

Bakewell and District Historical Society

Trustees' Annual Report

1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021

Charity Name: Bakewell and District Historical Society

Other Names it is known by: Bakewell Old House Museum, BDHS

Registered Charity Number: 1184842

Charity's Principal Address: The Old House Museum, Cunningham Place, Bakewell, DE42 1DD

Names of Trustees who manage this charity

Name	Office	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
George Challenger		To 27/03/21	
Amanda Coates	Secretary until AGM		
Stephen Coates	Chair		
Marian Barker			
Lesley Ayers	Treasurer		
Adrian Wills	Vice Chair	To 30/07/21	
Emily Bowyer		From 10/05/21	
Louise Scott		From 11/05/21	
Eleanor Whitehead	Secretary from AGM	From 13/05/21	
Megan Jones		From 16/05/21	
Kathleen Mcilvena		From 18/05/21	
Emma Harrison		From 19/05/21	
Linda Merriman		To January 2021	

Structure and governance and management

Type of governing documents: Bakewell and District Historical Society – constitution at incorporation – August 2019

How the charity is constituted: Incorporated

Trustee Selection methods: Adverts and consultation with MDEM, interviews

Chair's Review and Report for 2021

Introduction.

In common with so many organisations, the Society and the Museum experienced a second successive year of business, organisational, cultural and financial challenges during which once again, on the one hand much happened and yet, on the other, not much happened! Our programme of talks had to be suspended and the annual lunch cancelled. We lost some existing Trustees but greeted new ones. Many volunteers are cautious of returning. We said farewell to our longstanding Manager, but have recruited her successor. A combination of limiting and inhibiting factors prevented us from opening to the public as frequently as we would have liked, but by the exercise of prudent management, judicious spending and the continuing efforts of enthusiastic volunteers, we expect to end the year having maintained our financial reserves at almost the same level as in recent years. This is a remarkable achievement and reflects the massive efforts contributed by so many dedicated people. Thank you to everyone associated with this accomplishment.

Farewell to Anita Spencer

During her fifteenth year as Museum Manager, Anita decided it was time to look to the future. She had already intimated that she was getting to that stage when the possibility of a less stressful position with fewer hours was looking attractive so that she and Richard (who had already taken early retirement) could spend more time together. An attractive part time position arose, one which she thought she could not overlook and she gave notice, reducing her commitment to the Old House during July, August and September. We were absolutely delighted when she offered her future services as a volunteer and at the same time became a member of the Society. Tributes were paid and a presentation made to her, at a volunteer event in July when she was thanked particularly for her generosity, adaptability, enthusiasm, professional skills and her significant and enduring achievements.

Welcome to Dr. Mark Copley

As a result of Anita's departure, Trustees advertised the position of manager nationally and some forty-five people expressed interest, from which five excellent candidates were interviewed by a panel of Museum Committee members and Trustees. Their unanimous choice was Dr. Mark Copley, Curator of the British Schools Museum, Hitchin, who was offered and accepted the position. Mark has made several visits to the Old House and took up his duties officially on 17th December.

Trustees

In January, Linda Merriman who has given so much support as a Trustee, particularly in respect of our Incorporation, volunteer recruitment methodology and insurance evaluation, resigned. This was a great loss to the Board of her strategic management expertise and vision, but was accepted with great respect and it is reassuring to see Linda continuing to support the Society as a volunteer in a variety of ways. Thank you Linda.

Adrian Wills also decided not to stand for re-election as a Trustee and Vice Chair with effect from the AGM, although I am so grateful that he continues to be deeply involved, and very 'hands on', in the running of the Old House as Chair of the Museum Committee. Thank you Adrian for all your support and wise counsel as Vice Chair of Trustees, especially throughout our major process of organisational change. During the year, Adrian and I

completed the MDEM (Museum Development East Midlands) programme on Succession Planning over six half-day modules and this experience proved to be timely, coinciding as it did, with our successful trustee recruitment exercise.

At the AGM I gave notice of my intention not to stand for re-election at the 2022 AGM having served as a Trustee since February 2016 and been Acting Chair and Chair since November 2018.

Two years ago, we planned to recruit additional Trustees, but during much of 2020 and the early part of 2021 implementation of this was impractical because of the pandemic. However, in March of this year we advertised nationally and attracted more than thirty excellent expressions of interest from which we made six appointments. Our new Trustees bring a diverse range of relevant skills and knowledge with specialisms including legal and governance, events management, museum curation, archaeology and a university lecturer specialising in social and public history. They are Louise Scott-Nichols, Emily Bowyer-Kazadi, Eleanor Whitehead, Megan Jones, Emma Harrison and Dr. Kathleen McIlvenna. Brief biographies of each appeared in the September edition of the Newsletter (Issue No. 67) and longer versions formed part of the supporting documentation for the AGM.

