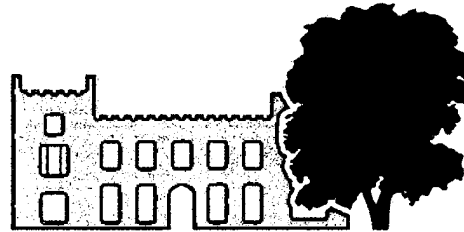


Registration number: 11114549

Charity number: 1185617



Elvaston Castle
and Gardens Trust

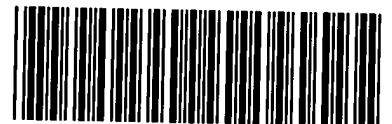
ELVASTON CASTLE AND GARDENS TRUST

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2023

WEDNESDAY



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COMPANIES HOUSE

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Members/Directors

P Robinson	(Chair)	(M) (D)
T Liddle	(Deputy Chair)	(M) (D)
C Manning	(Treasurer)	(M) (D)
D Ashton		(M) (D)
T Dickin		(M) (D)
C Hallam		(M) (D)
G Hickton		(M) (D)
S Pattison		(M) (D)

Key

(M) Member of the Company

(D) Director/Trustee of the Company

Company Number: 11114549
Charity Number: 1185617
Company Secretary: Alison Buckley

Registered Office: Estate Office
Elvaston Castle & Country Park
Borrowash Road
Elvaston
Derby
DE72 3EP

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The Directors are pleased to present their Annual Report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Structure & Management

Constitution

Elvaston Castle and Gardens Trust is a company limited by guarantee (no. 11114549), incorporated on 15 December 2017. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association which established the objects and powers of the company and is governed under its Articles of Association. On 4 October 2019 Elvaston Castle and Gardens Trust became a registered charity (no. 1185617).

The number of Directors of the Trust shall not be less than seven but shall not be subject to any maximum.

The Directors of the company are also charity Trustees for the purposes of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirements of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the Management Committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must be re-elected, no member may serve for more than 12 years.

During such time that Derbyshire County Council provides funding to the Trust, Derbyshire County Council may appoint one Trustee. This Trustee, if appointed, may not hold the post of either Chair or Vice-Chair of the Trust.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and received no benefits from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 4 to the accounts.

Members Liability

Each member of the Trust undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Trust in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such as may be required, not exceeding £1, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

The Directors act as the overall management board for the organisation. They have ultimate responsibility for the running, operations, and finances of the trust.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

Statement on Governance

The Trust's board of Directors meet at least four times a year and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At present the Committee has eight members from a variety of professional backgrounds.

Director Induction and Training

All new Directors are given full copies of meeting minutes, the Articles of Association, and the governing documents prior to their initial meeting. Additionally, new Directors are given time at the first meeting to ask any questions and spend time in conversation with the Chair asking any further questions and familiarising themselves with the charity operations. These conversations cover:

- The obligations of Management Committee members;
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity including the Memorandum and Articles;
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts; and
- Future plans and objectives.

New Directors are also provided with an opportunity to meet with relevant staff and Officers working with the Trust and an in-depth tour of the estate.

New Directors taking up a core post (Treasurer, Chair, or Secretary) are additionally given time with the outgoing role holder to familiarise themselves with the role and ask any questions.

All new Directors are also signposted to the Charity Commission's guide "the Essential Trustee" as a follow up to these sessions. This is distributed to all new Directors along with the Memorandum and Articles.

Risk Management

The Management Committee has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. A risk register is established and is updated at least annually.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

Objectives & Activities

Elvaston Castle and Gardens Trust (ECGT) exists to operate the Elvaston Country Park estate to ensure that it provides significant benefits to the population of Derbyshire and beyond. This will primarily be through ensuring that the estate remains open to the public providing green space, leisure facilities, and events for the whole community. Over time it is envisioned that the estate will provide new employment and educational opportunities which will be supported by and in turn facilitate the development and restoration of the estate.

The Trust's charitable objectives are enshrined within the Articles of Association, and are as follows:

- To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Elvaston Castle, gardens, estate, country park and surrounding area;
- To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in particular, but not limited to, in relation to Elvaston Castle, gardens, estate and country park; and
- To promote for the benefit of, but not limited to, the inhabitants of the county of Derbyshire the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said people.

