

## **Bembridge Community Library report from 01/04/23 to 31/03/24**

For the last couple of years the library has been responsible for the total running of the library as well as the maintenance of the building. Given the lack of attention to the building over the previous decades, when the Isle of Wight council were responsible, there have been many challenges in getting the building 'into shape'. Of particular concern is what to do with the 'rear extension' which was previously used by Bembridge Heritage (BH). When BH, quite rightly, moved out due to ongoing damp and space issues, the library was compelled to reluctantly take over responsibility for the rear of the building. However, the library has no specific need for this space apart from accessing the toilet. Nevertheless, the Trustees agreed to spend £2k on filling in the large hole in the floor left by the removal of the Pluto engine. Further thought about what to do next and a builder's quote for repairs convinced us that the best course of action might be for the extension to be demolished and rebuilt. To this end talks have started with BH to see if this can be done using grants etc as BH would prefer a central location in the Village to their current industrial unit. Watch this space to see what happens next!

Last April a small group from Men in Sheds obtained and upcycled a new kitchen. The old kitchen was probably installed in the 1950's so the upgrade is a huge improvement for the volunteers. Further contracted work is scheduled for 2024-25 to improve the Community room.

The library hosts events for others so the 2nd Bembridge Rainbow unit had an evening in the library and the library hosted an exhibition for the IOW Photographic Society. A children's craft event run by an Isle of Wight author was hosted in the library. The library's community room was also used by Age UK as a contact place for their information.

We now have regular 'author of the month' promotions and were pleased to work with BH to promote a book written by a local author.

In terms of presenting itself to the community, the library was fully involved with the annual Bembridge Street Fair and had a table at a BH coffee morning. Our annual Easter Coffee Morning and Christmas Coffee Morning and Raffle events took place as usual and were well attended, raising vital funds to help keep the library open. Also to help raise funds a representative from the library attended the annual Community Chest event and was successful in obtaining funding for a new A3 laminator which is now available for use.

Library volunteers visited the local schools to inform the children about the Summer Reading Challenge which took place over the summer holidays. The library also supported a colouring competition on behalf of World Animal Day. In March this year we hosted a visit from the local pre-school.

Bembridge library is open from 9.30am to 12.30pm on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday mornings plus Friday afternoons from 1.30pm to 4.30pm. As well as offering access to the whole of the Isle of Wight library book catalogue our services include:

- Book and jigsaw sales
- Photocopying
- Printing
- Laminating (A4 & A3)
- Tourist point for tourists and local events
- A large community room for hire
- The free use of public computers
- Computer lessons (1-2-1)
- General information on services across the Isle of Wight

The library welcomes donations as well as unwanted books and puzzles.

Alison Austin and Ian Graham (Trustees – Bembridge  
Community Library)

BEMBRIDGE COMMUNITY LIBRARY													
			Charitable Incorporated Organisation 1179944										
		Income & Expenditure Account - 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024											
		Income		23/24		22/23			Expenditure		23/24		22/23
			£	-		£	-		Legal Fees	£	-	£	-
		Donations	£	544		£	1,113		Insurance	£	166	£	155
		Book Sales	£	931		£	1,138		Heat, Light & Power	£	5,332	£	2,986
		Copying & Printing	£	389		£	247		Repairs & Maintenance	£	3,583	£	3,482
		Book Fines/ Lost Books	£	1		£	4		Licences (TV)	£	159	£	159
		Book Reservations	£	187		£	122		Office Equipment	£	186	£	292
		DVD Rental	£	-		£	8		Covid-PPE etc	£	26	£	7
		Audio Book Rental	£	28		£	50		Stationery	£	143	£	89
		Room Rental	£	1,138		£	1,045		Computer & Related	£	164	£	316
		Craft and other Sales	£	604		£	62		Event Expenses	£	120	£	130
		Events	£	1,070		£	1,470		Professional Fees	£	75	£	75
		Bric-a-Brac	£	108	£	5,000	£	28	Purchase of Books	£	-	£	48
		Grants and Other Income							Sundry Items	£	20	£	93
		Legacy (E A Walker)	£	21,740		£	-		Refreshments	£	110	£	3
		BPC Community Chest	£	112		£	100		Presentation Gift	£	42	£	-
		EDF Energy	£	150	£	22,002	£	-	Other	£	-	£	-
		Interest Received:							Other	£	-	£	-
		Bank	£	383		£	32		Other	£	-	£	-
		Fixed Term Deposit	£	1,680	£	2,063	£	-					
		TOTAL INCOME			£	29,064	£	5,418	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£	10,125	£	7,834
		Excess of Income over Expenditure								£	18,939	-£	2,417

BEMBRIDGE COMMUNITY LIBRARY									
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March 2024									
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>									
	<b><u>Cash @ Bank</u></b>								
	Treasurer's Account		39051360				5,409.29		
	BB Instant Online		59157062				42,105.15		
	Fixed Term Deposit		Nationwide				60,000.00		
	Cash (Floats)						120.00		
	Cash (Petty Cash)						53.93		
	Cash in Hand / Transit						<u>281.40</u>	107,969.77	
	<b><u>Debtors</u></b>								
	Bank Interest		BB Inst				<u>49.37</u>	49.37	
	<b><u>Prepayments</u></b>								
							<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	
	<b>Total Current Assets</b>							<b>108,019.14</b>	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>									
	<b><u>Creditors and Accruals</u></b>								
	Business Stream Water		2770484				<u>33.66</u>	33.66	
	<b><u>Income Received in Advance</u></b>								
							<u>0.00</u>	0.00	
	<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>							<b>33.66</b>	
	<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>							<b>107,985.48</b>	
	<b>Represented by:</b>								
	Capital & Reserves as at 1st April 2023							<b>89,046.31</b>	
	Add Excess of Income over Expenditure for the Year							18,939.17	
	Capital & Reserves as at 31st March 2024							<b>107,985.48</b>	
			Check					0.00	

BEMBRIDGE COMMUNITY LIBRARY  
CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION  
Registered Number 1179944  
**Independent Examiner's Report**

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above Charity for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

**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: 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024

Qualifications: Bookkeeper & Charity Treasurer