post produced this Report. Their short biographies appear at the end of this Report.

Meetings: Trustees met during FY 2023-24 on - 26 April, 20 June, 19 July, 30 August, 27 September in 2023; and, on 6 March 2024. We also met on 7 February 2024 to review our approach to Health & Safety.

Changes in the Board of Trustees during FY 2023-2024

Dr. Nia Hughes, a Trustee (from 22 March 2019 until 6 March 2024), our Minutes Secretary and adviser on marketing for several years, had to resign due to ill-health. Sadly, Nia passed away on 11 April 2024. There were no other changes during the FY 2023-24, other than some shifting in roles.

Recruiting New Trustees

Under our Constitution: Trustees must be signed-up Friends/Members with voting rights. Before an AGM, we firstly ascertain which of the current Trustees wish to continue. Trustees are appointed or re-appointed, annually, at an Annual General Meeting (AGM), and the Board has to have between 3 and 12 Trustees. Roles for our Trustees are decided after discussion by the AGM-appointed Board of Trustees (soon after the AGM). We periodically invite Friends, via email, to self-nominate themselves as potential Trustees, during the year, for the AGM to consider. We can also recruit/co-opt a couple of extra new Trustees between AGMs.

Independent Auditor

Our auditor for FY 2023-24 was Phillip Hughes ACA. We thank him for his guidance.

THE CHARITY

‘FRIENDS OF BAILEY HILL – FFRINDIAU BRYN Y BEILI’ (FoBH-FfByB)

The Charity

FoBH-FfByB is an independent body, formed on 6 February 2018. It became a registered charity (No. 1179312), on 24 July 2018. It is a charitable incorporated organisation (a ‘CIO’) set up as an ‘association’, whereby the wider membership, and not just the founding trustees, have voting rights.

Our Charitable Objects

- *“To promote for the inhabitants of Mold, Flintshire and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation at Bailey Hill for the public at large - in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of residents and visitors.*
- *To promote for the public benefit the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment at Bailey Hill - by promoting biological diversity and to respect the history of the site, its special landscape features and status as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM).*
- *To advance the education of the public - by promoting opportunities within Bailey Hill for learning about the heritage of the public park and the natural environment through structured training and educational programmes.”*

Official Addresses

Post: FoBH/FfByB (General Secretary), ‘Rivendell’, Denbigh Road, Mold. CH7 1BL

Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Bailey-Hill-1442020782754561/

Email: fobhmold@btinternet.com

Tel: 07835 40 40 97

Our Financial Year - runs from April 6th – to April 5th.

Relevant Roles

Bank: Lloyds Bank

Solicitors: Llewellyn-Jones, Mold.

Independent Examiner of Accounts: Phillip Hughes ACA (February 2021 onwards).

CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

THE FINANCIAL YEAR (FY) 2023-24 REPORT

It is an honour to present the Friends' sixth Annual Report.

The charity finally agreed after many months of negotiation a User Agreement (UA) with MTC, in early September 2023, to allow us to use the new Centre on Thursdays and Saturdays throughout the year.

The Green Flag status for the park which was sustained in 2023 challenges us annually to achieve tangible year-by-year improvement. During FY 2023-24, two big steps forward were made by:

(i) the Friends – as we created a Composting Station using reclaimed timber on the Inner Bailey, which will supply compost for the two dozen beds in the Park in the years ahead; and
(ii) the County Council - providing a new children's play area on the Outer Bailey, to create an interesting place for smaller children to play.

There are now **127 members** of the charity. Thank you all for your continuing support. Special thanks must go to all our very active volunteers, who turn out around the year to help keep the park looking welcoming and well-tended. We currently have a dozen regular active volunteers. We really need more of you now to come forward to help us physically to sustain the Friends' programme and commitments over the next few years.

So, the emphasis in FY 2024-25 will need to be on encouraging current and new Friends to become active volunteers when they can spare some time to help us in the Park. We assemble a team at Bailey Hill, **10am every Saturday morning**, to do a bit of tidying and other tasks in the park. Do please join us then, when you have a Saturday morning to spare, to learn more and lend a hand occasionally. Fresh air, gentle exercise, and the camaraderie of working together to achieve a common end, can be a great tonic.

We remain focussed on encouraging further improvements in the park as resources allow – to improve it as a recreational leisure facility and to conserve it as a biodiverse public park and ancient monument.

In the year ahead we will be consolidating our efforts – making more extensive use of the access to the new Centre, adding a few plants to drier spots in the Beds, and ensuring that the Perimeter Path (which provides an excellent route for dog-walkers) remains attractive and useable.

Eira Hughes DipLA, MCD, MRTPI (ret'd), CMLI (ret'd)
July 2024

friends of BAILEY HILL
ffrindiau BRYN Y BEILI

During 2023-2024, there was a real focus on building a new Composting Station in the park. We had agreed with FCC to locate it in a secluded, largely invisible spot on the Inner Bailey. To avoid disturbing any underground archaeology, it had to be built as a heavy raft structure – resting on the ground, relying on its own rigidity and dead-weight for stability. This required a lot of timber, much of which was second-hand pallets donated by Helen Hayes, and a nearby well-known country park, reinforced with timbers we acquired locally. Stain had to be applied to some of the older timbers after repairs. Morton & Jones (builders of the new play area) kindly allowed us to use their site compound to store materials safely on the site. Building the composting station was a very big task for the Friends and it required lots of extra sessions in the Park. John Chadwick – our new operations Manager – led this project and was ably supported by Trefor Jones and others to get it built, stained and finished.

OVERALL PROGRESS

Creating a High-Quality Park at Bailey Hill

Creating a fine, high-quality public park remains as always 'what it is all about' for the Friends of Bailey Hill.

The Significant Contribution of the Friends

Very significant hours of effort were invested again by Friends in the effort to improve the Park during FY 2023-2024 (our sixth financial year).

We continued to work tripartitely - with FCC and MTC - to forge an understanding on how the Bailey Hill work should roll forwards strategically.

Following on from the Tripartite Partnership's
HLF Plus Project, 'Revealing Bailey Hill / Mold Castle'

During FY 2023-2024, the Partnership work was focused on ensuring strong and effective follow-on to the formal project. Much discussion focused on the following:

- ensuring that the Friends would have frequent access to the toolstore, facilities, water supply, etc. at the new Bailey Hill Centre (leased by FCC to MTC) as originally envisaged
- considering the priorities for the future
- discussing with our partners their scope for supporting the Centre and other activity therein and in the park over the next few years and the longer term
- liaising with FCC especially on its basic maintenance work in the Park
- meeting with FCC and MTC frequently to address and resolve any issues.

What did we achieve during FY 2023-2024?

In FY 2023-24, our Trustees contributed to tripartite partnership work (with FCC and MTC) as follows -

- *We attended 9 meetings with FCC and MTC – on Bailey Hill business.*
- *We commented, from the Friends' perspective, on relevant technical and administrative documents needed to progress matters tripartitely*
- *We were involved in a review of the tripartite programme for managing and volunteering at Bailey Hill*
- *We were offered a three-year licence for working in the park by FCC – which will run through to mid-August 2026*
- *We secured a 12 month licence to allow us to use the new Centre (leased to MTC) on Thursdays and Saturdays to support our volunteering in the park,*

plus use of the toolstore, and incidental facilities (with FCC covering the cost of our water and electricity use) – which we signed on 5 September 2023.

- ❖ *We agreed some streamlining and updating of the tripartite M&MPlan - which still includes the agreed recipes for improving each of the Park's 'Landscape Character Areas' (LCA 1-7).*
- ❖ *We provided a schedule explaining 'who does what' in each Bed and corner of the park, as requested by the 2023 Green Flag inspectors to support the 2024 application being made by FCC.*

NEXT: during 2024-25, we will:

- *renew the User Agreement with MTC to access the new Centre to ensure a more acceptable 'quality of experience' for all the voluntary gardening and wildlife work done regularly in the Park by the Friends*
- *help ensure continued Green Flag status for the whole Park annually, up to 2029-30*
- *do what we can to help secure the future of the new Centre as a vital and viable facility in the Park.*

GREEN FLAG STATUS:

Green Flag status is applied for by FCC. It is a requirement of the HLF grant process that it be retained for 7 years by FCC. A first Green Flag was awarded in 2021. Green Flag status was secured again in 2022, and one after an Inspection on 25 May 2023 in which FoBH-FfByB was involved. Another has been awarded for 2024.

The Green Flag on the new flagpole, viewed from the Decking where we displayed autumn flowering pots.

GOOD GOVERNANCE, ORGANISATION & DELIVERY

The Importance of Good Governance

We had a very busy year again, and focussed on making progress on all fronts steadily, well and safely.

Our Independence as a Charity

We continued to cherish and maintain our independence of thought and action as a charity, and a strong focus on our three formal 'charitable objects', in accordance with official guidance issued by the Charity Commission (CC); and, as guided, from the start, by the Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC).

What did we achieve during FY 2023-24?

In FY 2023-2024, we had our busiest year yet: as we -

- *arranged and held our 5th Annual General Meeting, at St David's Church Hall, Mold*
- *made our 5th Annual Return to the Charity Commission*
- *held 6 formal meetings of the full Board of Trustees (32nd > 38th TM)*
- *organised and ran 11 Small Team Sessions (STS) on Saturday mornings in the Park*
- *organised and ran a further 46 Mini-Team Visits (in the intervening weekends) in order to tend our Outdoor Pots Display and to do additional planting and tidying jobs in the Park; and, several of those evolved into substantial 'Extra Work' sessions over and above the normal routine weekend visits (to make up for several cancellations due to spells of cold, icy weather).*
- *also organised weekly visits to the new Bailey Hill Centre – to tend the Friends' Indoor Plants Display at the Centre at times of the week convenient for Friends and the Bailey Hill Project Officer (MTC's lead officer at the new Bailey Hill Centre).*

And, we made good progress on these matters -

- *Putting our case for the charity to have regular access to the new Centre to support our practical sessions and training activities; and, the scope for a formal User Agreement for Friends to use the toolstore, toilet, kitchen, and information board, etc.– as long promised to Friends and in accord with the guiding VISION document for the Centre (which accompanied the original*

grant-aid application to NHLF for Lottery monies, and other grants, from February 2018 onwards).

- *Training and Development of our Trustees: we held a seminar for trustees on Health & Safety policy and practice (on 7 February 2024) to enable more trustees to take on the role of leading practical session on site, with confidence.*
- *Monitoring Safety Standards – we worked in the Park without sustaining any significant accidents (and noted any near misses and/or 'lessons to be learned' as we went).*
- *Maintained our Annual Log / a Record of Our Practical Work in the Park – to report our progress on practical work, consistently, and to inform partners, funders and key contacts. .*
- *Keeping other Friends informed on our progress – via Facebook / emails / information offered to the local press – especially the local Welsh-language paper 'Papur Fama'.*
- *Researching charity databases to identify a number of charities which might be able to assist us financially with small grants for specific purposes or otherwise.*

NEXT, during 2024-25:

DELIVERY: We will continue to deliver a programme of weekly visits to check our Pots and the Park, with one session a month to tackle a wider range of tasks.

COMMUNICATIONS: Our website development is moving forward slowly: it is being assembled - and in parallel we will update our Communications Policy.

FY 2023-2024		FRIENDS' MAIN EVENTS - ORGANISED & DELIVERED - in all 58 practical sessions, plus 1 other event
Start of FY > 6th April 2023		
7 April	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 74) in the Park
15 April	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 75) in the Park
22 April	√	**Small Team Session** (STS 32) in the Park
29 April	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 76) in the Park
3 May	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 77) in the Park
6 May	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 78) in the Park
13 May	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 79) in the Park
20 May	√	**Small Team Session** (STS 33) in the Park
27 May	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 80) in the Park
3 June	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 81) in the Park

7 June	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 82) in the Park
10 June	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 83) in the Park
17 June	√	**Small Team Session** (STS 34) in the Park
24 June	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 84) in the Park
1 July	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 85) in the Park
8 July	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 86) in the Park
15 July	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 87) in the Park
22 July	√	**Small Team Session** (STS 35) in the Park
27 July	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 88) in the Park
29 July	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 89) in the Park
2 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 90) in the Park
5 August	*x*	*MTV cancelled due to heavy rain*
12 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 91) in the Park
19 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 92) in the Park
26 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 93) in the Park
2 September	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 94) in the Park
9 September	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 95) in the Park
9 September	√	**5th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** - Held at St. David's Church Hall, Mold
16 September	√	**Small Team Session** (STS 36) in the Park
23 September	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 96) in the Park
30 September	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 97) in the Park
7 October	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 98) in the Park
14 October	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 99) in the Park
21 October	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 100) in the Park
28 October	√	**Small Team Session** (STS 37) in the Park
4 November	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 101) in the Park
11 November	√	**Small Team Session** (STS 38) in the Park
18 November	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 102) in the Park
25 November	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 103) in the Park
2 December	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 104) in the Park
9 December	√	**Small Team Session** (STS 39) in the Park
16 December	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 105) in the Park
23 December	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 106) in the Park
30 December	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 107) in the Park
2024		
6 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 108) in the Park
14 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 109) in the Park
20 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 110) in the Park
27 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 111) in the Park
3 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 112) in the Park
9 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 113) in the Park
10 February	√	**Small Team Session** (STS 40) in the Park
17 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 114) in the Park

24 February	x	*MTV cancelled due to heavy frost/ice.*
1 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 115) in the Park
2 March	√	**Small Team Session** (STS 41) in the Park
9 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 117) in the Park
15 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 118) in the Park
16 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 119) in the Park
22 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 120) in the Park (compost station build)
23 March	√	**Small Team Session** (STS 42) in the Park
30 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 121) in the Park
End of FY – 5th April 2024		

SUSTAINABLE FUNDING & FINANCE

Raising Funds for the Future

The Charity has no regular income stream. It relies solely on seeking donations, fundraising locally and securing small grants, plus gift-aid. During the financial year we maintained a steady position, financially.

What did we achieve during FY 2023-2024?

During FY 2023-24:

- *We concentrated on making the most of the monies gathered in over the previous years.*
- *We were successful in attracting one small grant from the J A Gillett Foundation Trust.*
- *We continued to place our Red Charity Pots in various businesses around Mold.*
- *The Charity is registered with HMRC to receive Gift Aid under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme and is able to claim this from donations made to us via the Red Charity Pots.*
- *Trustees and our keen volunteers continued to donate plants, materials, as well as meeting various minor office supplies, home-office running cost, transport costs (for plant sourcing) – which cumulatively must be worth several hundred pounds over the course of the financial year.*
- *We decided against organising coffee mornings or other social events during FY 2023-24 – as local people remained a bit cautious about attending such events, post the Covid pandemic.*
- *We approached various larger local businesses, seeking general donations, but that has only led to one positive response so far.*

ASSETS: The Charity does not hold property of its own. Its only assets include tools and equipment to undertake volunteer work in the Park, plus bird, bat and hedgehog boxes placed in the Park (with the kind permission of FCC): and, the plants it acquires or grows from seed or cuttings.

STATUS: the powers of the charity as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation may be used, perhaps, in the future.

NEXT, during 2024-25:

- *We will seek a few new grants for specific projects, and to support our annual running costs.*
- *Use our Red Charity Pots [Note: we currently have 5 pots in situ. Local businesses report less use being made of cash nowadays.]*
- *We will consider other fundraising events which are compatible with the continued health and wellbeing of our Trustees and volunteers.*

VOLUNTEERING

Gifting Time

The charity has no employees. Our Trustees give very generously indeed of their time for running the charity, and engaging with other bodies.

No Trustees' expenses were claimed or paid during FY 2023-24. The Trustees and other Friends are not employees, and did not accept any remuneration or other benefits. They act as unpaid practical volunteers, gifting time to the charity's work.

What did we achieve in FY 2023-2024?

During FY 2023-24, interest in our charitable work increased, and we -

- *were pleased to achieve a membership level of **127 Members***
- *had several highly active regular volunteers - currently c.12.*
- *connected with all the Members, via email, the Chair's Updates, and maintained a Quarterly Log – an illustrated record on all the work done in the Park by Friends*
- *managed to plan and deliver significant progress in improving the Park further, with our strong team of keen and committed volunteers organising our volunteering events*

- *secured on 5 September 2023 a formal User Agreement with MTC to allow us to use – on Saturdays and Thursdays - the toolstore, water supply, information board, toilet, and other facilities at the new Centre (as long promised) – which provides scope for delivering a better experience of volunteering in the park for older volunteers in particular.*
- *tested the flexibility of our FCC licence by doing a number of sessions in the park on days other than Saturdays and Thursdays – in order to make progress on the Composting Station in particular.*
- *continued the rota system to ensure there would always be a minimum of 2 volunteers working together on intervening Saturday morning Mini-Team Visits, to tend our Outdoor Pots Display, year-round: plus other small tasks – which we used for doing 'extra tasks' frequently during the year.*

NEXT: during 2024-25, we will:

- *endeavour to ensure continuation of our formal User Agreement with MTC to allow us to use the loo, toolstore, water supply, information board and other facilities at the new Centre*
- *continue with a busy programme of practical sessions in the Park and other events*
- *ensure more of our most regular volunteers receive training in relevant subjects*
- *continue to do sensitive minor improvements in the wider Park - with input of advice from FCC Countryside Management and Biodiversity officers, and the North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT) as required*
- *maintain planted Beds in the Park as agreed with FCC - especially the Friends' Bed (Bed 18), the Hydrangeas Bed (Bed 19) and other areas (of Bed 6 etc.) planted-up by the Friends, plus general care (fertilising/weeding/clipping/bulb-planting) in the other Beds, if and as resources allow*
  - *plan, prepare and manage seasonal flower pots (to be placed on the decking and flanking the Cenotaph as agreed with HDD), generally 4 pots (and sometimes 6 or 8 for greater seasonal effect)*
- *support FCC/Aura and the Bailey Hill Project Officer's efforts to interpret the ancient monument, and to make good use of the revamped Park and the new Centre*
- *do minor improvements (e.g. for the benefit of the less able, if possible, to the Perimeter Path) to the extent our licence, risk assessment and insurance will allow*
- *invite and encourage more of the Members to become active volunteers.*

HISTORY: Many of the Friends have also been involved in the Bailey Hill Project in another capacity - as History Research Volunteers, Poetry Volunteers, Guided Tours Volunteers, and Visitor Volunteers (under the Bailey Hill Project Officer's direction, under MTC's Insurance and risk assessment, and its own licence from FCC Estates. Others have helped with the archaeological digs in the past few years. So, people who are Members of FoBH-FfByB are heavily invested in understanding and improving the Park and presenting it to the public.

ARCHAEOLOGY: Please note that FoBH-FfByB/FCC/MTC still await sight of a full/final reports upon the various studies commissioned by FCC/Aura from Durham University, Cardiff University and other experts, on the various unexpected archaeological finds unearthed during the construction works and other contracts in the last few years: and, the further site exploration works done thereafter on the two baileys. We anticipate that some of the smaller finds will be displayed in the new Centre in due course. Announcements on these matters are now expected (from FCC/Aura) in the autumn of 2024.

A lighter task – checking, watering/feeding and replacing plants for the Indoor Plant Display.

PRACTICAL ACTION IN THE PARK

Getting things done - to enhance the Park.

The Charity has no regular income stream. It relies solely on seeking donations, fundraising locally and securing small grants, plus gift-aid. During the financial year we maintained a steady position, financially.

A. HABITATS WORK IN THE PARK

This year was a year in which we had to take stock, given that many trees across the park had been felled. We kept an eye on the c.25 bird-boxes, and know that a few will need replacing next winter (in FY 2024-25).

B. PARK & GARDENS WORK IN THE PARK

It was a very busy year for us in the park …

Examples:

The frost-damaged hebes in Bed 1 and 2 were spruced up in early summer – with all the dead parts pruned and some compost added to Bed 1 - by Graham, and Mary.

Friends' replacement planting – Mary adding new grey-foliage artemisia plants to Bed 2.

Friends adding old daffodils Thalia (1916) and Geranium (1930) and ferns to the shady 'Square Bed'.

We carried an enormous amount of water to the park - weekly - to keep plants alive in what was a pretty hot summer.

The original plants having given up, we added tough liriope plants to the rock-hard soil in Bed 7, and mulched them, and watered them assiduously to get them established.

