

Bembridge Community Library
Church Road
Bembridge
Isle of Wight
PO35 5NA

Trustees Annual Report
November 2023
Period Covered: 01/04/22 – 31/03/23

Covid lockdown restrictions have now been entirely removed, although some Health & Safety measures are still in place (e.g. gel for hand sanitation and screens at the front desk. The Library is now open on Wednesdays 09:30 to 12:30, Fridays 09:30 to 12:30 and 13:30 to 16:30 and Saturdays 09:30 to 12:30. These hours are likely to remain in place for the foreseeable future.

The objectives of the Trust and the Trustees remain as previously documented and can be found on the Charity Commission Website. During the period the Library made itself available as a 'Warm Space' as part of a wider initiative in the village to provide help for those less able to afford the escalating costs of heat and light. Take up has been low which reflects the relative affluence of the area but this initiative will be continued into the 2023-24 winter period.

As can be seen from the annual accounts, the main income streams received during the period of this report were enhanced by being out of Covid restrictions. Reasonable sources of funds came from donations, book sales, room rental and events. For the first time interest was received on deposit accounts which may help offset some increases in inflation starting to come through at the end of the reporting period. Up until now all funds had been held in a current account with no interest. The trustees want to ensure that going forwards, income from savings are maximised without risking the savings in any way.

On the expenditure side the main costs relate to gas and electric costs which are likely to continue to be a significant burden on the library's funds going forwards. Ideally the Library would replace the gas boiler with an air source heat pump/solar array but, in the absence of any grants to help achieve this we are unlikely to make much progress in this area. The repairs and maintenance bills are also high until we get to a position where much needed essential repairs are completed. Wherever possible volunteers are carrying out some much-needed redecoration. A second-hand kitchen has been acquired (for free) which will be installed in 2023. During the period the entrance hall was given new lino and the whole corridor redecorated by volunteers using paint donated by the Village Hall.

The Isle of Wight Council have taken buildings insurance back in-house which is a help but the library is still responsible for contents and liability cover.

The number of trustees has stayed at nine for the duration of this report although one is on agreed leave during the latter part of this reporting period.

The library building is split into two parts - the main Library area and a secondary area previously occupied by Bembridge Heritage Society. When the library took on the lease, it entered into an agreement with the Isle of Wight Council to also take on

a lease for the entire premises. During the period the library signed this second lease but has no current plans on what to do with the rear section of the building. The rear is a 'temporary structure' which requires a lot of remedial work even to use as a storage area. Problems include single brick walls, a leaking roof, and a valley gutter which fills with debris from overhanging trees etc. In the next period we will investigate costs associated with tackling some of these issues and investigating any sources of funds which might help remedy the problems.

Ian Graham
Chair of Trustees
01st November 2023

| BEMBRIDGE COMMUNITY LIBRARY | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--|----------------|-----------------|--|--|
| Charitable Incorporated Organisation 1179944 | | | | | | | | | |
| Income & Expenditure Account - 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023 | | | | | | | | | |
| Income | | 22/23 | 21/22 | Expenditure | | 22/23 | 21/22 | | |
| | £ - | | £ - | Legal Fees | | £ - | £ - | | |
| Donations | £ 1,113 | | £ 881 | Insurance | | £ 155 | £ 1,331 | | |
| Book Sales | £ 1,138 | | £ 799 | Heat, Light & Power | | £ 2,986 | £ 3,292 | | |
| Copying & Printing | £ 247 | | £ 143 | Repairs & Maintenance | | £ 3,482 | £ 4,295 | | |
| Book Fines/ Lost Books | £ 4 | | £ 9 | Licences (TV) | | £ 159 | £ 211 | | |
| Book Reservations | £ 122 | | £ 71 | Office Chairs | | £ 292 | £ - | | |
| DVD Rental | £ 8 | | £ 9 | Covid-PPE etc | | £ 7 | £ 30 | | |
| Audio Book Rental | £ 50 | | £ 39 | Stationery | | £ 89 | £ 58 | | |
| Room Rental | £ 1,045 | | £ 219 | Computer & Related | | £ 316 | £ 212 | | |
| Craft Sales | £ 62 | | £ 23 | Presentation Gift | | £ - | £ 30 | | |
| Events | £ 1,470 | | £ 44 | Event Expenses | | £ 130 | £ 374 | | |
| Bric-a-Brac | £ 28 | £ 5,286 | £ 110 | Professional Fees | | £ 75 | £ 60 | | |
| Grants and Other Income | | | | Library Flag | | £ - | £ 120 | | |
| COVID-19 Restriction | £ - | | £ 11,000 | Purchase of Books | | £ 48 | £ - | | |
| Water Company Survey | £ 100 | £ 100 | £ - | Sundry Items | | £ 93 | £ - | | |
| Interest Received: | | | | Refreshments | | £ 3 | £ - | | |
| Bank | £ 32 | | £ - | | | £ - | £ - | | |
| Other | £ - | £ 32 | £ - | | | £ - | £ - | | |
| TOTAL INCOME | | £ 5,418 | £ 13,347 | TOTAL EXPENDITURE | | £ 7,834 | £ 10,014 | | |
| <i>Excess of Income over Expenditure</i> | | | | | | -£ 2,417 | £ 3,333 | | |

| BEMBRIDGE COMMUNITY LIBRARY | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|------------|--|--|--|--|-----------|------------------|--|
| BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March 2023 | | | | | | | | | |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Cash @ Bank</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| Current Account | | 39051360 | | | | | 8,863.33 | | |
| Instant Online Account | | 59157062 | | | | | 20,018.96 | | |
| Fixed Term Deposit | | 18999100LS | | | | | 60,000.00 | | |
| Cash (Floats) | | | | | | | 120.00 | | |
| Cash in Hand | | | | | | | 31.35 | 89,033.64 | |
| <u>Debtors</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| Bank Interest | | BB Inst | | | | | 12.67 | 12.67 | |
| <u>Prepayments</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Total Current Assets | | | | | | | | 89,046.31 | |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | | | | | | | |
| <u>Creditors and Accruals</u> | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Income Received in Advance | | | | | | | | 0.00 | |
| | | | | | | | 0.00 | 0.00 | |
| Total Current Liabilities | | | | | | | | 0.00 | |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | | | | | | | 89,046.31 | |
| Represented by: | | | | | | | | | |
| Capital & Reserves as at 1st April 2022 | | | | | | | | 91,463.09 | |
| Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the Year | | | | | | | | -2,416.78 | |
| Capital & Reserves as at 31st March 2023 | | | | | | | | 89,046.31 | |
| Check | | | | | | | | 0.00 | |

T. W. Woodcock
The Old Cottage, Upper Green Road,
St Helens, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 1UQ

BEMBRIDGE COMMUNITY LIBRARY
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION

Registered Number 1179944

Independent Examiner's Report

N 01983 872519

M. 07737 315116

E. tim.woodcock@uwclub.net

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above Charity for the year ended 31st March 2023.

Responsibilities and Basis of Report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Society'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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect,:

- The accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act; or
- The accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- The accounts did 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 by:

T. W. Woodcock

Dated: 17th June 2023

Qualifications:

Bookkeeper & Charity Treasurer; Company Director