We decided to limit recruitment of Trustees to six in the first instance, but now that the new appointees have been successfully assimilated and a successful team established, it is our intention to advertise again in the new year and make further appointments. As members of the Society with views on where and how you would like to see it progress, may I again repeat my appeal to you to think about offering your services.

Volunteers

In 2019 we were able to call on the help and support of some eighty willing, reliable and knowledgeable volunteers who enabled us to open the Old House to the public seven days a week from mid-March until 5th November, a total of 230 days. For many reasons, our volunteer group has reduced to approximately twenty-four in 2021 and because of government Covid 19 restrictions and a shortage of volunteers, we managed to open on 96 days only. The pandemic undoubtedly played a significant part in this reduction and we are all extremely grateful to the small number of current volunteers each of whom committed considerable amounts of time covering the rota and so enabling us to remain open on four days every week during that period, without exception. I want to put on record my thanks to all of you. The restoration of volunteer numbers is a priority and a challenge which has already been identified and recognised by our new Manager.

After many years acting as Membership Officer and a former member of Council, Barbara Birley retired. Thank you Barbara for your service over all this time.

In Memoriam

We remember those members of the Society who passed on during 2021.

George Phillip Challenger – 20th March 2021. A full tribute to the life and contribution of George appears in the 2022 Bakewell and District Historical Society Journal.

Margaret Willett – 6th December 2021. Margaret and husband Ron played such a large part in the operation of the Old House until very recently. They were enthusiastic leaflet distributors and very reliable desk volunteers, especially on Sundays. Margaret was a member of Council for many years including as Secretary. She will be greatly missed and we are pleased that she and Ron were able to attend the recent volunteer lunch party.

Hilary Young - 10th October 2021. Bakewell Town Councillor and Mayor.

Audrey Walsh - December 2021

May they all Rest in Peace

The Old House

A year ago I reported that we planned to undertake repairs to some deteriorating areas of the oak flooring upstairs. Thanks to the thoughtful initiative of Derbyshire Dales District Councillor for Bakewell, Mark Wakeman, (with the support of fellow District Councillors Sutton and Hill) we applied for and obtained a DDDC Community Project Grant of £800 which contributed significantly to the cost of the floor repair and modification of the staircase to meet current safety standards.

As part of an initiative to identify new sources of funding, as well as ensuring that, as we go forward, our building is fit for purpose, Trustees approached colleagues at Museum Development East Midlands and secured a grant to cover the cost of an Access Survey (an audit to examine an existing building, or proposals for a new building, to measure its accessibility and usability by disabled people through routine maintenance, alteration, extension or refurbishment). The report was exceptionally comprehensive and when presenting it for our consideration, the consultant adopted a most pragmatic approach to its interpretation and implementation, recognising the limitations of the age and design of the building as well as our resources.

Museum Visitors

As indicated above, our reduced volunteer-base resulted directly in our being able to open the Old House on 96 days only, compared with a normal season of 230 days (c40%). Visitor numbers were similarly and proportionately affected, c3,000 compared with c8,000.

We held two social events at the Old House. On 23rd July volunteers assembled to say goodbye to Anita and make a presentation to her as a token of our thanks for her constant enthusiasm and the enduring impact she had made during more than fourteen years' service as Manager.

On 5th November, the day after closure for the season, Pat Green organised an end-of-season buffet lunch to thank volunteers for their truly dedicated service during this challenging year and whose efforts had enabled us, not only to open to the public for the period that we were able, but to generate significant income which is so essential to our survival as a proud independent museum. Thank you Pat for all your imaginative work in arranging this gathering and for providing the sumptuous buffet.

We were delighted to extend invitations to the lunch to our newly appointed Manager and Trustees. This provided an excellent opportunity for all to meet informally (and for the first time) and learn more about one another. After lunch there was an opportunity for the Manager, Trustees and members of the Museum Committee to hear a talk on the history of the Old House and enjoy a guided tour of the museum followed by a most interesting (reverse) town walk conducted by Susan and Michael Hillam and concluding with a convivial gathering in a private area at the Wheatsheaf Hotel.

Governance: Registration of the Old House

Almost a year ago, in January 2020 I reported that the Charity Commission had given approval for us to wind up the former unincorporated charity, but that this could not happen until the property was transferred from the old charity to the new CIO (Charitable

Incorporated Organisation) and that this was dependent on the Old House being registered at the Land Registry. We immediately instructed solicitors and on 14th January 2021, one year later, received notification of First Registration. We were then able to wind up the unincorporated charity and discharge with our thanks, the long-term Holding Trustees (Dr. Trevor Brighton, George Challenger and Jan Stetka) from their responsibilities. At the same time we were able to close the old bank account.