Friends' Outdoor Pot – Summer 2023

Gwyneth and Graham added Crocosmia 'George Davison' (for autumn colour) to Bed 18.

We tackled the weed growth on the Perimeter Path (East) again. Since FCC ended using weedkillers on paths in the park, keeping the path along the eastern boundary useable has become a major challenge.

Accessing the water supply at the new Centre for the first time – in the autumn of 2023.

We tidied the overgrown 'nib', and added King Alfred (1899) and Magnet (1908) daffodils.

A winter task: preparing the site for the Composting Station – a nettle and bramble patch.

Autumn trimming - hedge between Bed 18 (the 'Friends' Bed') and Bed 19 (the 'Hydrangeas Bed').

Weeding and tidying our outdoor pots – before Remembrance Day.

David adding Christmas decorations to the outdoor pots

Building the Composting Station – bit by bit – using reclaimed wood (90%) > and the work nearing completion by the end of FY 2023-24.

The three ugly old metal bins - kindly removed for us by Morton & Jones Ltd. Many thanks to them!

What did we achieve in FY 2023-2024?

During FY 2023-24, we:

- *did very extensive and quite physical work within the Park (over 58 practical sessions)*
- *established a Composting Station in a well-hidden area on the Inner Bailey*
- *continued to develop the skills of all our regular volunteers*
- *helped to retain Green Flag status for the Park*
- *added more new plants as per the M&MPlan and LCA 1-7 'planting recipes'*
- *planted various wildflowers and nurtured more off-site for the Park*
- *attended and managed all our Indoor Pots in the Centre weekly*
- *added a few more types of heritage daffodil to the Beds*
- *added herbaceous plants to provide a bit more autumn colour in the Beds*
- *managed all the Outdoor Pots, at the Entrance, weekly – changing them seasonally*
- *ensured all the practical work done was in accordance with our FCC licence (and any subsequent small permissions given by FCC staff)*
- *respected the now significantly increased archaeological significance of the Mold Castle site*
- *were delighted to take up Morton & Jones' kind offer to clear the three old, rather ugly, metal bins from the Park - as a charitable 'good faith' gesture.*

NEXT: during 2024-2025, we will be:
- completing our planting programme across the Park - adding seedling rowans to the Outer Slopes as planned
- continuing to make small improvements to help sustain Green Flag standards of tidiness and beauty
- improve the state of the Perimeter Path
- improve the woodlands as natural / wildlife habitat (through small selective interventions).

We hope to persuade FCC to tackle a few tricky small safety issues remaining as and when their resources allow to improve the Wooden Steps and deal with the scarring on the Motte.

We will continue to take into account the plants favoured by Edward Kemp (1817-1891) - the famous landscape gardener who advised the Mold Local Board in 1871, on what might best grace the Park, after it came into public hands in 1870/71. We will also respect the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust (WHGT)'s suggestions and its keen interest in this aspect of the Park's history.

We will continue to help maintain the new planting areas in the new Numbered Beds (1-24) - and adjacent areas – in order to augment FCC's usual, regular, basic maintenance work in the Park.

We remain committed to doing our part - as promised - to deliver the Park's longer-term tripartite M&M Plan, through discussion with and joint action with FCC and MTC.

STRUCTURED EDUCATION / TRAINING

Education – is part of our remit as an independent charity.

The anticipated MTC push to attract new volunteers for training did not come to pass during FY 2023-24 – but we hope there may be scope to make progress on that ere long. In the meantime, we will develop the understanding and skills of any new volunteers who may wish to join the Friends and help us in the Park.

What did we achieve in FY 2023-2024?

During FY 2023-24, we:

- *continued to teach new volunteers further skills - on what is involved in caring for Beds, Pots, Indoor plants, etc. in a public park, to a good 'parks' standard*
- *ensured that the new volunteers were integrated into the Friends' regular volunteers team and had a chance to contribute to all aspects of the Friends' practical 'parks and gardens' work in the Park and to help with the charity's wider set of tasks.*

NEXT: during 2024-25 –

We will consider updating our training lecture modules to suit a further batch of new volunteers.

New Volunteer Maureen helping us to add more 'February Gold' daffodils to the Beds.

ENGAGEMENT & INFLUENCING

Networking with and persuading others

The Trustees continued to devote much time to creating positive relationships with other agencies, as well as doing our utmost to be effective and reliable partners within the tripartite partnership.

What did we achieve in FY 2023-2024?

During FY 2023-24, we continued to engage effectively with, and respect the advice of:

- *FCC and MTC, and Aura (who look after leisure/libraries/heritage for FCC) – we attended 10 meetings for the Bailey Hill Partnership Board (including two in respect of the new play area, and one to resolve more strategic issues).*
- *Local historians: we continued to maintain close contact with local historians and researchers – and Kevin Matthias kindly gave an illustrated talk about local history and Bailey Hill at our 5th AGM in mid-September 2023. Many thanks go to him for an entertaining and informative lecture.*

We made much use of:

- *Facebook – using our FoBH Facebook Page, we continued to draw attention to good-practice exemplar small parks and gardens with strong historic interest, as well as presenting aspects of our work and relevant information, bilingually (to engage effectively with the local population and Welsh learners). We currently have c. 773 followers on our bilingual FoBH Facebook Page > see >* https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Bailey-Hill-1442020782754561/
- *Papur Fama –providing several short articles to the Welsh-language local community paper to inform and interest the local community of Welsh speakers and learners about our work on Bailey Hill.*

NEXT: during 2023-2024, we will sustain and develop the key relationships, and we hope to complete our website.

GRANT-AIDERS in FY2023-24 - to be thanked

We thank, in respect of FY 2023-2024:

- 'J. A. Gillett Foundation Trust' – for its unexpected but very welcome grant to us; and,
- Morton & Jones Ltd – whose kind gesture (removing the 3 three old metal bins, free of charge) saved the charity a great deal of money.

We also wish to thank, again:

Woodland Trust – whose dozen seedling native trees donated, were planted in the Park during 2022, with the rest to be planted later in 2024.

Welsh Historic Gardens Trust - whose earlier grant-aid has helped to pay for the old shrub roses and hydrangeas now blooming in the main Beds.

Cruach Trust – who's earlier £100 towards our native bluebell swathe on the Outer Bailey demonstrated a good show of native bluebells on the Outer Bailey in the Spring of 2022, 2023, and 2024 – and FCC grass-cutters made sure they were allowed to bloom and disperse seed before the grass was cut back.

Heritage Lottery Fund, and its supporters – for supporting the tripartite partnership ('Friends of Bailey Hill / Flintshire County Council / Mold Town Council) work by enabling FCC to draw down significant special package of project monies from the Heritage Lottery Fund, plus Welsh Government ('TAIS grant'), Cadwyn Clwyd, Landfill Funds, etc. to upgrade the Bailey Hill Park (from 2019 through to March 2023).

Trustees / Members – who funded or gifted various tools (a ladder, drill, etc.) and/or other materials to help the Friends.

Agapanthus pots - in their second year, bloomed well.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FY 2023-24

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 06/04/2023 TO 05/04/2024

	£ INCOME	£ EXPENDITURE
INCOME :		
	£ 0.00	
DONATIONS :		
Red Pots (1)	£ 142.54	
Cash Donations	£ 40.00	
GRANTS :		
JA Gillett Foundation Trust	£ 500.00	
GIFT-AID – GASD (2)	£ 57.37	
AMAZON SMILE (3)	£ 26.62	
TOTAL	**£ 766.53**	
EXPENDITURE :		
Insurance		£ 306.14
Donation (Speaker at AGM)		£ 40.00
Composting Bins		£ 297.78
Equipment/tools/bird & bat boxes		£ 180.42
Plants & compost		£ 635.86
TOTAL		**£1,460.20**
Deficit for the year	**£ 693.67**	

BALANCE SHEET 5 April 2024 5 April 2023

Bank/cash balance	£4,891.77	£5,585.44
Net Assets	**£4,891.77**	**£5,585.44**
Restricted Funds	£1,712.09	£2,818.66
Unrestricted Funds	£3,179.68	£2,766.78
Total Funds	**£4,891.77**	**£5,585.44**

Status – FoBH/FfByB is a Registered Charity since 24 July 2018 – Registered Charity No 1179312

Notes:

(1) Red Pots – these are collection pots placed in local businesses around Mold. They are emptied and monies banked on a regular basis through the financial year.
(2) Gift-Aid – Applications are made to HMRC for Gift-Aid on donations within the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme.
(3) Amazon Smile – the Charity is registered with Amazon Smile where the Charity is nominated to receive cashback on nominated sales. This scheme has now closed.

This STATEMENT is based on the accounts up to 5 April 2024, which were checked at the Charity's Financial Sub-Committee on **24 April 2024.**

Note: The FY 2023-24 Independent Examiner's report (dated 21 June 2024) on these accounts, is appended below.

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Friends of Bailey Hill

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Friends of Bailey Hill trust (the Trust) for the year ended 5 April 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust'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 Trust 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: Philip Hughes

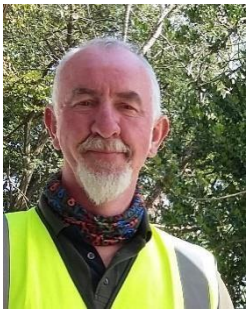
Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACA (member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales)

Address: Llangoed, Ruthin Road, Mold, CH7 1QQ

Date: 21st June 2024

CURRENT TRUSTEES

In alphabetical order >



ATKINSON, John (Trustee): John's career has focussed on purchasing and procurement functions within the nuclear energy generation industry, nationally and internationally. He was chartered in purchasing and supply. He has skills in planning and organising: and report-writing skills. He is also very interested in local history, especially prehistory and archaeology (including working as a volunteer for CPAT on their recent digs on Bailey Hill). He is also a keen amateur ornithologist. He was for many years a junior football team coach (and a committee member) for Mold Alex Juniors. He is currently learning Welsh.

BUNTING, Michael Antony (Trustee, and General Secretary): a retired Chartered Engineer and Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, and for the last 10 years of his career, he was a Company Director and ran Rivendell Enterprises Ltd providing consultancy services to the electricity supply industry in the UK and also Europe. Much experience of project management, quality control systems, and health and safety matters. Well-versed in the use of computer spreadsheets and project planning. Experience of working for a local church and other local bodies.

CHADWICK, John (Trustee, and Operations Manager): is an environmental scientist by background: he specialised in animal parasitology and livestock husbandry in the UK. He was Principal Scientist and then head of Environmental Science (with responsibility for 30 scientific experts) at the Health and Safety Executive's headquarters in Bootle and York, focussing on environmental toxicology issues. Since retiring, he has become a very active volunteer in North Wales. He is skilled in coppicing, hedge-laying, habitat conservation and lime mortaring: and, he has extensive experience of small-scale wildlife conservation work. Currently, he is monitoring several sites for otter activity to inform Cardiff University's periodic otter survey. He is a regular volunteer on gardening and wildlife tasks for FoBH-FfByB in Mold. He is also a keen gardener, and explorer of North Wales.

CONSIDINE, Mary (Trustee, Lead on Education): Mary was a college lecturer at Deeside College for many years, teaching essential literacy and numeracy to adults and older teenagers. She now works part-time for Coleg Cambria, supporting groups of students with learning disabilities. She has a BA in Business Studies and a postgraduate certificate in education. Her experience also includes working in administrative officer roles for civil service departments in London; and she was previously a nursery teacher and nanny. Originally from Limerick, she has a keen interest in history, playing the piano, having fun with the family, and travelling. She can speak Irish and French.

DELANEY, Prudence Jane (Trustee, and Wildlife/Biodiversity Lead): Pru worked for the National Health Service for 30 years. Her career started locally with nursery nursing, then dealing with patients with learning difficulties, before focussing on a wide range of physiotherapy, occupational therapy and rehabilitation services, notably for ten years at the Charing Cross Hospital in London. Since retiring, she has been a very active volunteer in many local conservation and restoration projects with the North Wales Wildlife Trust on NWWT reserves. She had completed many courses for volunteers, and is very knowledgeable on insects and birds. She collects data for the UK BMS Butterfly Monitoring scheme at Aberduna Maeshafn, Flintshire. She is also a regular volunteer for FoBH-FfByB on gardening and wildlife at Bailey Hill park in Mold. She is also able to speak Welsh.

HAYES, Helen (Trustee, and Lead on Data): has over 25 years' experience in a range of roles across financial services, charity and the civil service with much time spent in large transformation programs and projects, and working alongside or within regulatory functions. Previously Head of Digital Programs for the Health and Safety Executive, a senior civil service (SCS) post, she is now a Deputy Director within the Dept. of Work and Pensions (also a SCS post) working on a large technology program. Her experience in voluntary roles includes having been Chair of Ysgol Sychdyn PTA and committee membership of the Sychdyn Village Hall. She enjoys working with volunteers, and community engagement, and involvement with local projects and initiatives. She is keen on researching Mold's local history, and family history.

HUGHES, Eira (Trustee, and Chair): retired former regeneration specialist, town planner, and landscape architect. Ran her own consultancy firm for 10 years, and was a CABE/Design Council (England) Enabler on planning/design/ landscape issues. That followed a series of Director-level, senior management posts, managing large teams, revenue and capital budgets - in local government, the civil service and non-departmental bodies in England and Wales. Has prepared and delivered £MM projects and programmes. Much experience of policy development on sustainability, environmental issues, and conservation; also, of managing 'streetscene' services, a sports/leisure stadium, and many parks, including several Green Flag parks. Amenity gardening skills. Fluent in Welsh.

JONES, Richard Trefor (Trustee, Communities Secretary, and Quartermaster): retired former teacher of geography and biology; a trustee of several local charities and experience of being a Treasurer to several small charities. Assists the 'Mold Spring Clean' initiative, and the Daniel Owen Festival. Translator for FoBH's bilingual notices, official correspondence, and newsletters. Fluent in Welsh.

PREECE, Hilary (Trustee, Vice-Chair, and Director of Finance): retired after a long and varied career in a major UK clearing bank working mostly in North Wales and the north of England. Shortly after retirement Hilary moved back to North Wales, now living in Mold. She is a passionate dog lover and enjoys dog training, gardening, baking, protecting local wildlife and local history.

Note: the late **Dr. Nia Hughes** (1955-2024) was a Trustee through most of FY 2023-24. She resigned her Trusteeship on 6 March 2024 due to ill-heath: and, that resignation was duly reported to the Charity Commission, as required for the public record on the charity's trustees.

This Report is signed and dated by the Chair on behalf of the current Board of Trustees by:

Eira Hughes (Chair/Cadeirydd)

31 JULY 2024

FRIENDS OF BAILEY HILL / FFRINDIAU BRYN Y BEILI

England & Wales - Charity number 1179312

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1179312

FY 2022-2023

friends of
BAILEY HILL
ffrindiau
BRYN Y BEILI

CONTENTS

The Board of Trustees	3
The Friends	4
Chair's Introduction	5
Overall Progress	7
Good Governance, Organisation & Delivery	9
Sustainable Funding & Finance	12
Volunteering	13
Practical Action in the Park	14
Structured Education / Training	20
Engagement & Influencing	21
Grant-Aiders FY 2022-2023 to be Thanked	23
Summary of Accounts FY 2022-2023	24
Current Trustees – Biographic Notes	27

Silver helichrysum and red pelargoniums and black mondo grass: a summer display pot near the War Memorial.

[Front cover image: The Friends busy removing, stage by stage, the overgrown Berberris plant infecting the Irish Yew on the Inner Bailey.]

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Our Current Board of Trustees

Twelve (maximum) Trustees are allowed under our current Constitution. There were 9 Trustees at the beginning and the end of Financial Year (FY) 2022-23:

- Eira Hughes – Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – Chair
- Richard Trefor Jones – Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – Communities Secretary, and Quartermaster
- Mike Antony Bunting – Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – General Secretary
- Hilary Preece - Trustee (from 22 March 2019) – Vice-Chair, and Director of Finance
- Nia Hughes - Trustee (from 22 March 2019) – Minutes Secretary
- Helen Hayes – Trustee (from 20 September 2020) – Data Lead
- Paul James Tatterson – Trustee (from 20 September 2020) – Website Manager*
- John Atkinson – Trustee (from September 2021) – Wildlife Recorder
- Mary Considine - Trustee (from September 2021) – Education Lead.

[* Please note: Paul James Tatterson later resigned as a Trustee - on 18 June 2023.]

The current 8 Trustees in post produced this Report. Their short biographies appear at the end of this Report.

Meetings: we met regularly during the FY 2022-23, usually quarterly, face-to-face, and/or on Zoom.

Changes in the Board of Trustees during FY 2022-2023

There were no changes during the FY 2022-23.

We thank, once again, all those Former Trustees who supported us in any way during the FY 2022-23.

Recruiting New Trustees

Under our Constitution: Trustees must be signed-up Friends/Members with voting rights. Before an AGM, we firstly ascertain which of the current Trustees wish to continue. Trustees are appointed or re-appointed, annually, at an Annual General Meeting (AGM), and the Board has to have between 3 and 12 Trustees. Roles for our Trustees are decided after discussion by the AGM-appointed Board of Trustees (soon after the AGM). We periodically invite Friends, via email, to self-nominate themselves as potential Trustees, during the year, for the AGM to consider. We can also recruit/co-opt a couple of extra new Trustees between AGMs.

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Independent Auditor

Our auditor for FY 2022-23 was Phillip Hughes ACA. We thank him for his clear guidance.

THE FRIENDS

'FRIENDS OF BAILEY HILL – FFRINDIAU BRYN Y BEILI' (FoBH-FfByB)

The Charity

FoBH-FfByB is an independent body, formed on 6 February 2018. It became a registered charity (No. 1179312), on 24 July 2018. It is a charitable incorporated organisation (a 'CIO') set up as an 'association', whereby the wider membership, and not just the founding trustees, have voting rights.

Our Charitable Objects

- *"To promote for the inhabitants of Mold, Flintshire and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation at Bailey Hill for the public at large - in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of residents and visitors.*
- *To promote for the public benefit the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment at Bailey Hill - by promoting biological diversity and to respect the history of the site, its special landscape features and status as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM).*
- *To advance the education of the public - by promoting opportunities within Bailey Hill for learning about the heritage of the public park and the natural environment through structured training and educational programmes."*

Official Addresses

Post: FoBH/FfByB (General Secretary), 'Rivendell', Denbigh Road, Mold. CH7 1BL

Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Bailey-Hill-1442020782754561/

Email: fobhmold@btinternet.com

Tel: 07835 40 40 97

Our Financial Year

Our FY currently runs from April 6th – to April 5th.

Relevant Roles

Bank: Barclays Bank (during FY 2022-23).

Solicitors: Llewellyn-Jones, Mold.

Independent Examiner of Accounts: Phillip Hughes ACA (from February 2021 onwards).

CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

Eira Hughes – Chair/Cadeirydd

friends of BAILEY HILL
ffrindiau BRYN Y BEILI

THE FINANCIAL YEAR (FY) 2022-23 REPORT

It is an honour to present our fifth Annual Report.

The last FY 2022-2023

With the pandemic receding, Friends gathered strength again and we set about spending all the grant-money Friends had gathered in, rolling out a very busy programme of planting and tidying work across the Park. At the same time, we worked closely with Flintshire County Council (FCC) and Mold Town Council (MTC), to secure the physical upgrade of the Park, generously supported by the Heritage Lottery Funding (HLF) package (to 'Reveal Bailey Hill: Mold Castle'), which ended on 31st March 2023.

The HLF Project Plus

During the FY, the tripartite partnership's efforts between 2019 and 2023 to upgrade the central areas of the Park (with the benefit of the HLF Project Plus funds) was completed and reviewed, and the future possibilities assessed. Meanwhile, there was an injection of other monies by FCC to upgrade the boundary walls, to fell diseased trees and to secure new children's play furniture (set to be placed on site in due course). A key issue for the Friends was the long debate on the issue of the charity's access to the new Centre, a matter which has been under discussion with the current lesees (MTC) since the end of 2021. On the volunteering front and 'quality of experience' issues, the lack of access to the Centre, when we needed it most, during a very busy FY 2022-23 programme, especially on weekends, was a brake on our scope for satisfying volunteers' reasonable expectations and recruiting more volunteers for the Friends. A workable User Agreement (UA) with MTC is now finally in sight following a roundtable tripartite discussion in June 2023. Once that access is secured, it will underpin, and ease, the charity's work and contribution to the Park. Resolution of that issue, and a renewed and expanded licence from FCC, should provide a means to undertake further practical volunteering and small conservation projects in the Park - as envisaged in the tripartite Management and Maintenance Plan (M&M Plan). Those building blocks will enable Friends' to search for more small grants - to fund further small conservation projects, more plants, landscape bark, compost, pots, wildlife boxes, etc.

Looking Further Forward

For the future, Friends have in our favour as a charity, a sound governance system and a strong Board of Trustees with a good range and depth of relevant expertise. Also, fair capacity physically to perform our various roles under the M&M Plan and our licensed list of activities in the Park, capacity to help manage tripartitely any follow-on partnership work with FCC and others, and continuing capacity as a registered charity to raise monies to address smaller problems in the Park which would otherwise be unresolved.

Our Members – and other Users of the Park

There are now 121 members of the charity. Thank you for your continuing support. Special thanks go to all our very active volunteers, including the recent trainees. We need more people to become active volunteers regularly, or from time to time, and will encourage that further in the year ahead.

Day-to-day, the dog-walkers, bird-watchers, picnic-makers, history fans, parks and gardens fans, etc. are currently the most important beneficiaries of the recent upgrade in the Park. More can be done to improve the experience of coming to the Park in the years to come for a wider spectrum of users, with the charity's help. FoBH-FfByB's charitable aims remain clear and our mission remains focussed on improving recreation / leisure / conservation on Bailey Hill, as a park, and conserving the site of Mold Castle and its biodiversity.

Eira Hughes DipLA, MCD, MRTPI (ret'd), CMLI (ret'd) July 2023

During 2022-2023, there was a focus on restoring the Inner Bailey hedges which had become overgrown and out of shape in recent years. After FCC cut it back to a reasonable height, the Friends started to plug gaps with branches and new plants, using plants grown from cuttings taken in the Park, plus new holly plants of the type favoured by Edward Kemp, plus honeysuckle and crab apple, all as agreed with FCC.

OVERALL PROGRESS

Creating a High-Quality Park at Bailey Hill

Creating a high quality park remains always 'what it is all about' for the Friends of Bailey Hill.

The Significant Contribution of the Friends

Very significant hours of effort were invested again by Friends in the effort to improve the Park during FY 2022-2023 (our fifth financial year). We intensified our practical volunteering programme in the Park (work done over and above the usual care given to the Park). We continued to work strongly, tripartitely – with FCC and MTC – to deliver the Bailey Hill Project through to its official conclusion on 31 March 2023.

Contributing to the Tripartite Partnership's Work – now a £1.5M HLF Plus Project, called 'Revealing Bailey Hill / Mold Castle'

During FY 2022-2023, the Partnership work was focussed on the following:

- The modern Bailey Hill Centre - intended to be a vibrant hub for the Park – opened in March/April 2022, and a variety of different uses and events were trialled during its first operational year to identify which would fit best with the building as completed, under Mold Town Council's stewardship (as they leased it for an initial 3 year period from FCC). Meanwhile, the flat above was rented out to derive an income to help meet the costs of maintaining the building. There were a few teething problems (e.g. birds attacking the putty around the new windows, a small damp spot in one corner, and plumbing challenges) to be addressed by the contractors and MTC.
- The Project Officer (employed by MTC) was able to roll out a strong programme of events on planned themes set by the tripartitely agreed 'Interpretation & Activities Programme'.
- FCC/Aura/MTC secured much additional grant-aid by the HLF and others in the wake of the Covid-pandemic, and more grant from Cadwyn Clwyd, to pursue archaeological work and fresh new activities programmes (including Forest Schools, and Men's Shed activities) in the Park.
- FCC continued to do basic maintenance work in the Park, and managed to repair the boundary retaining walls very substantially and to agree reasonable boundary improvements with two neighbouring property owners – a big step forward. And, FCC managed the Park so as to minimise interference with the badgers who moved into the Park for a few months.
- FCC also undertook a major tree-felling programme to fell many diseased trees suffering from ash-dieback and Dutch elm disease – across the Park.
- FoBH-FfByB complemented those efforts by completing the training of a new wave of 'Bailey Hill Gardening and Wildlife Volunteers' – many of them with substantial relevant experience of practical work in the field in nearby country parks and local nature reserves.
- FoBH-FfByB was then able to intensify its own programme of voluntary work in the Park considerably to ensure a well-maintained, horticulturally-interesting, attractive, and biodiverse Park.

- FCC/MTC/FoBH-FfByB met many times to address (i) succession planning, and (ii) HLF Project Plus finance matters that needed to be resolved.

Match-Funding Contributions

The many hours the Friends put into managing the Friends as a charity and planning, risk assessing and doing practical work at our various Odd-Job Days / STSs, etc. in the Park, plus any other administrative tripartite partnership work done, are recorded. An element of that formed part of the 'match' for the Project.

What did we achieve during FY 2022-2023?

In FY 2022-23, our Trustees contributed to tripartite partnership work (with FCC and MTC) as follows:

- *We attended **18 meetings** with FCC and MTC - to manage through to its completion the c.£1.5M project (at formal meetings of the full Bailey Hill Steering Group, mainly)*
- *We commented, from the Friends' perspective, on many relevant technical and administrative documents needed to progress matters*
- *We signed an updated **'Memorandum of Understanding' with FCC / MTC** (June 2022)*
- *That MoU, the tripartite 'Management and Maintenance Plan' (M&MPlan) for 2021-2031, and, the 12-month licences granted by 'FCC Estates' (as owners of the site) form the **'soft management agreement'** which rules the charity's uses of and voluntary work within the Park. (That enabled us to draw a veil over the earlier mooted 'management agreement' approach.)*
- *Friends secured a further licence (with new additional tasks listed) from the park's owners, FCC Estates, and the required permissions from FCC Streetscene and FCC Countryside units, for various small interventions in the Park, consistent with the agreed M&MPlan which includes the agreed recipes for improving each of the Park's 'Landscape Character Areas' (LCA 1-7).*
- *During a tripartite funding review in the autumn of 2022, we established that a net sum of £9,013.41 had been raised locally in Mold by the Mayor's Fund for Bailey Hill (2017-18), and the monies were duly transferred to FCC Treasurer to go into the Bailey Hill Project Fund head.*
- *A few other sundry small sums raised in the past 'for the Friends of Bailey Hill', identified in the review, were duly transferred from MTC to the charity.*

NEXT: during 2023-24, we will:

- ***secure a proper User Agreement with MTC to access the new Centre** to ensure a more acceptable 'quality of experience' for all the voluntary gardening and wildlife work done regularly in the Park by the Friends,*
- ***review** the HLF Project from our own perspective as a charity, and any lessons learned,*

and continue to work with our partners FCC and MTC tripartitely to:

- ***close off the HLF Project Plus** in a satisfactory manner, to ensure it stands up to any future reviews or performance scrutiny by any funders, which include the NHLF, and several governmental departments and bodies (all of whom have claw-back powers), and the local funders (including the local populace and the charity itself).*
- ***identify scope to do more follow-on complementary work** to enhance the Park over the longer term*
- ***help ensure continued Green Flag status** for the whole Park annually, up to 2029-30, at least*
- ***use and help to secure the future of the new Centre** as a vital and viable facility in the Park.*

Note: Green Flag status is applied for by FCC. It is a requirement of the HLF grant process that it be retained for 7 years by FCC. A first Green Flag was awarded in 2021. The FCC application for a 2nd Green Flag, in 2022, was successful. A third Green Flag was awarded during July 2023.

GOOD GOVERNANCE, ORGANISATION & DELIVERY

The Importance of Good Governance

With the Covid-pandemic coming to an end, FY 2022-2023 was a good and very productive year in which we managed a large work programme of voluntary work in the Park and finished rolling out a significant training programme.

Our Independence

We continued to cherish and maintain our independence of thought and action as a charity, and a strong focus on our three formal 'charitable objects', in accordance with official guidance issued by the Charity Commission (CC); and as guided, from the start, by the Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC).

What did we achieve during FY 2022-23?

In FY 2022-2023, we:

- *arranged and held our **4th Annual General Meeting**, at St David's Church Hall, Mold*
- *made our **4th Annual Return** to the Charity Commission*
- *held **4 formal meetings** of the full **Board of Trustees (28th TM > 31st TM),** and held sub-committee meetings (e.g. a Financial Sub-Committee, on 24/4), plus several other informal meetings to ensure progress, as needed*
- *identified **two new prospective Trustees** from among our regular volunteers*
- ***doubled our visits to the Park** – in order to improve the planting especially*
- *organised and ran **10 Small Team Sessions (STS)** on Saturday mornings in the Park*
- *organised and ran a further **36 Mini-Team Visits** (in the intervening weekends) in order to tend our Outdoor Pots Display and to do additional planting and tidying jobs in the Park: and, four of those evolved into substantial 'Extra Work' sessions over and above the normal routine weekend visits (to make up for several cancellations due to spells of cold, icy weather).*
- *organised **weekly visits to the new Bailey Hill Centre** – to tend the Friends' Indoor Plants Display at the Centre (from February 2022 onwards), at times of the week convenient for Friends and the Bailey Hill Project Officer (MTC's lead officer at the new Bailey Hill Centre).*

And, we made good progress on these matters -

- ***Our Proposed Use of the new Bailey Hill Centre** – we pursued discussions with MTC how the charity might use the new Centre to support our practical sessions and training activities; and, the scope for a formal User Agreement for Friends to use the toolstore, loos, kitchen, an information board, etc. – as long promised to Friends and in accord with the guiding VISION document for the Centre (which accompanied the original grant-aid application to NHLF for Lottery monies, and other grants, from February 2018 onwards). By the end of our FY 2022-2023, we were still inching towards an agreement acceptable to both the charity and MTC.*
- ***Training and Development of our Trustees:** several Trustees undertook training on outdoor first-aid – to inform our practical work.*

- *The Annual Log / a Record of Our Practical Work in the Park – to report our progress on practical work, consistently, and to inform partners, funders and key contacts.*
- *Monitoring Safety Standards - working in the Park without sustaining any significant accidents (and noting any near misses and/or lessons to be learned as we went).*
- *Keeping Friends informed on our progress – via Facebook / emails / information offered to the local press – especially the local Welsh-language paper 'Papur Fama' (including an article on the four types of snowdrops Friends have added to the Park).*

NEXT, during 2023-24:
USER AGREEMENT: this must be secured to ensure that the HLF Project Plus 'Vision' for the new Centre – as promised to all funders – is duly delivered; and to meet volunteers' reasonable expectations of comfort and ease in the volunteering work they do under Friends' direction in the Park.
TRAINING: We now have 5 Trustees who have had recent Outdoor First-aid Training. Further training on outdoor first-aid, wildlife matters, and food safety (for Trustees) will need to be prioritised.
COMMUNICATIONS: Our website development is currently somewhat stalled, but we hope to get it fully assembled ere long. And, we need to review and update our Communications Policy.

FY 2022-2023		FRIENDS' MAIN EVENTS - ORGANISED & DELIVERED - in all 54 Practical (incl. 2 Training), plus 2 other events
Start of FY >		
9 April	√	Small Team Session (STS 21) in the Park – and - 3rd PRACTICAL session / BH Project Gardening and Wildlife (G&W) Trainees
16 April	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 31) in the Park
23 April	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 32) in the Park
30 April	√	Small Team Session (STS 22) in the Park – and - 4th PRACTICAL session / BH Project Gardening and Wildlife (G&W) Trainees
3 May	-	NB. Formal Landscape Maintenance Handover Meeting (HDD) > from the landscape contractors to FCC and FoBH-FfByB
7 May	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 33) in the Park
14 May	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 34) in the Park
21 May	√	Small Team Session (STS 23) in the Park
28 May	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 35) in the Park
4 June	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 36) in the Park
11 June	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 37) in the Park
16 June	√	STUDY VISIT: to Flaybrick Cemetery, Birkenhead
18 June	√	Small Team Session (STS 24) in the Park
25 June	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 38) in the Park
2 July	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 39) in the Park
9 July	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 40) in the Park
16 July	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 41) in the Park
23 July	√	Small Team Session (STS 25) in the Park
30 July	√	Small Team Session (STS 26) in the Park 2nd Park Condition Review 1st Bees and Butterflies Survey

6 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 42) in the Park
13 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 43) in the Park
20 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 44) in the Park
27 August	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 45) in the Park
3 September	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 46) in the Park
10 September	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 47) in the Park
10 September	√	4th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - at St. David's Church Hall, Mold
17 September	√	Small Team Session (STS 27) in the Park
24 September	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 48) in the Park
1 October	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 49) in the Park
8 October	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 50) in the Park
15 October	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 51) in the Park
22 October	√	Small Team Session (STS 28) in the Park –
29 October	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 52) in the Park
5 November	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 53) in the Park
12 November	√	Small Team Session (STS 29) in the Park –
19 November	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 54) in the Park
25 November	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 55) in the Park
3 December	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 56) in the Park
10 December	-	*Cancelled MTV - due to very cold icy weather*
17 December	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 57) in the Park
24 December	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 58) in the Park
31 December	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 59) in the Park
2023		
7 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 60) in the Park
14 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 61) in the Park
21 January	-	*Cancelled MTV - due to very cold icy weather*
28 January	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 62) in the Park
4 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 63) in the Park
11 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 64) in the Park
15 February	√	(Extra) Mini-Team Visit (MTV 65) in the Park – identifying tree-planting sites etc.
18 February	√	Small Team Session (STS 30) in the Park –
22 February	√	(Extra) Mini-Team Visit (MTV 66) in the Park - planting
25 February	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 67) in the Park
4 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 68) in the Park
8 March	√	(Extra) Mini-Team Visit (MTV 69) in the Park - planting
11 March	-	*Cancelled MTV - due to very cold icy weather*
15 March	√	(Extra) Mini-Team Visit (MTV 70) in the Park
18 March	√	Small Team Session (STS 31) in the Park – 6 new trees planted, etc.
25 March	√	Mini-Team Visit (MTV 71) in the Park
End of FY		

SUSTAINABLE FUNDING & FINANCE

Raising Funds for the Future

The Charity has no income stream and therefore relies solely on seeking donations, fundraising locally and securing grants, gift-aid, and, for a while, Amazon Smile (where cashback was received on nominated sales).

What did we achieve during FY 2022-2023?

During FY 2022-23:

- *We concentrated on making the most of the* ***monies already gathered in*** *in the previous year.*
- *We were successful in attracting one* ***small grant from Mold Town Council*** *- to enable us to purchase more plants for the area around the new Centre.*
- *We continued to place our* ***Red Charity Pots*** *in various businesses around Mold.*
- *The Charity is registered with HMRC to receive* ***Gift Aid*** *under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme and is able to claim this from donations made to us via the Red Charity Pots.*
- *The Charity was registered with* ***Amazon Smile*** *to receive cashback on nominated sale (but that scheme came to an end in February 2023).*
- *Trustees and our keen volunteers continued to* ***donate*** *plants, materials, as well as meeting various minor office supplies, home-office running cost, transport costs (for plant sourcing)– which cumulatively must be worth several hundred pounds over the course of the financial year.*
- *We carefully considered other methods of fundraising (e.g. introduction of a subscription and/or setting up a 100 Club). Neither was thought appropriate for us at this moment in time.*
- *We decided against organising coffee mornings or other social events during FY 2022-23 – as people were still very cautious indeed about attending such events, even as the pandemic faded. (The Covid-pandemic was not declared officially 'over' until May 2023.)*

ASSETS: The Charity does not hold property of its own. Its only assets include tools and equipment to undertake volunteer work in the Park plus bird, bat and hedgehog boxes placed in the Park with the kind permission of FCC: and, the plants it acquires or grows from seed or cuttings.
STATUS: the powers of the charity as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation may be used, perhaps, in the future.

NEXT, during 2023-24:

- *We will seek a few new grants for specific projects, and to support our annual running costs.*
- *Use our Red Charity Pots: we currently have 5 pots in situ, as numbers reduced due to the fact that many businesses still operate 'card only' following the Covid-19 pandemic.*
- *We will consider other fundraising events (now that Covid-19 restrictions are ended) which are compatible with the continued health and wellbeing of our Trustees and volunteers.*
- *We also intend to approach larger local businesses, seeking general donations, in due course.*

VOLUNTEERING

Gifting Time

The charity has no employees. Our Trustees give very generously indeed of their time for running the charity, and engaging with other bodies. No Trustees' expenses were claimed or paid during FY2022-23. The Trustees and other Friends are not employees, and did not accept any remuneration or other benefits. They act as unpaid practical volunteers, gifting time to the charity's work.

What did we achieve in FY 2022-2023?

During FY 2022-23, interest in our charitable work increased, and we -

- *were pleased to achieve a* ***membership level of 121 Members*** *during the FY (of whom c. 25% are active volunteers, regularly or occasionally)*
- ***connected*** *with all the Members, via email, the Chair's Updates, plus our Logs showing an illustrated record on all the work done in the Park by Friends*
- *managed to plan and deliver* ***significant progress*** *in improving the Park further, with our strong team of keen and committed volunteers organising our volunteering events*
- *continued to retain and attract a* ***good number of volunteers*** *to our monthly Small Team Sessions and to any 'expanded' Mini-Team Visits as/when needed, to tackle various physical tasks*
- *continued the* ***rota system*** *to ensure there would always be 2 volunteers working together on intervening Saturday morning Mini-Team Visits, to tend our year-round Outdoor Pots Display; and doing an occasional small additional task, some weeding and tidying, and a quick check around the Beds.*

NEXT: during 2023-24, we will:

- *endeavour to secure a better quality of experience for our volunteers through a formal User Agreement with MTC to allow us to use the loo, toolstore, water supply, information board and other facilities at the new Centre (as long promised)*
- *continue with a busy programme of practical sessions in the Park and other events*
- *ensure more of our most regular volunteers receive training in relevant subjects*
- *continue to do sensitive minor improvements in the wider Park - with input of advice from FCC Countryside Management and Biodiversity officers, and the North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT)*
- *plan, prepare and manage seasonal flower pots (to be placed on the decking and flanking the Cenotaph as agreed with HDD), generally 4 pots (and sometimes 6 or 8 for greater seasonal effect)*
- *maintain planted Beds in the Park as agreed with FCC - especially the Friends' Bed (Bed 18), the Hydrangeas Bed (Bed 19) and other areas (of Bed 6 etc.) planted-up by the Friends, plus general care (fertilising/weeding/clipping/bulb-planting) in the other Beds, if and as resources allow*
- *support FCC/Aura and the Bailey Hill Project Officer's efforts to interpret the ancient monument, and to make good use of the revamped Park and its brand new Centre*
- *do minor improvements (e.g. for the benefit of the less able, if possible, to the Perimeter Path) to the extent our licence, risk assessment and insurance will allow*
- *invite and encourage more of the Members to become active volunteers.*

HISTORY: Many of the Friends have also been involved in the Bailey Hill Project in another capacity - as History Research Volunteers, Poetry Volunteers, Guided Tours Volunteers, and Visitor Volunteers (under the Bailey Hill Project Officer's direction, under MTC's Insurance and risk assessment, and its own licence from FCC Estates. Others have helped with the archaeological digs in the past few years. So, people who are Members of FoBH-FfByB are heavily invested in understanding and improving the Park and presenting it to the public.