Governance: Annual General Meeting

Observing the restrictions imposed because of the pandemic and having kept the Charity Commission informed of delays at all times, we held the Covid-safe AGM on 29th July as a hybrid event, attracting members in person and online, in sufficient numbers to be quorate. This was the much-delayed inaugural AGM of the CIO and enabled the following items of business to be transacted: to receive the Chair's Annual Report; to receive the Treasurer's Report and adopt the Examined Accounts for year ending 31.12.20; to adopt the Constitution for the CIO and the Society's Rules as amended February 2019; to confirm the appointment of the Officers of the CIO with effect from 9.08.19 and seven other trustees appointed between 9.08.19 and 30.06.21; to re-appoint Trustees to the Board and elect Officers and finally to appoint an Examiner for the accounts.

Society Talks and Visits and the Annual Lunch

Because of the pandemic, our programme of talks, so valued and well-supported by members continued to be suspended. For 2021 we had planned to offer the return of a full programme, including re-booking those talks cancelled during 2020, augmented with new subjects and speakers to complete the programme. However, the enduring Covid 19 restrictions, availability of a venue and a general reluctance by people to attend public gatherings resulted in their continued suspension.

Similarly, our Annual Lunch which was to have taken place on 11th January was initially postponed until 28th June and eventually cancelled. Thank you to Jane Martin for working so hard to try to ensure this event took place.

Going forward it is our intention to offer these traditional and much enjoyed activities and I appeal once again for one or two members to come forward please to work together and take on the organisation of the talks programme. The job is straightforward, and we already have a list of those speakers whom we had to stand down this year. What some of us do not have is enough time to take on this in addition to all the other aspects of managing, directing and serving the Society. Please, think hard about this appeal and ask what you can do to help us maintain this important aspect of our activity.

In Conclusion

As a Society, we certainly have not stood still during the past twelve months. Huge inputs of energy, creativity and commitment from a relatively small number of volunteers have ensured our continued operational viability, strategic direction and enduring financial stability. Our review of the Society's governance has been achieved and our succession programme for Trustees is well-advanced. We have attracted a very experienced, enthusiastic and well-qualified new manager who recognises the need to attract volunteers and, in the past, has demonstrated his skills and experience in achieving this need.

As we move towards 2022, let us keep our objectives in mind and ensure that we continue to achieve them. I believe the Society to be in good heart and I am proud to be a part of it.
Thank you.

Stephen Coates
Chair of Trustees
December 2021

BAKEWELL & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Charity Number: 1184842

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

Year ended - 31st December 2021

Income and Expenditure

	2021		2020	
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
<i>Voluntary Income</i>				
Members subscriptions		2,233		439
Donations and Society Events		2,280		286
Grant and Bequests	1,818	20,489	22,800	11,427
<i>Activities for Generating funds</i>				
Museum receipts		19,138		3,288
Gift Aid		683		
<i>Investment Income</i>				
Bank Interest		66		21
Total Incoming resources	1,818	44,889	22,800	15,460
Resources expended				
<i>Governance costs</i>		0	252	508
<i>Charity Expenses</i>				
Publications and talks		1,164		202
Projects	458		19,303	
<i>Charitable Trading activities</i>				
Wages		16,292	4,857	9,329
Service and subs		5,593		4,311
Insurance		2,938		
Capital Items and repairs		2,876		1,617
Marketing		1,678		1,151
Events and Stock		161		1
Museum and Office Consumables		837		469
Total resources Expended	458	31,539	24,412	17,587

	2021		2020	
	Restricted	Unrestricted	Restricted	Unrestricted
	£	£	£	£
Movement of Balances				
Net Incoming resources for year	1,360	13,350	-1,612	-2,127
Fund balance bf 1 Jan/tf from 1027732	-1,360	66,136	252	68,263
Fund balance cf 31 Dec	0	79,485	-1,360	66,136

Statement of Assets and Liabilities at year end	
BANK BALANCES at 31st December 2021	£
Saffron Account	40,075
Co-op	39,377
Petty Cash	33
Total Assets	79,485
Liabilities	None
Assets	Income and expenditure accounting used Museum building transferred in January 2021 - see note
Retained funds	£79,485

Note to the Accounts:

The accounts have been prepared with reference to SORP Section 27.12 in relation to the charity reconstruction and merger of the unincorporated charity 1027732 and the incorporated charity 1184842. The heritage asset of the museum building has not been valued and has been transferred from the one charity to the other. There is no requirement to put the building on the balance sheet.

The above accounts have been prepared by the Treasurer and Chairman of the Trustees, who are content with an independent examination rather than a full audit.

Signed  S Coates (Chair)

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A -Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of: **Bakewell & District Historical Society**

On accounts for the year ended: **31 December 2021**

Charity Number: **1184842**

Set out on pages **7 and 8**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2021**. As the charity's trustees, 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 (other than that disclosed below) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities 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: **B. Sands**

Date: **5th APRIL 2022 .**

Name: **BRENDA SANDS**

Address: **15 HUNLEY AVENUE
BROTON**

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Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

Section B: Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.