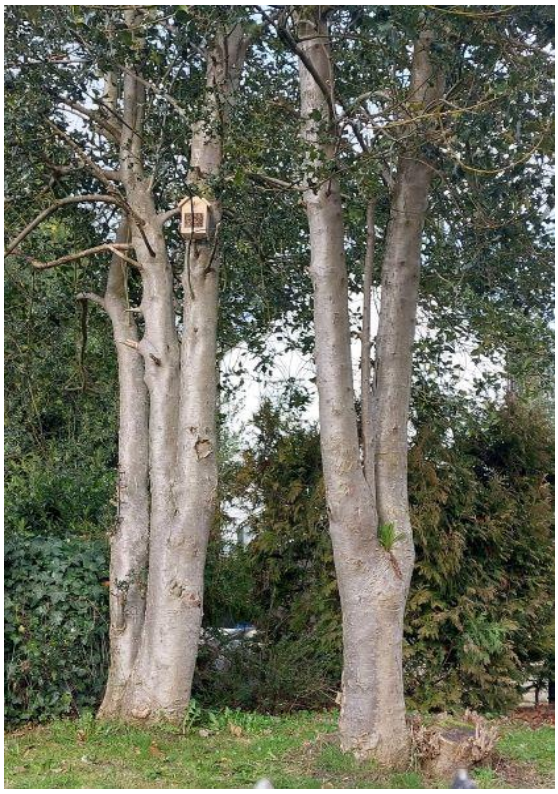
ARCHAEOLOGY: Please note that FoBH-FfByB/FCC/MTC still await sight of a full/final reports upon the various studies commissioned by FCC/Aura from Durham University, Cardiff University and other experts, on the various unexpected archaeological finds unearthed during the construction works and other contracts in the last few years: and, the further site exploration works done thereafter on the two baileys. We anticipate that some of the smaller finds will be displayed in the new Centre in due course.

PRACTICAL ACTION IN THE PARK

Getting things done - to enhance the Park

A. HABITATS WORK IN THE PARK

Examples:



Our first small bee-hotel added in the Park

Attending our set of next-boxes (now 25) across the Park in the autumn of 2022.

B. PARK & GARDENS WORK IN THE PARK

Examples:

Removing many dead leaves - from the main Beds.

Graffiti removal - from important trees in the Park.

Decorative spring flowers in our Outdoor Pots on the Decking – in the Spring of 2023.

Sorting an immediate danger found during our MTV 70 session – in mid-March 2023

Improving the Beds - Bed 6 is a challenge: at the top end of the shady Bed 6, bluebells and other plants being added in late Spring 2022. More new plants will be needed in the future by Friend (as the original pachysandra planted there by the landscape contractors struggled there for various reasons).

Getting many water bottles ready – to water our pots and other plants during a long summer in 2022.

STS 31 (on 18 March 2023) – our big tree planting day in the Park – the 6th new tree goes into position.

MTV 71 – adding Daffodils (Barrett Browning) to Bed 18 – on a damp day in March 2023.

What did we achieve in FY 2022-2023?

During FY 2022-23, we:

- *did* ***very extensive and quite physical work within the Park (over 54 practical sessions)***
- *continued to* ***develop the skills*** *of all our regular volunteers*
- *helped to retain* ***GREEN FLAG*** *status for the Park*
- *we* ***scoured local nurseries and ones further afield by car or online*** *– to secure the particular plants we needed for the Park (as set out tin the M&MPlan, LCA 1-7 planting recipes) - work done without claiming travel costs, voluntarily by the Trustees and regular volunteers.*
- ***added more new plants*** *in line with the M&MPlan and LCA 1-7 'planting recipes'*
- ***added more bird boxes*** *– and ensured they were all numbered and inventoried*
- ***planted various wildflowers*** *and propagated more off-site, and for the Park*
- ***attended and managed all our Indoor Pots in the Centre weekly*** *– and focussed on showing different types of daffodils in pots during the first few months of 2023*
- ***managed all the Outdoor Pots, at the Entrance, weekly*** *– changing them seasonally*
- ***kept an eye on the Heritage Daffodils and other bulb and wildlife plantings in the Park*** *– augmenting them where necessary for a good show*
- *ensured all the practical work done was in accordance with our FCC licence (and any subsequent small permissions given by FCC staff)*
- *respected the now significantly increased archaeological significance of the Mold Castle site.*

NEXT: during 2023-2024, we will be:

- *completing our big extra planting programme across the Park*
- *continuing to make small improvements to help sustain Green Flag standards of tidiness and beauty*
- *persuading FCC to tackle a few tricky small safety issues remaining as and when their resources allow*
- *improving the state of the woodlands as natural / wildlife habitat (through selective interventions)*
- *developing a composting station (as and when we secure a User Agreement for the use of the Centre).*

We will continue to take into account the plants favoured by Edward Kemp (1817-1891) - the famous landscape gardener who advised the Mold Local Board in 1871, on what might best grace the Park, after it came into public hands in 1870/71. We will also respect the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust (WHGT)'s suggestions and its keen interest in this aspect of the Park's history.

We also aim to be ready to help maintain the new planting areas in the new Numbered Beds (1-24) - and adjacent areas - to augment FCC's usual, regular, basic maintenance of the Park.

We remain committed to doing our part - as promised - to deliver the Park's longer-term tripartite M&M Plan, through discussion with and joint action with FCC and MTC.

STRUCTURED EDUCATION / TRAINING

Education - part of our remit as an independent charity

During FY 2022-23 we completed the delivery of the training programme for the 'Bailey Hill Project Gardening & Wildlife Volunteers' (BHG&W). This was a serious undertaking for the charity, and a big time commitment, and it secured grant-aid from Cadwyn Clwyd.

Bailey Hill – 'Gardening and Wildlife Volunteers' Training Course 2021-2022

Delivered by FoBH-FfByB – as the Chair of FoBH-FfByB had the relevant professional background and experience to be a 'main deliverer' of such a course.

16. 11.2021 - Bailey Hill (L1): Introduction & History
18.12.2021 - Bailey Hill – Walk & Talk
20.1.2022 - Bailey Hill (L2) Strategy
17.2.2022 - Bailey Hill (L3) Ecology & Biodiversity
15.3.2022 - Bailey Hill (L4) Horticulture & Fine Gardening
31.3.2022 - Bailey Hill (L5) Review & Other Practical Points

And, organised and led the associated practical sessions:

19.3.2022 – Bailey Hill – 1st Practical session in the Park
2.4.2022 – Bailey Hill – 2nd Practical session in the Park
9.4.2022 – Bailey Hill – 3rd Practical session in the Park
30.4.2022 – Bailey Hill – 4th Practical session in the Park

What did we achieve in FY 2022-2023?

During FY 2022-23, we:

- ***completed the delivery of the practical skills training programme*** *for extra new Gardening and Wildlife Volunteers needed for part of the Bailey Hill Project (as funded by Cadwyn Clwyd)*
- ***continued to teach the volunteers further skills - on*** *what is involved in caring for Beds, Pots, Indoor plants, etc. in a public park, to a good 'parks' standard.*
- *ensured that the* ***new Volunteers were integrated into the Friends' regular volunteers team*** *and had a chance to contribute to all aspects of the Friends' practical 'parks and gardens' work in the Park and to help with the charity's wider set of tasks.*

NEXT: during 2023-24 – on the structured education and training front – we will consider providing more training modules to suit a further batch of new volunteers. It may be that there will be a campaign to attract more volunteers (in partnership with FCC and MTC) as follow-up, after the ending of the BH HLF Project Plus (which ended formally on 31 March 2023).

A new BHG&W Volunteer hard at work, with our usual volunteers, at an Extra MTV, adding a butterfly box.

ENGAGEMENT & INFLUENCING

Networking with and persuading others

The Trustees continued to devote much time to creating positive relationships with other agencies, as well as doing our utmost to be effective and reliable partners within the tripartite partnership.

What did we achieve in FY 2022-2023?

During FY 2022-23, we continued to engage effectively with, and respect the advice of:

- ***FCC and MTC, and Aura (who look after leisure/libraries/heritage for FCC)** – we attended 4 formal meetings of the Bailey Hill Partnership Board and sundry other special meetings to discuss the Park, and what would be done, by whom, where in fine detail – including the large FCC felling programme –to secure a good joint working, best practice, and the practicalities.*
- ***Welsh Historic Gardens Trust (WHGT), Clwyd Branch** – continued to take an interest in our progress in the Park.*
- ***Local historians** – we continued to maintain close contact with local historians and researchers informing the BH Project Officer's 'Interpretation and Activities Programme' for the Park*
- ***North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT)** – several regular volunteers for NWWT became Friends and added to our depth of expertise on wildlife matters.*

We made much use of:

- ***Facebook*** *– using our FoBH Facebook Page, we continued to draw attention to good-practice exemplar small parks and gardens with strong historic interest, as well as presenting aspects of our work and relevant information, bilingually (to engage effectively with the local population and Welsh learners). We currently have* ***c. 718 followers*** *on our bilingual FoBH Facebook Page > see >* https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Bailey-Hill-1442020782754561/
- ***Papur Fama*** *–providing several short articles to the Welsh-language local community paper to inform and interest the local community of Welsh speakers and learners about our work on Bailey Hill.*

Awards:

- ***'GOLD AWARD: for the Best Kept Community Area 2022'*** *– was awarded to FoBH-FfByB by FLVC and FCC.*

NEXT: during 2023-2024, we will sustain and develop the key relationships, and we hope to complete our website.

An award given to the charity in 2022 > FLVC/FCC GOLD AWARD to 'Friends of Bailey Hill' – for the 'Best Kept Community Area' in 2022.

GRANT-AIDERS for FY 2022-23 to be thanked

We thank, in respect of FY 2022-2023:

- Mold Town Council £ 300.00 - to help pay for more plants

We also wish to thank, again:

Woodland Trust – whose dozen seedling native trees donated, were planted in the Park during 2022, with the rest to be planted in 2023-2024.

Welsh Historic Gardens Trust - whose earlier grant-aid has helped to pay for the old shrub roses and hydrangeas now blooming in the main Beds.

Cruach Trust – whose earlier £100 towards our native bluebell swathe on the Outer Bailey demonstrated a good show of native bluebells on the Outer Bailey in the Spring of 2022 and 2023 – and FCC grass-cutters made sure they were allowed to bloom and disperse seed before the grass was cut back.

Heritage Lottery Fund, and its supporters – for supporting the tripartite partnership ('Friends of Bailey Hill / Flintshire County Council / Mold Town Council) work by enabling FCC to draw down significant special package of project monies from the Heritage Lottery Fund, plus Welsh Government ('TAIS grant'), Cadwyn Clwyd, Landfill Funds, etc. – over several years - to upgrade the Bailey Hill Park (from 2019 through to the end of March 2023).

A few of the many daffodils added with the benefit of the grant-aid from Mold Town Council to Beds 10 and 11 near the new Centre – for extra spring colour.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FY 2022-23

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 06/04/2022 TO 05/04/2023

	£ INCOME	£ EXPENDITURE
INCOME:		
DONATIONS:		
Red Pots (1)	£ 269.51	
Cash Donations	£ 155.00	
FUND RAISING:		
Mayor's Ball (2)	£ 261.00	
GRANTS:		
Mold Town Council	£ 300.00	
GIFT-AID – GASD (3):	£ 46.06	
AMAZON SMILE (4):	£ 36.42	
TOTAL	**£ 1,067.99**	
EXPENDITURE:		
Insurance		£ 261.80
Zoom		£ 143.88
Training		£ 312.00
Legal Fees		£1,440.00
Equipment/tools/bird & bat boxes		£ 364.75
Plants & compost		£2,193.60
TOTAL		**£4,716.03**
Deficit for the year	**£ 3,648.04**	

BALANCE SHEET	5 April 2023	5 April 2022
Bank/cash balance	£5,585.54	£9,233.58
Net Assets	**£5,585.54**	**£9,233.58**
Restricted Funds	£2,818.66	£6,285.45
Unrestricted Funds	£2,766.78	£2,948.13
Total Funds	**£5,585.54**	**£9,233.58**

Status – FoBH/FfByB is a Registered Charity since 24 July 2018 – Registered Charity No 1179312

Notes:

(1) Red Pots – these are collection pots placed in local businesses around Mold. They are emptied and monies banked on a regular basis through the financial year.
(2) Mayor's Ball - The Mayor agreed to raise funds for a group of local people then called Friends of Bailey Hill or Ffrindiau Bryn y Beili and to hold such funds raised until the group became a fully constituted charity. Funds raised have therefore now been passed to this Charity.
(3) Gift-Aid – Applications are made to HMRC for Gift-Aid on donations within the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme.
(4) Amazon Smile – the Charity is registered with Amazon Smile where the Charity is nominated to receive cashback on nominated sales.

This STATEMENT is based on the accounts up to 5 April 2023, which were checked at the Charity's Financial Sub-Committee on 26 April 2023.

Note: The Independent Examiner's report of 12 JUNE 2023, on these accounts, is appended below.

THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT – dated 12th JUNE 2023:

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Friends of Bailey Hill

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Friends of Bailey Hill trust (the Trust) for the year ended 5 April 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust'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 Trust 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: Philip Hughes

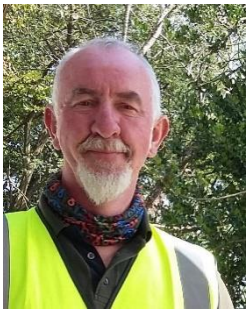
Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACA (member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales)

Address: Llangoed, Ruthin Road, Mold, CH7 1QQ

Date: 12th June 2023

CURRENT TRUSTEES – BIOGRAPHIC NOTES

In alphabetical order >



>

ATKINSON, John (Trustee): John's career has focussed on purchasing and procurement functions within the nuclear energy generation industry, nationally and internationally. He was chartered in purchasing and supply. He has skills in planning and organising: and report-writing skills. He is also very interested in local history, especially pre-history and archaeology (including working as a volunteer for CPAT on their recent digs on Bailey Hill). He is also a keen amateur ornithologist. He was for many years a junior football team coach (and a committee member) for Mold Alex Juniors. He is currently learning Welsh.

BUNTING, Michael Antony (Trustee, and General Secretary): a retired Chartered Engineer and Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, and for the last 10 years of his career, he was a Company Director and ran Rivendell Enterprises Ltd providing consultancy services to the electricity supply industry in the UK and also Europe. Much experience of project management, quality control systems, and health and safety matters. Well-versed in the use of computer spreadsheets and project planning. Experience of working for a local church and other local bodies.

CONSIDINE, Mary (Trustee, Lead on Education): Mary was a college lecturer at Deeside College for many years, teaching essential literacy and numeracy to adults and older teenagers. She now works part-time for Coleg Cambria, supporting groups of students with learning disabilities. She has a BA in Business Studies and a post-graduate certificate in education. Her experience also includes working in administrative officer roles for civil service departments in London; and she was previously a nursery teacher and nanny. Originally from Limerick, she has a keen interest in history, playing the piano, having fun with the family, and travelling. She can speak Irish and French.

HAYES, Helen (Trustee, and Lead on Data): has over 25 years' experience in a range of roles across financial services, charity and the civil service with much time spent in large transformation programs and projects, and working alongside or within regulatory functions. Previously Head of Digital Programs for the Health and Safety Executive, a senior civil service (SCS) post, she is now a Deputy Director within the Dept. of Work and Pensions (also a SCS post) working on a large technology program. Her experience in voluntary roles includes having been Chair of Ysgol Sychdyn PTA and committee membership of the Sychdyn Village Hall. She enjoys working with volunteers, and community engagement, and involvement with local projects and initiatives. She is keen on researching Mold's local history, and family history.

HUGHES, Eira (Trustee, and Chair): retired former regeneration specialist, town planner, and landscape architect. Ran her own consultancy firm for 10 years, after a series of Director-level, senior management posts (managing large teams, revenue and capital budgets) in local government, the civil service and non-departmental bodies in England and Wales – across a wide range of services. Has prepared and delivered £MM projects and programmes. Much experience of policy development on sustainability, environmental issues, and conservation; also, of managing street-scene services, a sports/leisure stadium and many parks, including several Green Flag parks. Amenity gardening skills. Fluent in Welsh.

HUGHES, Nia (Trustee, and Minutes Secretary): retired university senior lecturer with subject specialism in marketing and consumer behaviour. Much experience of teaching and academic course planning/administration at all levels, in the UK and overseas. Also planned, conducted and disseminated original research findings. Organised many different types of public events for different audiences. After decades of living in Staffordshire, and now returned to live in Wales, brushing up on Welsh skills.

JONES, Richard Trefor (Trustee, Communities Secretary, and Quartermaster): retired former teacher of geography and biology; a trustee of several local charities and experience of being a Treasurer to several small charities. Assists the 'Mold Spring Clean' initiative, and the Daniel Owen Festival. Translator for FoBH's bilingual notices, official correspondence, and newsletters. Fluent in Welsh.

PREECE, Hilary (Trustee, Vice-Chair, and Director of Finance): retired after a long and varied career in a major UK clearing bank, her final position was that of a Senior Corporate Director. She undertook a number of roles in North Wales including Branch Manager in a local Flintshire branch and various managerial roles in the commercial sector. During her career she developed a number of managerial skills including personnel management, time management, networking skills, the ability to deal with difficult and stressful situations, and, report writing and analytical skills. Hilary recently moved to Mold after spending time in the north of England. Previously she had grown up and lived in Buckley and Hawarden. She is a passionate dog lover and likes gardening, baking, protecting local wildlife and local history.

Note: TATTERSON, Paul James (Trustee, and Website Manager): was a Trustee throughout 2022-2023. He resigned his Trusteeship on 18 June 2023. That change was duly reported to the Charity Commission - as required for the public record on the charity's trustees.

This Report is signed and dated by the Chair on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:

Eira Hughes (Chair/Cadeirydd)

31 JULY 2023

FRIENDS OF BAILEY HILL / FFRINDIAU BRYN Y BEILI

England & Wales - Charity number 1179312

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1179312

FY 2021-2022

friends of
BAILEY HILL
ffrindiau
BRYN Y BEILI

CONTENTS

The Board of Trustees	3
The Friends	4
Chair's Introduction	5
Overall Progress	7
Good Governance, Organisation & Delivery	9
Sustainable Funding & Finance	12
Volunteering	13
Practical Action in the Park	14
Structured Education / Training	20
Engagement & Influencing	21
Grant-Aiders FY 2021-22 to be Thanked	22
Summary of Accounts FY 2021-22	23
Current Trustees – Biographic Notes	26

Rose 'Lady Hillingdon' – an old tea rose added to the Friends Bed (Bed18), facing the Inner Bailey.

[Front cover image: The Friends and other volunteers at the Park, celebrating the award of a Keep Wales Tidy 'Green Flag' to the Park, during October 2021.]

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Our Current Board of Trustees

12 (maximum) Trustees are allowed under our current Constitution. There were 9 Trustees at the end of Financial Year (FY) 2021-22:

- Eira Hughes – Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – Chair
- Richard Trefor Jones – Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – Communities Secretary, and Quartermaster
- Mike Antony Bunting – Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – General Secretary
- Hilary Preece - Trustee (from 22 March 2019) – Vice-Chair, and Director of Finance
- Nia Hughes - Trustee (ffrom 22 March 2019) – Minutes Secretary
- Helen Hayes – Trustee (from 20 September 2020) – Data Lead
- Paul James Tatterson – Trustee (from 20 September 2020) – Website Manager
- John Atkinson – Trustee (from September 2021) – Wildlife Recorder
- Mary Considine - Trustee (from September 2021).

The current Trustees produced this Report. Their short biographies appear at the end of this Report.

Meetings: we met regularly during the FY 2021-22, usually monthly on a weekday evening, formally or informally, as needed: by using the Zoom app, because of the pandemic.

Changes in the Board of Trustees during FY 2021-22

Two people joined the Board of Trustees, during the year – Mary and John. None resigned.

We thank, once again, all those Former Trustees who supported us in any way during the FY 2021-22.

Recruiting New Trustees

Under our Constitution: Trustees must be signed-up Friends/Members with voting rights. Before an AGM, we firstly ascertain which of the current Trustees wish to continue. Trustees are appointed or re-appointed, annually, at an Annual General Meeting (AGM), and the Board has to have between 3 and 12 Trustees. Roles for trustees are decided after discussion by the AGM-appointed Board of Trustees (soon after the AGM). We periodically invite Friends – via email – to self-nominate themselves as potential Trustees, during the year, for the AGM to consider. We can also recruit/co-opt a couple of extra new Trustees between AGMs.

****

Independent Auditor

Our auditor for FY 2021-22 was Phillip Hughes ACA. We thank him for his clear guidance.

THE FRIENDS

'FRIENDS OF BAILEY HILL – FFRINDIAU BRYN Y BEILI' (FoBH-FfByB)

The Charity

FoBH-FfByB is an independent body, formed on 6 February 2018. It became a registered charity (No. 1179312), on 24 July 2018. It is a charitable incorporated organisation (a 'CIO') set up as an 'association', whereby the wider membership, and not just the founding trustees, have voting rights.

Our CHARITABLE OBJECTS

- *"To promote for the inhabitants of Mold, Flintshire and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation at Bailey Hill for the public at large - in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of residents and visitors.*
- *To promote for the public benefit the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment at Bailey Hill - by promoting biological diversity and to respect the history of the site, its special landscape features and status as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM).*
- *To advance the education of the public - by promoting opportunities within Bailey Hill for learning about the heritage of the public park and the natural environment through structured training and educational programmes."*

Official Addresses

Post: FoBH/FfByB (General Secretary), 'Rivendell', Denbigh Road, Mold, CH7 1BL

Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Bailey-Hill-1442020782754561/

Email: fobhmold@btinternet.com

Tel: 07835 40 40 97

Our Financial Year

Our FY currently runs from April 6th – to April 5th.

Relevant Roles

Bank: Barclays Bank, High Street, Mold.

Solicitors: Llewellyn-Jones, Mold.

Independent Examiner of Accounts: Phillip Hughes ACA (from February 2021).

CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

Eira Hughes – Chair/Cadeirydd

friends of BAILEY HILL
ffrindiau BRYN Y BEILI

THE FY 2021-22 REPORT

It is an honour to present our fourth Annual Report.

In Wales, the last Covid-19 pandemic restrictions were only fully lifted at the end of March 2022 (at the very end of FY 2021-22). Yet somehow, we had managed to pack in a great many outdoor sessions in the Park (with careful risk assessment). We focussed on getting on with doing all we could, as a small local charity, to ensure the Park retained its initial Green Flag status.

We also made a large step forward in our delivery of structured education. We prepared, and started to deliver, a Training Programme - commissioned last summer by the Bailey Hill Project, with the benefit of Cadwyn Clwyd grant-aid - to provide training for new 'Bailey Hill Project Gardening and Wildlife Volunteers'. It consisted of 5 lectures/workshops, and 4 practical training sessions in the Park. Those new volunteers also signed up as Friends, and now assist 'the regulars' volunteering in the Park.

During FY 2021-22, we continued to spend many hours just tidying the Park. We nurtured the Heritage Daffodils Display, which performed well during this Spring. We boosted our Bluebells Swathes. Another 1000 native snowdrops were added to our Snowdrop Patches in the Park. Our Outdoor Pot Display were well maintained, weekly. We doubled the display to included an extra Spring 'set of 4' containing layers of snowdrops, daffodils and tulips, to add extra colour on the Decking during the formal launch of the new Bailey Hill Visitor Centre. Within the latter, our Indoor Plant Display added warmth and interest.

As the formal landscape maintenance contract for the new Beds, constructed during the 2020 revamp of the Park, came to an end in mid-April 2022. Friends met with Flintshire County Council (FCC) Streetscene staff and Mold Town Council (MTC) to agree what needs doing next, and by whom, in the Beds. Friends will be keeping a close eye on the Friends' Bed, the Hydrangeas Bed, the Info Point Bed and other areas we ourselves planted or have enhanced over and above the landscape contractors' work. Our licensed access to the Park is limited to certain days only, usually on Saturday mornings. We produce a Workplan for each substantial session (shared with FCC in advance). 'On the day' we do as much as the number of volunteers available and the weather will allow, and record it.

Parks evolve over time, and you may have noticed that FCC has recently had to remove or reduce several storm-damaged, dead or dying trees in the Park. That is set to continue as there are many diseased trees there now. It is sad to lose large mature ash and elm trees especially, but it will provide elbow-room for natural regeneration and for Friends to add a few new young trees of other species and types as agreed with FCC. We will be doing that from the early autumn onwards. That will vary the age-structure of the woodlands, adding more spring blossom and autumn colour in key spots, and more biodiversity overall.

The Friends attracted several small grants for plants / tools, etc. during FY 2021-22. The challenge now is to raise more funds to help cover the charity's general running costs. Older people especially are still wary of attending fundraising events indoors. If you can afford it, a small donation to FoBH-FfByB (by cheque, or cash, or coins in our red charity pots) would be a great help, and much appreciated.

We understand it will be a few months yet before FCC's planned new children's play is built and the finalised interpretative panels are delivered to the Park. Those additions will be a major boost to the attractiveness of the Park! They will also influence ongoing discussions on how best to use the new Bailey Hill Visitor Centre, always intended to be a vibrant hub for the Park's visitors. The generous Heritage Lottery Funding package to *'Reveal Mold Castle'* ends at March 2023. So the Tripartite Partnership are now exploring potential next steps to sustain progress in the Park, and the Visitor Centre, thereafter.

There are now 115 members of the charity. Thank you all for your continuing support for and interest in the work of the Friends.

Eira Hughes DipLA, MCD, MRTPI (ret'd), CMLI (ret'd) July 2022

March 2022 – after our session in the Park – a Small Team Session (STS 20) - the Friends' regular volunteers and the new Bailey Hill Project 'Gardening and Wildlife Volunteers' being trained up by FoBH-FfByB, enjoyed a cup of tea and cake at the new Bailey Hill Visitor Centre. MTC currently leases the improved building from FCC, in order to front and support a range of activities in the Park aimed at creating a vibrant place for visitors to the Park - as promised to the main funder, the Heritage Lottery Fund.

OVERALL PROGRESS

Creating a High-Quality Park at Bailey Hill

Creating a high quality park is – always – what it is all about for the Friends of Bailey Hill.

The Significant Contribution of the Friends

Very significant hours of effort were invested again by Friends in the effort to improve the Park during FY 2021-2022 (our fourth financial year). Much progress was made by the charity on practical improvements and enhancements to the Park (over and above the usual care given to the Park). We continued to work strongly, tripartitely – with FCC and MTC – to deliver the Bailey Hill Project.

Contributing to the Tripartite Partnership's Work – now a £1.5M HLF Plus Project, called 'Revealing Bailey Hill / Mold Castle'

During FY 2021-2022, the Partnership work was focussed on ensuring final touches to achieve practical completion of the Main Construction Contract for revamping the Park (including doing the planting work in Beds on the Inner Bailey) and helping to create a welcoming modern Bailey Hill Visitor Centre - intended to be a vibrant hub for visitors to the Park - within it, as planned.

Match-Funding Contributions

The many hours the Friends put into managing the Friends as a charity and planning, risk assessing and doing practical work at our various Odd-Job Days / STSs, etc. in the Park, plus any other administrative tripartite partnership work done, are recorded. Their notional monetary value then counts as part of the essential local match-funding element which is required for the Bailey Hill Project.

What did we achieve?

In FY 2021-2022, our Trustees contributed to tripartite partnership work (with FCC and MTC) as follows:

- *we attended* ***18 meetings*** *(mostly on-line) with FCC and MTC - to manage, and promote the c.£1.5M project (in meetings of the Bailey Hill Steering Group mainly)*
- *we commented, from the Friends' perspective, on any technical and administrative documents needed to progress matters*
- *after taking a lot of independent legal advice and expert guidance – Friends reached an understanding with FCC that we should opt for a* ***'soft management agreement'*** *(consisting of a second, updated Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), plus an up-to-date 'Management and Maintenance Plan' (MMP) for 2021-2031; and, 12-month licences granted by FCC Estates – in preference to the formal Tripartite Management Agreement first mooted*
- *during the year, we agreed the detail of the 2nd (updated) Tripartite MoU*
- *Friends secured a further licence from FCC Estates, and the required permissions from FCC Streetscene, for various small interventions in the Park, consistent with the agreed MMP which*

includes the agreed recipes for improving each of the Park's 'Landscape Character Areas' (LCA 1-7).

NEXT: during 2022-23, we will:

- *identify scope to do more practical work on the site to enhance the Park over the longer term*
- *complete the training of a tranche of Bailey Hill Project Gardening and Wildlife Volunteers, and stand ready to train another tranche, if necessary.*

and continue to work with our partners FCC and MTC to:

- *sign off the second, updated, MoU*
- *complete the physical upgrade envisaged via the HLF Plus Project (now ending March 2023)*
- *consider the scope for several* **follow-on projects** *to make the most of the Park and its features*
- *support the Covid-delayed roll-out of the Bailey Hill Project Officer's planned Interpretation and Activities Programme*
- *agree on any* **further minor works** *(by the Friends or others) in the Park which are consistent with the agreed vision for the Park, and ensure Green Flag status for the whole Park up to 2030.*

Note: Green Flag status is applied for by FCC. It is a requirement of the HLF grant process that it be **retained for 7 years by FCC.** *A first Green Flag was awarded in the autumn of 2021. An FCC application for a 2nd Green Flag, in 2022 was successful. The 'mystery shopper' judges for the latter will prepare a report, which should arrive in the autumn of 2022.*

The Friends' first set of Outdoor Display Pots being barrowed on to the Decking of the new Bailey Hill Visitor Centre in the summer of 2021.

GOOD GOVERNANCE, ORGANISATION & DELIVERY

The Importance of Good Governance

Having set up a sound policy base and basic management systems in our first year as a charity, and in the second moved decisively to concentrate on 'delivery', the third and fourth years required us to find ways of sustaining strong performance in the teeth of a huge challenge, the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic. We had to work very hard – online, and in the open air - to maintain momentum and good progress, safely. During 2021 the situation gradually eased and we hit the accelerator pedal on our contribution (although Covid-restrictions were not completely lifted in Wales until the end of March 2022).

Our Independence

We continued to cherish and maintain our independence of thought and action as a charity, and a strong focus on our three CHARITABLE OBJECTS, in accordance with official guidance issued by the Charity Commission (CC), and as guided, from the start, by the Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC).

What did we achieve, during FY 2020-21?

In FY 2021-22, we:

- *arranged and held our* ***3rd Annual General Meeting,*** *remotely again (using the Zoom app)*
- *made our* ***3rd Annual Return*** *to the Charity Commission*
- *held 4 formal meetings of the full* ***Board of Trustees (Nos. 23 > 27)***
- *held sub-committee meetings (Financial Sub-Committee) and other formal and informal meetings to ensure progress, as needed*
- *briefed and inducted* ***two new Trustees*** *(Mary and John)*
- *further updated our Corporate Policies on Finance, and Data matters*
- *updated our bilingual Membership Form, again*
- *organised and ran* ***17 Small Team Sessions (STS)*** *on Saturday mornings in the Park*
- *organised and ran a further* ***30 Mini-Team Visits*** *(in the intervening weekends) in order to tend our Outdoor Pots Display and to do minor tending and tidying jobs in the Park*
- *organised* ***weekly visits to the new Bailey Centre*** *– to tend the Friends Indoor Plants Display at the Centre (from February 2022 onwards), at times of the week convenient for Friends and the Bailey Hill Project Officer (MTC's lead officer at the new Bailey Hill Centre).*

And, we made good progress on these matters -

- ***Legal Matters:*** *finally agreeing a workable and fair approach with FCC and MTC to govern our tripartite partnership*
- ***Our Use of the New Bailey Hill Centre*** *– we began discussions with MTC how the charity might use the new Visitor Centre, its Toolstore, etc - and on what terms - to support our practical sessions and training activities.*

- ***Training and Development of our Trustees:*** *several Trustees undertook training on first-aid, safeguarding, bumblebees, butterflies/moths, ferns, gardening, wildlife – to inform our work.*
- ***Annual Log - a Record of Our Practical Work in the Park*** *– to report our progress on practical work, consistently, and to inform partners, funders and key contacts.*
- ***Monitoring Safety Standards -*** *working in the Park without sustaining any significant accidents (and noting any near misses and/or lessons to be learned as we went)*
- ***Booking more Outdoor First Aid training sessions -*** *for Trustees*
- ***Booking more Wildlife training courses –*** *for Trustees*
- ***Keeping Friends informed on our progress*** *– via Facebook / emails / information offered to the local press – especially the local Welsh language paper, Papur Fama.*

NEXT, during 2022-23:
Training on outdoor first-aid, and wildlife matters – for Trustees - is being prioritised.
We now have 5 Trustees who have had recent Outdoor First-aid Training.
Once all the website material (currently 70% assembled) is fully assembled and online, we will need to review our Communications Policy.

FY 2021-22		FRIENDS' MAIN EVENTS - ORGANISED & DELIVERED - 28 in all
Start of FY >		
3 May 2021	√	**Small Team Session (STS 4)** in the Park – planting snowdrops
15 May	√	**Small Team Session (STS 5)** in the Park – attending to our Heritage Daffodils Display and general tidying work
20 May	√	**Small Team Session (STS 6) – PLANTING OUT DAY 2** in the Park - helping to plant the new herbaceous plants in Numbered Beds (Beds 18/19 especially) – as organised, with HDD and Wrights Landscaping Ltd.
22 May	√	**Small Team Session (STS 7)** in the Park – adding 1000 native bluebells to create a Bluebell Swathe on the Outer Bailey.
12 June	√	**Small Team Session (STS 8)** in the Park – adding 400 bluebells alongside the Concrete Rampway.
19 June	√	**Small Team Session (STS 9)** in the Park – under-planting the Gnarled Yews, and general tidying work across the Park.
3 July	√	**Small Team Session (STS 10)** in the Park – planting the additional small Bed at the Entrance Info Point and other planting work to augment Bed 6 (as agreed with HDD).
7 July	√	**Small Team Session (STS 11) – PLANTING OUT DAY 3** in the Park - helping to plant the remaining herbaceous plants in Numbered Beds (Beds 18/19 especially) – as organised, with HDD and Wrights Landscaping Ltd.
10 July	√	**Small Team Session (STS 12)** in the Park – planting to augment Bed 6, covering the bare patched beyond it.
12 July	√	**FoBH-FfByB (1st) 'ANNUAL REVIEW of the STATE of the PARK'** –

		done, identifying points of concern to inform discussion on further work needed, with FCC and MTC.
24 July	√	**Small Team Session (STS 13)** in the Park – tidying works, pre the Green Flag Inspection Day.
4 August	√	**Small Team Session (STS 14)** in the Park – delivering our first set of Outdoor Pots to the Park.
11 Sept.	√	**3rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** - on Zoom
16 October	√	**Small Team Session (STS 15)** in the Park – adding roses, ferns, lesser periwinkle, and tulips to the Beds
22 October	√	**LECTURE - for DANIEL OWEN FESTIVAL –** topic > 'Bailey Hill – past, present and future' - on Zoom
6 Nov.	√	**Small Team Session (STS 16)** in the Park - modifications to the Memorial Garden, as requested by BHPO (to better enable small crosses to be added on Remembrance Day).
13 Nov.	√	**Small Team Session (STS 17)** in the Park – habitats enhancement and nest-box work across the Park.
16 Nov.	√	**G&W LECTURE 1 / WORKSHOP** – BH Project Volunteers 'Gardening & Wildlife Training'. Topic: 'History'
11 Dec.	√	**Small Team Session (STS 18)** – Nest box checks across the Park. Adding Christmas baubles to Outdoor Pots. Tidying the Park, pre-Christmas.
18 Dec.	√	**LECTURE - for Merched y Wawr** (Welsh language) / Topic: 'Bailey Hill' - at Bethel Chapel.
2022		
20 January	√	**G&W LECTURE 2 / WORKSHOP** – BH Project Volunteers 'Gardening & Wildlife Training'. Topic: 'Strategy - and the Management and Maintenance Programme'
22 January	√	**Small Team Session (STS 19)** – 'Bird Box Day'
15 February	√	**Installation Day** – our Indoor Plants Display established at the new Bailey Hill Centre – plus Toolstore preparation work.
17 February	√	**G&W LECTURE 3 / WORKSHOP** – BH Project Volunteers 'Gardening & Wildlife Training'. Topic: 'Ecology – and Scope for Boosting Biodiversity'
15 March	√	**G&W LECTURE 4 / WORKSHOP** – BH Project Volunteers 'Gardening & Wildlife Training'. Topic: 'Horticulture and Fine Gardening'
19 March	√	**Small Team Session (STS 20) – and 1st PRACTICAL session for G&W Trainees**
26 March	√	**2nd PRACTICAL session for G&W Trainees** / **MTV 29 (Expanded)** following Outdoor Pots care > to include planting 1000 snowdrops near Motte //
31 March	√	**G&W LECTURE 5 / WORKSHOP** – BH Project Volunteers 'Gardening & Wildlife Training'. Topic: 'Review – and Practicalities'
End of FY		

SUSTAINABLE FUNDING & FINANCE

Raising Funds for the Future

The Charity has no income stream and therefore relies solely on seeking donations, fundraising locally and securing grants, and Amazon Smile, where cashback is received on nominated sales.

What did we achieve?

During FY 2021-22:

- *We were successful in* ***attracting £10,508 of grant funding*** *(please see full details below, on Page 22 - for the Grant Funders FY 2021-2022 to be thanked). Most of the funding was for specific projects and training. We were also most fortunate to receive some monies from the Postcode Community Trust towards our annual running costs.*
- *Grant funding has enabled us to purchase new and additional tools, add more bird boxes to the Park and place hedgehog boxes in secure locations.*
- *FoBH-FfByB have also received grant funding to formally collate and deliver training for the new Gardening and Wildlife Volunteers as part of the Bailey Hill Project.*
- *We continued to place our Red Charity Pots in various businesses around Mold. The Charity is registered with HMRC to receive Gift Aid under the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme and is able to claim this from donations made to us via the Red Charity Pots.*
- *The Charity is registered with* ***Amazon Smile*** *to receive cashback on nominated sales.*
- *We carefully considered other methods of fundraising (e.g. introduction of a subscription and setting up a 100 Club). Neither was thought appropriate for us at this moment in time.*
- *We decided against organising coffee mornings or social events during FY 2021-2022 - due to actual restrictions and/or nervousness about the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- *Trustees and our keen volunteers continued to donate plants, materials, as well as meeting various minor office supplies / home-office running costs / transport costs – which cumulatively must be worth several hundred pounds over the course of the financial year.*

ASSETS: The Charity does not hold property of its own. Its only assets include tools and equipment to undertake volunteer work in the Park plus bird, bat and hedgehog boxes placed in the Park with the kind permission of FCC.
STATUS: the powers of the charity as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation may be used, perhaps, in the future.

NEXT, during 2022-23:

- *Our RED CHARITY POTS: We currently have 5 pots in situ, numbers having reduced due to the fact that many businesses still operate 'card only' following the COVID-19 pandemic.*
- *We will consider other means of fundraising by way of events as the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted, and subject to the continued health and wellbeing of our Trustees and volunteers.*
- *We will continue to seek grants for specific projects and to support our annual running costs.*
- *We also intend to approach local businesses, seeking general donations.*

VOLUNTEERING

Gifting Time

The charity has no employees. Our Trustees give generously of their time for running the charity, and engaging with other bodies. No Trustees' expenses were claimed or paid during FY2021-22. The Trustees and other Friends are not employees, and did not accept any remuneration or other benefits. They act as unpaid practical volunteers, gifting time to the charity's work.

What did we achieve?

During FY 2021-22, interest in our charitable work increased was sustained, and we -

- *were pleased to achieve a membership level of 109 Members during the FY (of whom c. 25% are active volunteers, regularly or occasionally)*
- *connected with all the Members via email, and the Chair's' Updates.*
- *managed to plan and deliver significant progress in improving the Park – with strong team of keen and committed volunteers*
- *continued to attract a good number of volunteers to our monthly Small Team Sessions (and to any 'expanded' Mini-Team Visits, when needed) to tackle the physical tasks we take on*
- *set up a rota system to ensure there would always be 2 volunteers working together on intervening Saturday morning Mini-Team Visits, tending our year-round Outdoor Pots Display.*

NEXT: during 2022-23, we will:

- *continue with a busy programme of practical sessions in the Park and other events*
- *ensure our most regular volunteers receive training in Outdoor First Aid*
- *continue to do sensitive minor improvements in the wider Park - with input of advice from FCC Countryside Management and Biodiversity officers, and the North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT)*
- *plan, prepare and manage seasonal flower pots (to be placed on the decking and flanking the Cenotaph as agreed with HDD) – generally 4 (and sometimes 6 or 8 for greater seasonal effect)*
- *maintain certain planted Beds in the Park as agreed with FCC - especially the Friends' Bed (Bed 18), the Hydrangeas Bed (Bed 19) and other areas (of Bed 6 etc.) planted-up by the Friends*
- *support FCC/Aura and the Bailey Hill Project Officer's efforts to interpret the ancient monument, and to make good use of the revamped Park and its brand new Visitor Centre*
- *do minor improvements (for the benefit of the less able), if possible, to the Perimeter Path*
- *encourage more of the Members to become active volunteers.*

HISTORY: Many of the Friends have also been involved in the Bailey Hill Project as History Research Volunteers. Please note that FoBH-FfByB/FCC/MTC still await sight of a full/final reports upon the various studies commissioned by FCC/Aura from Durham University and other experts, on the various unexpected archaeological finds unearthed during the construction works and other contracts in the last few years: and, the further site exploration works done thereafter on the two baileys. We anticipate that some of the smaller finds will be displayed in the Visitor Centre in due course.

PRACTICAL ACTION IN THE PARK

Getting things done - to enhance the Park

A. HABITATS WORK IN THE PARK

Examples:

On the left – unwanted tree seedlings and dandelions were removed from a sensitive grassland and wildflower area on the Outer Slopes. On the right - fallen branches and a fallen small tree were sawn-up and placed in a habitat pile in the Dell.

'Bryn the hedgehog' – found by Friends, cared for by 'Hedgehog Help Prestatyn', then later released back into the Park, by which time we had set up hedgehog feeding stations.

More native primroses were added to the south face of the Motte.

Sweet-chestnut spurs were used to pack a few of the many gaps in the Inner Bailey hedge.

B. PARK & GARDENS WORK IN THE PARK

Examples:

A Kemp-favourite, Hedgehog holly (variegated) – was added to a thin part of the Inner Bailey hedge.

Adding snowdrops to one of our establishing Snowdrop Patches: at the trainees' first practical session.

STS 8 - Adding bluebells in a very narrow space alongside the Concrete Rampway: hard work!

A few of our Outdoor Pots in the Park – prepared off-site in the Winter to display in the Spring of 2022.

A gravel pile (loose gravel from the new paths) was shovelled into two donated rubble bags, for tidier storage behind the Information Point (until it can be reused somewhere in the Park in due course).

STS 13 - Clearing dead leaves off the sedum patch on the Inner Bailey.

MTV 24 / Installation Day - our first set for the Indoor Plants Display added to the new Bailey Hill Visitor Centre in mid-February 2022.

What did we achieve?

During FY 2021-22, we:

- *did* ***extensive practical work within the Park*** *throughout the year – as recorded in our Log*
- ***added more new plants*** *(e.g. a few yellow azalea and other fragrant colourful shrubs, bulbs, wildflowers and ferns), as and where allowed in line with the MMP and LCA 1-7 'planting recipes'*
- ***added more bird boxes*** *- and mapped them all to inform a new Inventory*
- *propagated off-site, and* ***planted various wildflowers*** *for the Park – for now and the future*
- ***managed all our Indoor and Outdoor Pots, Heritage Daffodils and other planting in the Park***
- *ensured all the practical work done was in accordance with our FCC licence (and any subsequent small permissions given by FCC staff)*
- *worked hard with partners to secure and factor into our planning and proposals respect for the now significantly increased archaeological significance of the Mold Castle site.*
- ***developed our regular volunteers*** *and welcomed* ***new ones for training****.*

NEXT: during 2022-23, we will be:
- continuing to make small improvments to help sustain Green Flag standards of tidiness and beauty
- persuading FCC to tackle a few tricky small safety issues across the Park to the same end
- adding insect boxes and completing the numbering of the nest boxes
- improving the state of the woodlands as natural / wildlife habitat (through selective interventions)
- agreeing on the very best site for developing a composting station.

We will continue to take into account the plants favoured by Edward Kemp (1817-1891) - the famous landscape gardener who advised the Mold Local Board in 1871, on what might best grace the Park, after it came into public hands in 1870. We will also respect the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust (WHGT)'s suggestions and its keen interest in this aspect of the Park's history.

We also aim to be ready to help maintain the new planting areas in the new Numbered Beds (1-24) to augment FCC's usual, regular, basic maintenance of the Park. We are committed to doing our part - as promised - to deliver the Park's longer-term tripartite MMP, through discussion and joint action with FCC and MTC.

STRUCTURED EDUCATION / TRAINING

Education - part of our remit as an independent charity

During FY 2021-22, we were invited by our partners (FCC and MTC) to produce and deliver training for a new strand of volunteers, as required to meet the conditions of the grants for the overall Bailey Hill Project. We devised a programme to train the 'Bailey Hill Project Gardening & Wildlife Volunteers' (BHG&W), consisting of an Introductory 'Walk and Talk Tour' of the Park, followed by 5 Lecture / Workshops, and 4 Practical Sessions in the Park. The Programme commenced in the Winter of 2021-22, and extended into the summer of 2022. This was a serious undertaking, and a big time committment, which secured grant-aid from Cadwyn Clwyd.

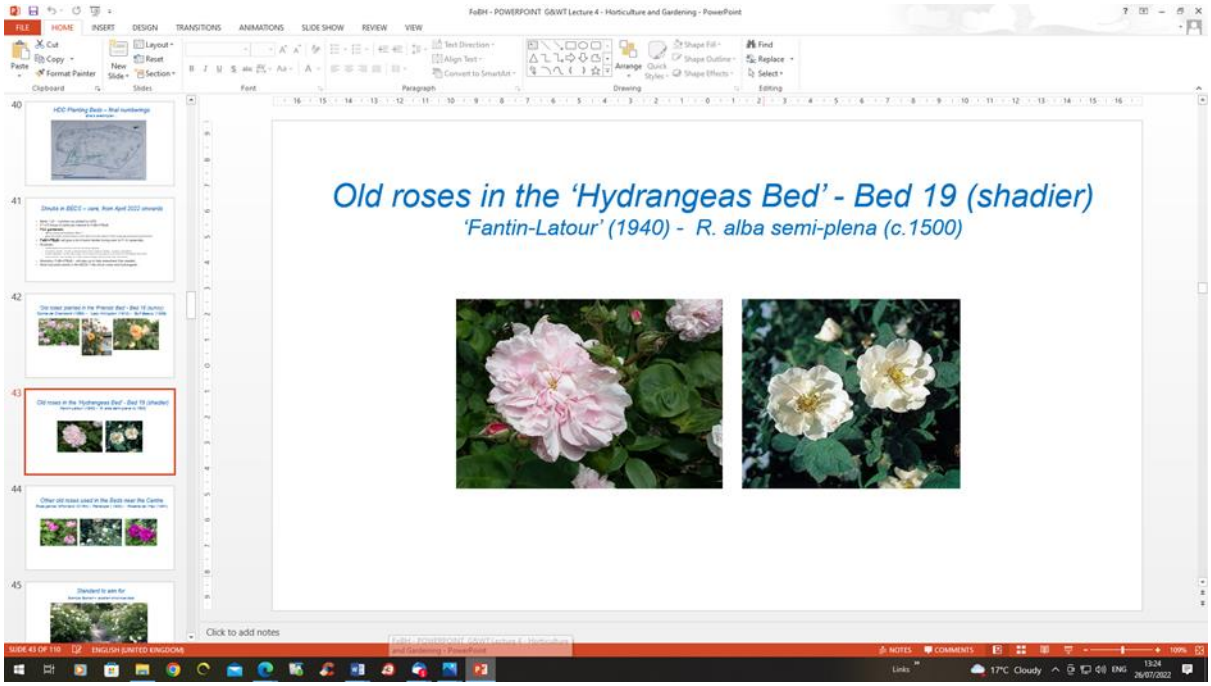
What did we achieve?

During FY 2021-22, we:

- *planned and commenced delivery of the training for extra new Gardening and Wildlife Volunteers needed for the HLF Plus funded Bailey Hill Project (Cadwyn Clwyd strand)*
- *ensured that all such new Volunteers were signed up as Friends, for insurance purposes and practical site-manangement reasons.*

NEXT: during 2022-23 – the new volunteers training will be completed, and then they will be integrated with our regular volunteers (who learned on-the-job) to become a strong team of volunteers in the Park.

The new BHG&W Volunteers met the Friends' regular volunteers for a combined regular and training session, on 2 April 2022.



A Powerpoint slide from one of our Lecture / Workshops, delivered on Zoom, to new BHG&W Volunteers.

Trainees received 5 formal 2-hour lecture / workshops, remotely using the Zoom app.

ENGAGEMENT & INFLUENCING

Networking with and persuading others

The Trustees continued to devote much time to creating positive relationships with other agencies.

What did we achieve?

During FY 2021-22, we continued to engage effectively with, and respect the advice of:

- ***Aura (who look after leisure/libraries/heritage for FCC), FCC and MTC*** *– we attended 8 formal meetings of the Bailey Hill Partnership Board and sundry other special meetings to discuss the Park, and what woulld be done, by whom, where in fine detail – to secure a good understanding and best use of each others' scope.*
- ***Welsh Historic Gardens Trust (WHGT), Clwyd Branch*** *– we kept them up to date with our progress in the Park.*
- ***Local historians*** *– we continued to maintain close contact with local historians and researchers informing the BH Project Officer's 'Interpretation and Activities Programme' for the Park: and attended a meeting on the Bailey Hill Volunteer History Researchers findings.*
- ***North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT)*** *- we drew upon the knowledge and advice offered generously by NWWT's consultant botanist Lucia Ruffino – who was commissioned by Jon Hulson (of NWWT) to*

explore the likely true age of the woodlands in the Park. Lucia Ruffino advised they were "not ancient", but identified the more ecologically sensitive spots and the most interesting plants on the site.

We made much use of:

- ***Facebook** – using the FoBH Facebook Page, we drew attention to good-practice exemplar small parks and gardens with strong historic interest, as well as presenting aspects of our work and relevant information, bilingually (to engage effectively with the local population and Welsh learners).*

Awards:

- ***FoBH-FfByB** was nominated for two **'Mold Town Council Community Awards 2022'** for (i) our Volunteering effort, and (ii) as a Community Project.*

- *NEXT: during 2022-23, we will sustain and develop the key relationships.*
- *We currently have c. 628 likes and many followers on our bilingual FoBH Facebook Page > see >*
- https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Bailey-Hill-1442020782754561/

GRANT-AIDERS for FY 2021-22 to be thanked

We thank our main funders in FY 2021-2022:

❖ Grŵp Cynefin	£ 438.00 – books and equipment re wildlife
❖ Postcode Community Trust	£ 2,588.00 - running costs, plants, tools
❖ Oakdale Trust	£ 750.00 - plants, tools, compost
❖ Cadwyn Clwyd	£ 4,832.00 - training and equipment
❖ Welsh Historic Gardens Trust	£ 500.00 - heritage hydrangeas / old shrub roses
❖ The Ashley Family Foundation	£ 1,000.00 - large plants and shrubs
❖ Mold Town Council	£ 400.00 - pots and plants, for Decking area

We also wish to thank, again:

Woodland Trust – whose dozen seedling native trees donated, were planted in the Park during 2022.

Cruach Trust – whose earlier £100 towards our native bluebell swathe on the Outer Bailey demonstrated a good first year return with a good show of native bluebells on the Outer Bailey in the Spring of 2022.

Heritage Lottery Fund, and its supporters – for supporting the tripartite partnership ('Friends of Bailey Hill / Flintshire County Council / Mold Town Council') work by enabling FCC to draw down significant special package of project monies from the Heritage Lottery Fund, plus Welsh Government ('TAIS grant'), Cadwyn Clwyd, Landfill Funds, etc. – over several years - to upgrade the Bailey Hill Park.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FY 2021-22

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 06/04/2021 to 05/04/2022

	£ INCOME	£ EXPENDITURE
INCOME:		
DONATIONS:		
Red Pots (1)	£ 367.89	
Cash Donations	£ 534.02	
GRANTS:		
Mold Town Council	£ 400.00	
Grŵp Cynefin	£ 438.00	
Postcode Community Trust	£2,588.00	
Oakdale Trust	£ 750.00	
Cadwyn Clwyd	£4,832.00	
Welsh Historic Gardens Trust	£ 500.00	
The Ashley Family Foundation	£1,000.00	
GIFT-AID – GASD (2)	£ 116.74	
AMAZON SMILE (3)	£ 46.27	
TOTAL	**£11,572.92**	
EXPENDITURE:		
Insurance		£ 239.95
Zoom		£ 143.88
Website costs		£ 73.66
Equipment/tools/bird & bat boxes		£2,573.84
Plants		£1,895.09

TOTAL		**£4,926.42**
Surplus for the year	**£ 6,646.50**	

BALANCE SHEET	5 April 2022	5 April 2021
Bank/cash balance	£9,233.58	£2,587.08
Net Assets	£9,233.58	£2,587**.08**
Restricted Funds	£6,285.45	
Unrestricted Funds	£2,948.13	£2,587.08
Total Funds	**£9,233.58**	**£2,587.08**

Status – FoBH-FfByB is a Registered Charity since 24 July 2018 – Registered Charity No 1179312

Notes:

(1) Red Pots – these are collection pots placed in local business around Mold. They are emptied and monies banked on a regular basis through the financial year.
(2) Gift-Aid – Applications are made to HMRC for Gift-Aid on donations within the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme.
(3) Amazon Smile – the Charity is registered with Amazon Smile where the Charity is nominated to receive cashback on nominated sales.

This STATEMENT is based on the accounts up to 5 April 2022, which were checked at the Charity's Financial Sub-Committee on 26 April 2022.

Note: The Independent Examiner's report of 23rd JUNE 2022, on these accounts, is appended below.

THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT – dated 23rd JUNE 2022:

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Friends of Bailey Hill

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Friends of Bailey Hill trust (the Trust) for the year ended 5 April 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust'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 Trust 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: Philip Hughes

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACA (member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales)

Address: Llangoed, Ruthin Road, Mold, CH7 1QQ

Date: 23rd June 2022

CURRENT TRUSTEES - BIOGRAPHIC NOTES

In alphabetical order >

ATKINSON, John (Trustee): John's career has focussed on purchasing and procurement functions within the nuclear energy generation industry, nationally and internationally. He was chartered in purchasing and supply. He has skills in planning and organising: and report-writing skills. He is also very interested in local history, especially pre-history and archaeology (including working as a volunteer for CPAT on their recent digs on Bailey Hill). He is also a keen amateur ornithologist. He was for many years a junior football team coach (and a committee member) for Mold Alex Juniors. He is currently learning Welsh.

BUNTING, Michael Antony (Trustee, and General Secretary): a retired Chartered Engineer and Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, and for the last 10 years of his career, he was a Company Director and ran Rivendell Enterprises Ltd providing consultancy services to the electricity supply industry in the UK and also Europe. Much experience of project management, quality control systems, and health and safety matters. Well-versed in the use of computer spreadsheets and project planning. Experience of working for a local church and other local bodies.

CONSIDINE, Mary (Trustee): Mary was a college lecturer at Deeside College for many years, teaching essential literacy and numeracy to adults and older teenagers. She now works part-time for Coleg Cambria, supporting groups of students with learning disabilities. She has a BA in Business Studies and a post-graduate certificate in education. Her experience also includes working in administrative officer roles for civil service departments in London; and she was previously a nursery teacher and nanny. Originally from Limerick, she has a keen interest in history, playing the piano, having fun with the family, and travelling. She can speak Irish and French.

HAYES, Helen (Trustee, and Lead on Data): has over 25 years' experience in a range of roles across financial services, charity and the civil service with much time spent in large transformation programmes and projects, and working alongside or within regulatory functions. Previously Head of Digital Programmes for the Health and Safety Executive, a senior civil service (SCS) post, she is now a Deputy Director within the Dept. of Work and Pensions (also a SCS post) working on a large technology programme. Her experience in voluntary roles includes having been Chair of Ysgol Sychdyn PTA and committee membership of the Sychdyn Village Hall. She enjoys working with volunteers, and community engagement, and involvement with local projects and initiatives. She is keen on researching Mold's local history, and family history.

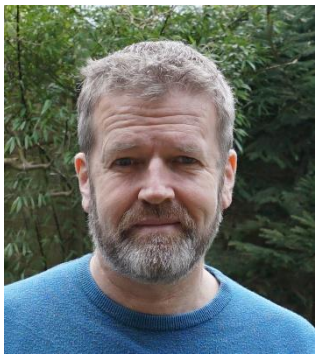
HUGHES, Eira (Trustee, and Chair): retired former regeneration specialist, town planner, and landscape architect. Ran her own consultancy firm for 10 years, after a series of Director-level, senior management posts (managing large teams, revenue and capital budgets) in local government, the civil service and non-departmental bodies in England and Wales – across a wide range of services. Has prepared and delivered £MM projects and programmes. Much experience of policy development on sustainability, environmental issues, and conservation; also, of managing street-scene services, a sports/leisure stadium and many parks, including several Green Flag parks. Amenity gardening skills. Fluent in Welsh.

HUGHES, Nia (Trustee, and Minutes Secretary): retired university senior lecturer with subject specialism in marketing and consumer behaviour. Much experience of teaching and academic course planning/administration at all levels, in the UK and overseas. Also planned, conducted and disseminated original research findings. Organised many different types of public events for different audiences. After decades of living in Staffordshire, and now returned to live in Wales, brushing up on Welsh skills.

JONES, Richard Trefor (Trustee, Communities Secretary, and Quartermaster): retired former teacher of geography and biology; a trustee of several local charities and experience of being a Treasurer to several small charities. Assists the 'Mold Spring Clean' initiative, and the Daniel Owen Festival. Translator for FoBH's bilingual notices, official correspondence, and newsletters. Fluent in Welsh.

PREECE, Hilary (Trustee, Vice-Chair, and Director of Finance): retired after a long and varied career in a major UK clearing bank, her final position was that of a Senior Corporate Director. She undertook a number of roles in North Wales including Branch Manager in a local Flintshire branch and various managerial roles in the commercial sector. During her career she developed a number of managerial skills including personnel management, time management, networking skills, the ability to deal with difficult and stressful situations, and,

report writing and analytical skills. Hilary recently moved to Mold after spending time in the north of England. Previously she had grown up and lived in Buckley and Hawarden. She is a passionate dog lover and likes gardening, baking, protecting local wildlife and local history.



TATTERSON, Paul James (Trustee, and Website Manager): is a life-long keen amateur historian and photographer who much enjoys photographing friends, family, scenery, and, wildlife. He has worked semi-professionally as a photographer for a number of years, including running his own photography-editing business transforming photographs back to a state of originality or upgrade. He has been studying for an MA in History at Northumberland University, and has spent much time in many record offices. He is passionate about preserving and restoring history from the past, and getting people to enjoy what is at their disposal. He has had a keen interest in the Bailey Hill since childhood, and is delighted to see the site getting the upgrade it deserves. He actively supports that project and the planned transformation of the site.

This Report is sugned and dated by the Chair on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:

Eira Hughes (Chair/Cadeirydd)

JULY 2022

FRIENDS OF BAILEY HILL / FFRINDIAU BRYN Y BEILI

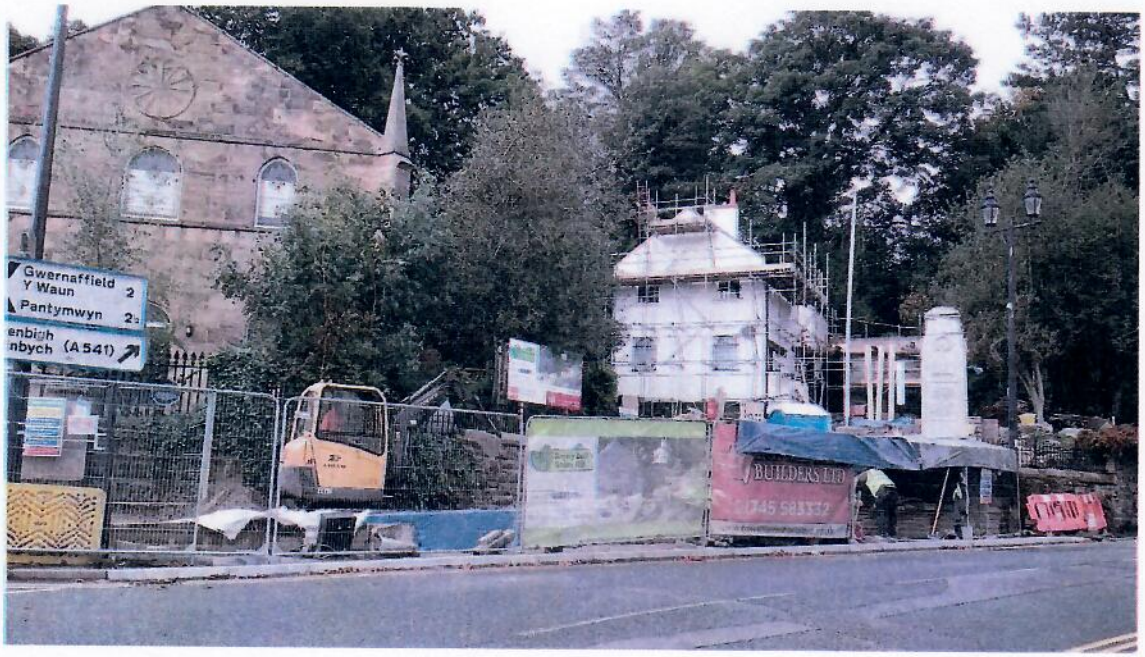
England & Wales - Charity number 1179312

Accounts

ANNUAL REPORT

REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 1179312

2020-2021 FY



friends of
BAILEY HILL
ffrindiau
BRYN Y BEILI

CONTENTS

The Board of Trustees	3
The Friends	4
Chair's Introduction	5
Overall Progress	7
Good Governance	9
Sustainable Funding & Finance	10
Volunteering	11
Practical Conservation Work	12
Structured Education	17
Engagement & Influencing	17
Grant-Aiders FY2020-21 to be Thanked	18
Summary of Accounts 2020-21 FY	19
Current Trustees – Biographic Notes	20

Rose 'Comte de Chambord' – one of the old roses selected for the Friends' Bed facing the Inner Bailey.

[Front: T.G.Williams' Ltd's work on the 'main construction contract' ongoing, at late Spring of 2021.]

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Our Current Board of Trustees

12 (maximum) Trustees are allowed under our current Constitution. There were 7 Trustees at the end of FY 2020-21:

- Eira Hughes – Trustee (from 6 February 2018) - Chair
- Richard Trefor Jones – Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – Treasurer
- Mike Antony Bunting – Trustee (from 6 February 2018) – General Secretary
- Hilary Preece - Trustee (from 22 March 2019) – Vice-Chair
- Nia Hughes - Trustee (from 22 March 2019) – Minutes Secretary
- Helen Hayes – Trustee (from 20 September 2020) – Data Lead
- Paul James Tatterson – Trustee (from 20 September 2020) – Website Manager

The current Trustees produced this Report. Their short biographies appear at the end of this Report.

Meetings: we met regularly during the 2020-21 Financial Year (FY), usually monthly on a weekday evening, formally or informally, as needed, via Zoom (due to Covid-19 pandemic restrictions).

Changes in the Board of Trustees during 2020-21

Two people joined the Board of Trustees, during the year - Helen and Paul. None resigned.

We thank, once again, all those Former Trustees who supported us in any way during the 2020-21 FY.

Recruiting New Trustees

Under our Constitution: Trustees must be signed-up Friends/Members with voting rights. Currently, the rule is that they serve for 4 years maximum unbroken and must then leave the Board for 2 years at least. All Trustees are to be appointed, or re-appointed, annually, at an Annual General Meeting (AGM). Roles are decided by the AGM-appointed Board of Trustees (after the AGM). Before an AGM, we firstly ascertain which of the current Trustees will re-stand. We periodically invite Friends – via email – to self-nominate themselves as potential Trustees, during the year, for the AGM to consider. We can also recruit/co-opt a couple of extra new Trustees between AGMs.

****

Independent Auditor

We thank Neil Baglin for his independent auditing work for the charity, and for his considerable patience with e during our first two years of operation. (A new independent auditor has been identified for the future, as will be reported to the 3rd AGM.)

THE FRIENDS

'FRIENDS OF BAILEY HILL – FFRINDIAU BRYN Y BEILI' (FoBH/FfByB)

The Charity

FoBH/FfByB is an independent body, formed on 6 February 2018. It became a registered charity (No. 1179312), on 24 July 2018. It is a charitable incorporated organisation (a 'CIO') set up on an association model (whereby the wider membership, and not just the founding trustees, have voting rights).

Our CHARITABLE OBJECTS

- To promote for the inhabitants of Mold, Flintshire and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation at Bailey Hill for the public at large - in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of residents and visitors.
- To promote for the public benefit the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment at Bailey Hill - by promoting biological diversity and to respect the history of the site, its special landscape features and status as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM).
- To advance the education of the public - by promoting opportunities within Bailey Hill for learning about the heritage of the public park and the natural environment through structured training and educational programmes.

Official Addresses

Post: FoBH/FfByB (General Secretary), 'Rivendell', Denbigh Road, Mold, CH7 1BL

Facebook Page: https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Bailey-Hill-1442020782754561/

Email: fobhmold@gmail.com

Our Financial Year

Our FY currently runs from April 6th – to April 5th.

Relevant Roles

Bank: Barclays Bank.

Solicitors: Llewyllyn-Jones, Mold.

Independent Examiner of Accounts: Neil Baglin (until February 2021).

CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

Eira Hughes – Chair

friends of BAILEY HILL
ffrindiau BRYN Y BEILI

It is an honour to present the third Annual Report of the charity 'Friends of Bailey Hill – Ffrindiau Bryn y Beili'.

THE 2020-21 Financial Year (FY) REPORT

FY 2020-21 was a challenging year for all charities, including ours, due to the Covid-19 pandemic which swept the globe, leading to lockdown in Wales from mid-March 2020 till the Autumn, and then a slow easing of restrictions in the late autumn and the New Year. That reduced our scope to meet up and to do practical work on site, to raise funds etc. in the Park and beyond. We rose to that challenge, did as much as we could remotely.

However, FY2020-21 also started with an amazing set of discoveries on the Hill. T.G.Williams Ltd's workmen and Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) archaeologists (doing 'watching brief' work in relation to the main construction contract to improve Bailey Hill) discovered many very old skeletons, plus medieval floors, walls, pottery and arrowheads. That was unexpected, and also a considerable responsibility, which triggered much rethinking of certain key elements of the largely Heritage Lottery funded revamping project.

The tripartite partnership (FoBH/FCC/MTC) had to ensure immediate protection of the 'finds' - just as T.G.Williams Ltd were having to stop work on site in order to plan their approach (to take Covid-19 into account). FCC and Aura staff then worked hard with TGW and Cadw and CPAT to protect the remains, survey the site more fully, and then arrange the lifting of the skeletons etc. to take them to Durham University for expert analysis. FCC managed all that until HLF kindly provided a significant uplift in project funds to cover the costs of all that extra archaeological work. We then ensured there was CCTV coverage of the Hill to protect those areas. We were then able to reveal the findings to the press and public in December 2020.

In the meantime, the Friends and partners also worked hard, remotely, on adjusting and updating the Park's detailed design where necessary, and also on reviewing the 'Management and Maintenance Plan 2019-2029' set to inform a proposed tripartite 'Management Agreement' between us.

As soon as we were able (in the autumn of 2020) we resumed the Friends' active work in the Park – via tightly organised Small Team Sessions (using our Trustees and our keenest regular volunteers, and many

Covids-19 precautions). STS 1 provided us with a chance to do our first Fungi Survey, and site-checks for future projects. STS 2 gave our volunteers an opportunity to grow plants (e.g. wild primroses) for the Park from seed at home and to over-winter our stock of native bluebells, etc. which we had ordered in for the Park. STS 3 then enabled us to do Phase One of planting up the improved Beds on the Inner Bailey (with old roses, and old hydrangeas) to ensure the 'loose floriferous' look with 'mostly pre 1940s plants' which the tripartite group had promised to the HLF at the outset). That entailed close work with the landscape designers - Harrisons Design Development (HDD) of Mold - and the landscape contractors (Wrights).

As an independent charity we also: (i) reviewed internal policy and procedures, (ii) made grant applications to sustain our efforts to keep the charity moving forward.

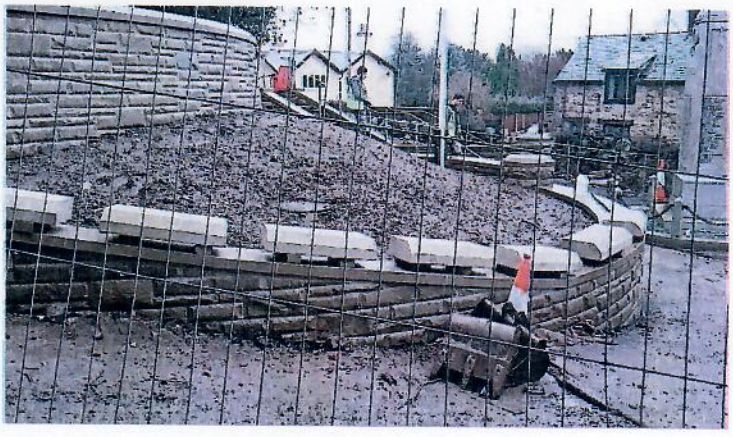
Thankfully the pandemic situation has gradually eased after the end of FY 2020-21 - enabling us to get back to the Park frequently thereafter. We were then able with greater confidence as a charity to seek more funds and grants. We have also prepared the Park for its Keep Wales Tidy 'Green Flag' Inspection in early August 2021. As I write this note in August 2021, we are hopeful that the Friends" great efforts on site over the last few months - together with a very big late push by FCC's staff – will have been sufficient to deliver a Park on Bailey Hill which will impress the judges. We now keenly await installation of the commissioned interpretation panels on the Hill. Also, we anticipate refashioned proposals for children's play on the Hill being unveiled soon.

The charity now has 109 Members, and also 639 'followers' of our Facebook Page.

Thank you all very much, and I hope you will all visit the Park in the weeks ahead to see what a transformation has been wrought there so far. There is much more to come, with your support.

Eira Hughes DipLA, MCD, MRTPI (ret'd), CMLI (ret'd) **August 2021**

Progress made by end-March 2021 on revamping the Entrance area



OVERALL PROGRESS

Creating a High-Quality Park at Bailey Hill

Creating a high quality park is – always – what it is all about for the Friends of Bailey Hill.

The Significant Contribution of the Friends

Very significant hours of effort were invested again by Friends in the effort to improve the Park in our third Financial Year. Large scale unexpected archeaological finds during the Sping of 2021 generated a lot of work behind the scenes. That was in addtion to considerable work done by the Trustees, with FCC and MTC and the lead consultants Harrisons Design Development (HDD), on the delivery stage of what is now a c. £1.5M project to upgrade Bailey Hill as a park – with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) as the main funder.

Contributing to the Tripartite Partnership's Work – now a £1.5M 'HLF Plus Project' - called 'Revealing Bailey Hill / Mold Castle'

During 2020-21, the focus was on delivering on site the considerable improvements planned and any unexpected redesign work needed to 'reveal' Mold Castle / Bailey Hill – as a Park and Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) – within the terms of the HLF grant, with the charity's support; and also, the requirements re other special tourism and environmental funds which FCC and MTC were able to attract.

Match-Funding Contributions

The many hours the Friends put into developing the Friends both as a charity and any work done at our various Odd-Job Days and/or Small Team Sessions in the Park (and all the tripartite partnership work) counts in another way. The hours can all added up and given a notional monetary value - which then counts as part of the essential local match-funding element of the project.

What did we achieve?

In 2020-21, our Trustees contributed to tripartite partnership work (with FCC and MTC) as follows:

- *we attended 22 meetings (mostly on-line) with FCC and MTC - to manage the now £1.5M project (Meetings of the Bailey Hill Steering Group mainly)*
- *we commented from the Friends' perspective on many technical and administrative documents needed to progress matters*

- ❖ *we undertook a full review (March-October 2020), with FCC and MTC, and HDD, of the planned longer-term 'Management and Maintenance Programme' for the Park, thus agreeing precise (lead and supporting) roles and tasksfor us as a charity which were reasonable and deliverable*
- ❖ *we resolved related legal and administrative issues in respect of a proposed Tripartite Management Agreement (after taking a lot of independent legal advice and expert guidance).*

NEXT: during 2021-22, we will:

- *identify scope to do more practical work on the site to enhance the Park over the longer term*
- *develop our capacity and proposals for rolling out training on gardening and wildlife matters of relevance to the Park;*

and continue to work with our partners FCC and MTC to:

- *finalise an appropriate tripartite management agreement and supporting documentation and procedures (with FCC and MTC)*
- *complete the physical upgrade envisaged via the HLF Plus Project*
- *consider the scope for 'follow-on projects' to make the most of the Park and its features*
- *support (delayed) roll-out of the Bailey Hill Project Officer's planned Interpretation and Activities Programme*
- *agree on any further minor works (by the Freinds ot others) in the Park which are consistent with the agreed vision for the Park, and ensuring Green Flag status for the whole Park up to 2029-30.***

*** Note: Green Flag status is applied for by FCC and it is a requirement of the HLF grant process that it be secured and then* **retained for 7 years.** *A Green Flag Inspection was undertaken during August 2021 by Keep Wales Tidy's inspectors, and the result will be made known during September 2021.*

Friends were invited to see what progress was being made on the construction work (on a Hard-Hat Tour in September 2020).

GOOD GOVERNANCE

The Importance of Good Governance

Having set up a sound policy base and basic management systems in our first year as a charity, and in the second moved decisively to concentrate on delivery - the third year was a year where we worked very hard to maintain momentum and some progress, despite the considerable constraints placed upon us by the ongoing World-wide Covid-19 pandemic.

Our Independence

We continued to maintain our independence of thought and action as a charity, and a focus on our CHARITABLE OBJECTS, in accordance with official guidance issued by the Charity Commission (CC).

What did we achieve, during 2020-21?

In 2020-21, we:

- *arranged and held our **2nd Annual General Meeting,** remotely (using the Zoom app)*
- *made our **2nd Annual Return** to the Charity Commission*
- *held 7 formal meetings of the full **Board of Trustees (Nos. 15 > 22)***
- *held sub-committee meetings (for a full Financial Controls Review, and a GDPR/Data Policy Review) and other informal meetings to ensure progress as needed*
- *briefedand inducted two new Trustees (Helen and Paul)*
- *reviewed our Corporate Policies on Finance, Data and Complaints*
- *updated our bilingual Membership Form*
- *organised and ran **3 Small Team Sessions (STS)** – two in the Park (when restrictions were lifted) and one on a 'growing plants at home' basis.*

During 2020-21, we made very good progress on these essentials -

- ***Legal Matters:** we took independent insurance and legal advice again as/when necessary on various issues, including any potential future (2020 onwards) contingent liabilities and other obligations potentially arising from a draft management agreement being discussed at length by the tripartite partnership, which was an essential component of the package agreed with the HLF at the application stage for the 'HLF Plus Project'.*
- ***Training and Development:** our Trustees discussed at length with North Wales Wildlife Trust certain issues relating to the management of the Park's woodlands over the longer term*
- ***STSs – and reporting our progress in such events to our partners***
- ***Monitoring Safety Standards** - working in the Park without sustaining any significant accidents (and noting any near misses and/or lessons to be learned as we went)*
- ***Booking Outdoor First Aid training sessions** - for Trustees*
- ***Booking relevant wildlife courses** – for Trustees*
- ***Keeping Friends informed on our progress** – via Facebook / emails / information offered to the local press – especially Papur Fama.*

NEXT: Training on outdoor first aid, and wildlife matters – for Trustees - is to be prioritised. Once all the website material (currently 50% assembled) is fully assembled and online, we will also need to review our Communications Policy.

2020-21 FY		FRIENDS' EVENTS ORGANISED & DELIVERED (6 in all)
12 September 2020	√	(2nd) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – online (Zoom app)
23 September 2020	√	Hard Hat Tour of the Main Construction Site (of T.G.Williams Ltd.) with HDD – in the Park
17 September 2020	√	SMALL TEAM SESSION 1 - in the Park
September 2020 > March 2021	√	SMALL TEAM SESSION 2 - growing from seed, and growing-on many other plants at home (work done by all 7 Trustees)
15 December 2020	√	SMALL TEAM SESSION 3 – Planting Out Day in the Park (Phase 1) - working with the main designers/contract supervisors (HDD) and the landscape contractors (Wrights), on the Beds on the Inner Bailey
26 February 2021	√	LECTURE (on Zoom) – given by EH/HP/MB, to brief the BHPO's new Park Visitor Volunteers, on the Friends' roles and practical work, our broader contribution and our future priorities.

SUSTAINABLE FUNDING & FINANCE

Raising Funds for the Future

Having at inception set up a charity with no dowry to rely upon, we have continued to seek donations, raising funds locally, securing small grants/awards, and registered with HMRC for Gift-Aid. We worked to a very conservative budget again in the 2020-21 FY.

What did we achieve?

During 2020-21, we:

- *exercised great restraint in spending on expenses and incidentals*
- *remained reasonably in step with the overall trajectory of our 3 year Business Plan (2018-19 to 2020-21) – having taken into account the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic*
- *received monies from HMRC as 'Gift Aid'*
- *were promised £500 from the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust towards the costs of adding extra special plants (hydrangeas, old roses, etc) to Bed 19 in the Park*
- *secured £100 from the Cruach Trust (Edinburgh) towards the cost of adding c.1K native bluebells to the lawn edge on the Outer Bailey*
- *made a grant application to the Oakland Trust (which later bore fruit, in 2021-22)*
- *ensured that our 10 red charity pots were placed in various local premises (shops, cafes. etc.) around Mold*
- *levered in an estimated c.£1K worth of donations of plants, materials, etc. from our Trustees and other keen volunteers*

- *registered 'Friends of Bailey Hill' on Amazon Smile*
- *considered carefully - but placed on the backburner - other means of future fund-raising (including fees, coffee mornings, working with commercial firms, setting up a 100 Club, etc.).*

STATUS: the powers of the charity as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation may be discussed and used, perhaps, in the future.

ASSETS: The charity holds no property of its own. Its only physical assets are a stock of hand-tools for doing voluntary work on site in the Park, and a set of bird and bat boxes of various types (placed on trees in the Park with the owners' permission).

NEXT: other means of fund-raising will continue to be explored, but we plan to prioritise applying for small grants to help fund further minor works in the Park.

VOLUNTEERING

Gifting Time

The charity has no employees. Our Trustees have been ready to give generously of their time both for running the charity, and engaging with other bodies. No Trustees' expenses were claimed or paid. The Trustees and other Friends are not employees, and did not accept any remuneration or other benefits. They also act as unpaid practical volunteers, gifting time to the charity's work.

What did we achieve?

During 2020-21, interest in our charitable work increased steadily, and we -

- *were pleased to achieve a membership level of 105 Members*
- *managed through remote working to plan and deliver some progress in improving the Park*
- *continued to attract keen volunteers to our (reduced) programme of Small Team Sessions*
- *connected with the Members via email, updates,and Friends' Newsletters.*

NEXT: during 2021-22, we will be:

- *resuming a busy programme of practical sessions in the Park and other events and training (as soon as the pandemic related restrictions on our activities are eased by the Welsh Government)*
- *doing minor habitat refinements to the wider Park (with input of advice from FCC Countryside Management and Biodiversity officers, and the North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT)*
- *managing our 4 seasonal flower pots (to be placed on the decking and flanking the Cenotaph as agreed with HDD)*
- *maintaining the planted Beds in the Park - especially the Friends' Bed (Bed 18), the Hydrangeas Bed (Bed 19) and other areas planted by the Friends*

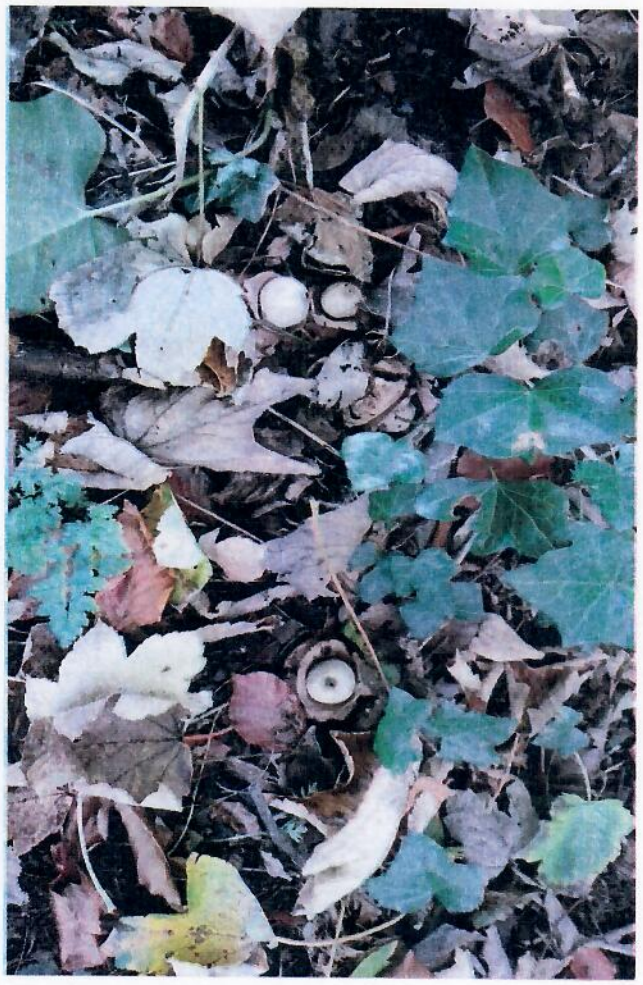
- *supporting the Bailey Hill Project Officer's efforts to interpret the ancient monument, and to make good use of the revamped park and its new Centre*
- *doing minor improvements (for the benefit of the less able), if possible, to the Perimeter Path.*

PRACTICAL CONSERVATION WORK

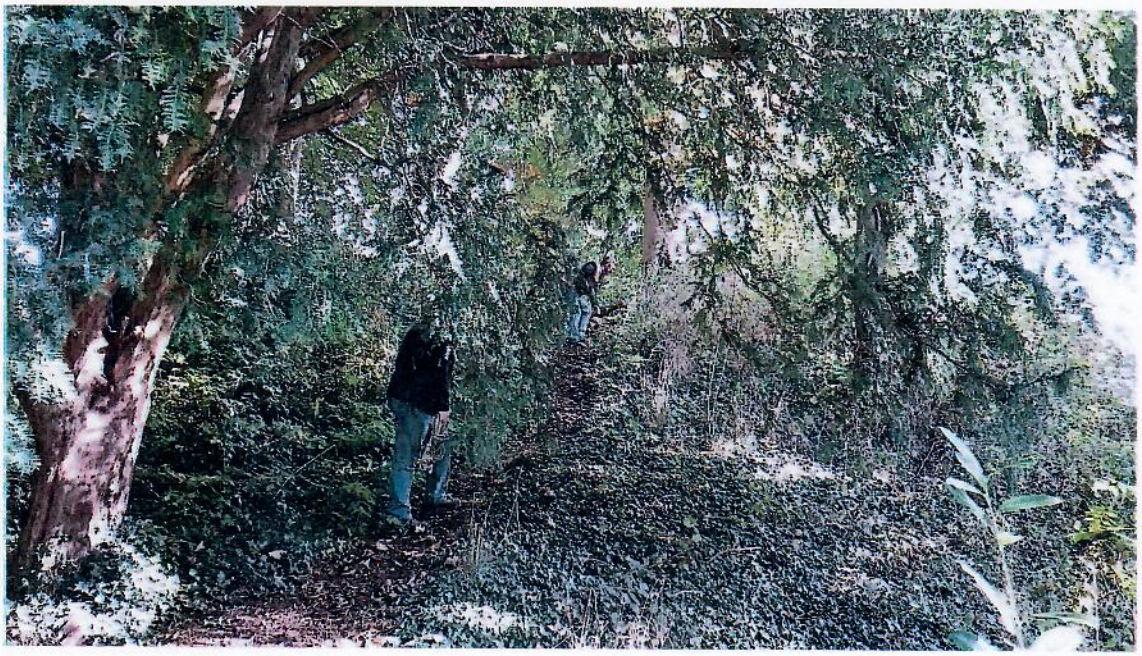
Getting things done - to enhance the Park

Our Work Programme had to be scaled back appreciably because of the pandemic.

Our first outdoor Small Team Session focused on wildlife, as we set about doing our 1st Fungi Survey of the whole Park - a fascinating exercise which vastly expanded everybody's knowledge of fungi.



Earthstars - found on our first Fungi Survey, mid-autumn 2020.



STS 1 - Volunteers exploring the wilder areas on the Motte while engaged on our 1st FUNGI SURVEY in the Park.

STS 1 – Erecting two more bat boxes, as far up the tree as our insurance allowed...

STS2 – seeds for Trustees to grow at home...

STS2 – bluebells we acquired (c.3,000 in all) – which had to be over-wintered at home (because of the Covid-19 pandemic lockdowns).

STS3 –planting old roses on the Friends' Bed (Bed 18) - in mid-December 2020

STS 3 – Friends helping Wrights to plant-up Beds 23 and 24 at the new stage area - on the Inner Bailey (mid December 2020).

Factoring in the Archaeological Finds

The scale of unexpected archaeological finds on the construction site in the Spring of 2020 required discretion and teamwork with all the partners to protect the finds until they could be safely appraised and

protected until the bones and other artefacts could be lifted and sent to Durham University for thorough analysis. A report on that analysis is still awaited.

What did we achieve?

During 2020-21, we:

- *secured a further 12 month licence from FCC to do extensive practical work in the wider park*
- *reviewed Edward Kemp's 1871 recommended plants list for the Park, to help inform the recipes for future planting work across the Park in the seven Landscape Character Areas*
- *did our **1st Fungi Survey** across the Park and added 2 more bat boxes*
- *identified a further potential 'passing place' to improve the Perimeter Path (for the less able) in the future*
- *grew on lots of wildflowers to add to the Park in 2021*
- *ensured all the work done was in accordance with our FCC licence (and any subsequent small permissions given by FCC staff)*
- *worked hard with partners to secure and factor into our planning and proposals respect for the now significantly increased archaeological significance of the Mold Castle site.*

NEXT: during 2021-22 FY, as we will resume more active work in the Park, focused on:
- adding a swathe of native bluebells to the Outer Bailey and elsewhere (as agreed with FCC)
- making up for lost time in improving the Park and bringing it up to Green Flag standards of tidiness and beauty
- persuading FCC to tackle a few tricky small safety issues across the Park to the same end
- adding more nest boxes (on the eastern side) for robins and wrens (as advised by NWWT) when possible
- improving the state of the woodlands as natural / wildlife habitat (through selective interventions)
- developing the two habitat piles we have begun to establish in the deeper woodland areas
- identifying the best location for potential new composting boxes
*- adding a few plants (eg yellow azalea, and other fragrant / colourful shrubs, ferns, bulbs, and others) as and where permitted ****

**** We will be taking into account the plants' favoured by Edward Kemp (1817-1891) - the famous landscape gardener who advised the Mold Local Board in 1871, on what might best grace the Park, after it came into public hands in 1870. We will also respect the Welsh Historic Gardens Trust (WHGT)'s suggestions and respect its keen interest in this aspect of the Park's history.*

We also aim to be ready to help maintain the new planting areas - after the contract work and contracted establishment period is fully completed - to augment FCC's usual basic maintenance of the Park.

After the Park's main upgrade is completed, we will be doing whatever practical checks and minor jobs we commit to doing as part of the Park's longer-term tripartite Management and Maintenance Plan.

STRUCTURED EDUCATION

Education - part of our remit as an independent charity

The Trustees have been very conscious from the start that the delivery of the charity's CHARITABLE OBJECTS requires us to make tangible progress on this front. We have made initial enquiries and had discussions on potential projects. Once the Covid-19 situation is under more control we will resume the development of this aim. As the revamped Park and its stories emerge, its educational potential will be ever more obvious.

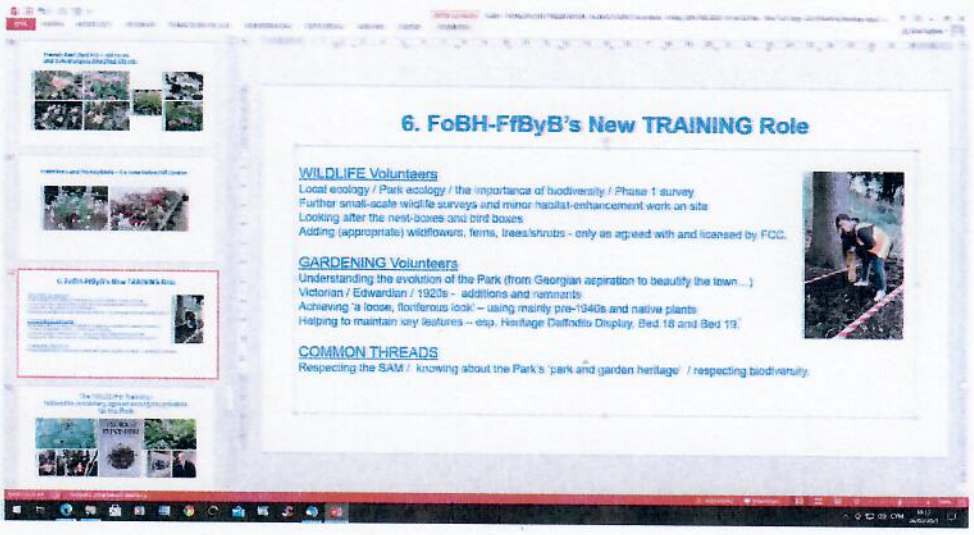
What did we achieve?

During 2020-21, we:

- *were requested to lead on the delivery of appropriate training for extra new Gardening and Wildlife Volunteers for the HLF Plus funded Bailey Hill Project - by the BHPO and FCC BH Project Leader*
- *we produced an initial outline of our training proposals for discussion.*

***Note: before we can proceed we will need to ensure a fresh 12 month licence and/or other agreements to allow easy access to the Park for the training purposes; and all those volunteering will have to be signed up as Friends, for insurance purposes.*

NEXT: during 2021-22 – as/if/when the Covid-19 pandemic is no longer an inhibiting factor - we will consider further the scope for an element of 'countryside park management skills training' in the Park – by further examining the interest-levels within local colleges.



ENGAGEMENT & INFLUENCING

Networking with and persuading others

The Trustees continued to devote much time to creating positive relationships with other agencies.

What did we achieve?

During 2020-21, we continued to engage effectively with, and respect the advice of:

- ***a Mold Town Council 2020 Community Awards' Nomination*** *- and an invitation to attend an Awards ceremony online to hear of much inspirational 'good work' across Mold during the pandemic.*
- ***Cadw, and the archaeological contractors including Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust*** *(the latter having a watching brief on the site's upgrade) – we continued to support good archaeological standards and maintained a focus on good conservation standards to conserve the SAM, and any 'finds' in the Park*
- ***Welsh Historic Gardens Trust (WHGT), Clwyd Branch*** *– keeping them up to date with our progress in the Park*
- ***Local historians*** *– we continued to maintain close contact with local historians and researchers informing the BH Project Officer's 'Interpretation and Activities Programme' for the Park.*
- ***North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT)*** *- we drew upon the knowledge and advice offered generously by NWWT's Amy Green again.*
    - ***Flintshire County Council (FCC) and Aura (who look after leisure/libraries/heritage for FCC) and Mold Town Council (MTC)*** *– we attended 12 formal meetings of the Bailey Hill Partnership Board and 10 other sub-committee and special meetings to discuss the archaeological finds, the funding implications, the practical implications for new play area/s, the proposed gardening and wildlife training programmes, hiring protocols for the new Bailey Hill Centre, building maintenance issues. etc.*
- ***Facebook*** *– using the FoBH Facebook Page, we drew attention to good-practice exemplars - small parks and gardens with strong historic interest - as well as our work. (We now have c. 639 regular 'followers' of the FoBH Facebook Page.)*
- ***Using Social Media*** *- we gained experience in using it and working remotely.*

Also –

- *the charity was nominated for the* ***Mold Town Council 2020 Community*** *Awards 2020*
- *the charity was invited to attend an online* ***Awards Ceremony*** *to hear about a lot of inspirational 'good work' across Mold during the pandemic.*

NEXT: during 2021-22, we anticipate continuation of these foundation relationships and building upon them as we reach completion of the construction contract and an up-swing in the follow-on tripartite 'Interpretation and Activities Programme'.

GRANT-AIDERS FY2020-21 TO BE THANKED

Welsh Historic Gardens Trust - £500 secured towards the cost of adding special plants for the Park during 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Cruach Trust – for £100 towards our native bluebell swathe on the Outer Bailey

Woodland Trust – for a dozen appropriate seedling native trees

Oakland Trust – for monies towards our activities in the Park

Heritage Lottery Fund – For supporting the tripartite work of the Friends of Bailey Hill / Flintshire County Council / Mold Town Council – by enabling Flintshire County Council to draw down significant special project monies from the Heritage Lottery Fund, plus Welsh Government ('TAIS grant'), Cadwyn Clwyd, Landfill Funds, etc., - to upgrade the Bailey Hill Park.

One of the special plants procured for the Park with the promise of WHGT grant-aid – Rose 'Fantin Latour'.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 2020-21 FY

	£ INCOME	£ EXPENDITURE	
INCOME:			
CARRIED OVER			
Carry over from FY 2019-20	2804.18		
DONATIONS			
Various	98.60		[includes several of the charity's pot collections]
OTHER INCOME	-		
GRANTS			
Society of Writers/Cruach Trust	100.00		
GIFT-AID			
From HMRC	324.79		
TOTAL	**£ 3327.57**		
EXPENDITURE			
Salaries (n/a)		-	
Offices costs (n/a)		-	
Costs			
- Insurance		238.00	
- Memberships		-	[FLVC cost-free due to pandemic]
- Events		-	[No 'shows' - due to pandemic]
Training volunteers		-	[Cost free online training secured]
Building (n/a)		-	
Tools -		119.50	[a one year Zoom Pro licence]
		536.81	[plants and nest-boxes]
Depreciation (n/a)		-	
Governance (no costs as yet)		-	
Other payments/grants/gifts		-	
TOTAL -		**£ 894.31**	
INCOME (after expenditures)	**£2,433.26**		
CARRIED FORWARD (to FY 2021-22)	**£2,433.26**		

NB: Superceded by V2 (25 Nov 2021) - see end of this DOCUMENT.

- **STATUS:** FoBH/ FfByB is a Registered Charity – Ref No 1179312 (Charity Commission) since 24th JULY 2018.
- **GIFT-AID:** An application will be made for Gift Aid on donations made by taxpayers received in 2020-21, which will be added to our income stream in due course.
- This STATEMENT is based on the accounts up to 5th April 2021, which were checked by Trustees at the end of the FY.

CURRENT TRUSTEES - BIOGRAPHIC NOTES

BUNTING, Michael Antony (Trustee, and General Secretary): a retired Chartered Engineer and Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, and for the last 10 years of his career, he was a Company Director and ran Rivendell Enterprises Ltd providing consultancy services to the electricity supply industry in the UK and also Europe. Much experience of project management, quality control systems, and health and safety matters. Well-versed in the use of computer spreadsheets and project planning. Experience of working for a local church and other local bodies.

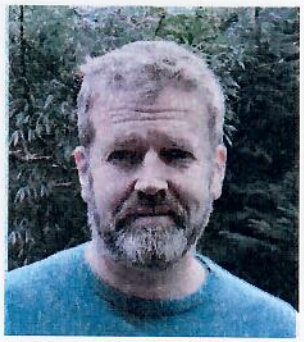
HAYES, Helen: has over 25 years' experience in a range of roles across financial services, charity and the civil service with much time spent in large transformation programmes and projects and working alongside or within regulatory functions. Currently, she is Head of Digital Programmes for the Health and Safety Executive (a senior civil service post), currently focussing on 'Digital' issues re the UK leaving the EU, the UK chemical regimes, and a new Building Safety Regulator (a building safety oversight body within HSE, set up after the Grenfell Tower Fire). She is keen on researching Mold's local history, and family history. Her experience in voluntary roles includes having been Chair of Ysgol Sychdyn PTA and committee membership of the Sychdyn Village Hall. She enjoys working with volunteers, and community engagement, and involvement with local projects and initiatives.

HUGHES, Eira (Trustee, and Chair): retired former regeneration specialist, town planner, and landscape architect. Ran her own consultancy firm for 10 years, after a series of Director-level, senior management posts (managing large teams, revenue and capital budgets) in local government, the civil service and non-departmental bodies in England and Wales – across a wide range of services. Has prepared and delivered £MM projects and programmes. Much experience of policy development on sustainability, environmental issues, and conservation; also, of managing street-scene services, a sports/leisure stadium and many parks, including several Green Flag parks. Amenity gardening skills. Fluent in Welsh.

HUGHES, Nia (Trustee, and Minutes Secretary): retired university senior lecturer with subject specialism in marketing and consumer behaviour. Much experience of teaching and academic course planning/administration at all levels, in the UK and overseas. Also planned, conducted and disseminated original research findings. Organised many different types of public events for different audiences. After decades of living in Staffordshire, and now returned to live in Wales, brushing up on Welsh skills.

JONES, Richard Trefor (Trustee, and Treasurer): retired former teacher of geography and biology; a trustee of several local charities and experience of being a Treasurer to several small charities. Assists the 'Mold Spring Clean' initiative, and the Daniel Owen Festival. Translator for FoBH's bilingual notices, official correspondence, and newsletters. Fluent in Welsh.

PREECE, Hilary (Trustee, and Vice-Chair): retired after a long and varied career in a major UK clearing bank, her final position was that of a Senior Corporate Director. She undertook a number of roles in North Wales including Branch Manager in a local Flintshire branch and various managerial roles in the commercial sector. During her career she developed a number of managerial skills including personnel management, time management, networking, the ability to deal with difficult and stressful situations, report writing and analytical skills. Hilary recently moved to Mold after spending time in the north of England. Previously she had grown up and lived in Buckley and Hawarden. She is a passionate dog lover and likes gardening, baking, protecting local wildlife and local history.



TATTERSON, Paul James: is a life-long keen amateur historian and photographer who much enjoys photographing friends, family, scenery, and wildlife. He has worked semi-professionally as a photographer for a number of years and now runs his own photography-editing business, transforming photographs back to a state of originality or upgrade. He has just completed the first year of a 2 year MA in History at Northumberland University, and has spent much time in many record offices. He is passionate about preserving and restoring history from the past, and getting people to enjoy what is at their disposal. He has had a keen interest in the Bailey Hill since childhood, and is delighted to see the site getting the upgrade it deserves. He actively supports that project and the planned transformation of the site.

This Report is signed and dated by the Chair on behalf of the Board of Trustees:

Eira Hughes (Chair/Cadeirydd)

7 August 2021

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS 2020-21 FY (V2)

	£ INCOME	£ EXPENDITURE	£ NET
Donations			
Including Charity box collections	252.42		
Grants			
Society of Writers/Cruach Trust	100.00		
Gift Aid			
HMRC	324.79		
Costs			
Insurance		238.00	
Zoom Licence		119.50	
Plants & Nest boxes		536.81	(217.10)

Reserves bought forward	£2,804.18
Net deficit position YE 2021	£ (217.10)
Reserves to carry forward	£2,587.08

- **STATUS:** FoBH/ FfByB is a Registered Charity – Ref No 1179312 (Charity Commission) since 24th JULY 2018.
- **GIFT-AID:** An application will be made for Gift Aid on donations made by taxpayers received in 2020-21, which will be added to our income stream in due course.
- This STATEMENT is based on the accounts up to the end of the FY 2020-21.

EXPLANATORY NOTE: A new independent auditor appointed in the autumn of 2021 advised that monies received close to the end of FY2020-21, but banked early on in our financial FY2021-22, should be credited to the FY2020-21. Hence the need for a minor adjustment to the Summary of Accounts 2020-21 (set out in the Annual Report for FY2020-21) - as was duly agreed and ***approved by the Board of Trustees' 26th Formal Meeting on 25th November 2021.***

SIGNED, on behalf of the Board of Trustees: ..... *Chair/Cadeirydd*

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Friends of Bailey Hill

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Friends of Bailey Hill trust (the Trust) for the year ended 5 April 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

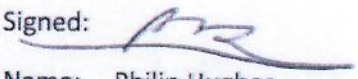
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 Trust 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: Philip Hughes

Relevant professional qualification or membership of professional bodies (if any): ACA (member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales)

Address: Llangoed, Ruthin Road, Mold, CH7 1QQ

Date: 3rd December 2021