Achievements & Performance

The Trust's strategic objectives for the year 2023 were:

1. To support Derbyshire County Council to secure planning permission for Phase 1 of the Elvaston Masterplan;
2. To support Derbyshire County Council to complete the development of the financial model to inform future planning and business development, and to build the case for the financial aspects of future operations of the estate;
3. To continue to work with Derbyshire County Council to agree a long-term capital funding and investment strategy to manage the approximately £40 million of investment required across the estate;
4. To continue to work with Derbyshire County Council to develop a new 5-year maintenance and management plan for the estate;
5. To increase fundraising and to deliver further volunteer led projects on the estate;
6. To increase public access to the estate's core buildings and gardens for the public;

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

Achievements & Performance (continued)

7. To identify opportunities to improve diversity and representation within the Trust and across the wider stakeholder group;
8. To focus on relationship and project development with key stakeholders and potential industry partners.

The following activities were particular highlights in 2023:

1. Secured £9,996 of funding from The Severn Trent Community Fund to recruit one part-time volunteer coordinator to deliver the Nurturing Nature project. This has enabled us to increase a regular group of volunteers.
2. Partnered with local corporate companies to deliver paid for staff days onsite. This has provided larger groups of volunteers to work on specific projects onsite and helped fundraising.
3. Partnered with Derbyshire MIND for seasonal wellbeing walks in the nature reserve.
4. Engaged with local community groups and charities to understand barriers of entry which has informed the events programme going forward and aims to improve diversity on the estate.
5. Increased public access to the estate's core buildings and gardens during community engagement events.
6. Supported Derbyshire County Council to complete the planning for business development and preparation of a financial model for the estate.
7. Supported Derbyshire County Council with the planning for a 5-year Elvaston garden maintenance & management plan.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

Public Benefit Statement

The Directors confirm that they have given due regard to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Once fully operational the Trust will provide public benefit through the provision of a country park that will be free to enter on foot. This will provide a vital community asset to the local area as well as the wider county and region. Through the development and reinvestment into the site training, education, and employment opportunities will be created which will have wider public benefit. Any surplus funds will be reinvested in the development of the estate to further improve the range of facilities and community events.

During 2023 the Trust focused on expanding our regular group of volunteers in terms of numbers and diversity as part of the Nurturing Nature project in Elvaston's nature reserve, which has been funded by the Severn Trent Community Fund. The project engaged with local community groups, charities and individuals who benefited from sharing knowledge and learning new skills, enjoying the beauty of the nature reserve and improving health through working outdoors. This project will finish in the Summer of 2024 and a nature trail will be reinstated to mark the projects completion. In 2024 the Trust will develop and deliver a new volunteer strategy for the Elvaston estate. Working with the volunteer group, The Trust plan to open key areas of the estates core buildings to the public and host a number of heritage and community events for public benefit.

Plans for 2024:

The strategic plans for 2024 are:

1. To launch and deliver a new volunteering strategy for the Elvaston Estate which both increases the number of volunteers onsite and provides more opportunity for local people to get involved.
2. To increase fundraising and to deliver further volunteer led projects on the estate.
3. To increase public access to the estate's core buildings and gardens events.
4. To identify opportunities to partner with local community groups and charities to improve diversity and representation across the wider stakeholder group.
5. To focus on relationship and project development with key stakeholders and potential industry partners.
6. To identify opportunities to provide educational activities across the estate.
7. To continue to work with Derbyshire County Council to ensure that the Elvaston estate has a sustainable future.

DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

Financial Report for the Year

Investment Policy

The limited cash balances held by the Trust have not enabled significant investment to take place during 2023 with funds being held on deposit with the bank.

The Directors will seek to invest surplus funds in a manner to obtain the best possible return and these are invested with reputable investors.

Reserves Policy

The Trust has reserves totalling £16,755 (2022: £7,319) at the end of the year. These are split between the unrestricted and restricted reserves and will be used to fund the development of the Trust into 2024 and beyond to fulfil the Trust's charitable objectives.

No funds are held on behalf of others.

The Directors' Report (incorporating the Trustees' Report) was approved by the Members on 17 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Manning', with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

Mr C Manning (Treasurer)

Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees of Elvaston Castle and Gardens Trust

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 10 to 14.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and have elected for an independent examination to be undertaken.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



Mr Robert Lucas
Thistle Grove, Derby
FCA
7 September 2024

Statement of Financial Activities

(including Income & Expenditure Account)

for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Incoming Resources					
<i>Incoming Resources from Generated Funds:</i>					
Voluntary Income		21,882	9,996	31,878	24,131
Activities for Generating Funds		78	-	78	100
Investment Income		-	-	-	-
<i>Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities</i>		-	-	-	-
<i>Other Incoming Resources</i>		953	-	953	274
Total Incoming Resources		22,913	9,996	32,909	24,505
Resources Expended					
<i>Costs of Generating Funds:</i>					
Costs of Generating Voluntary Income		616	-	616	301
<i>Charitable Activities</i>	2	16,299	5,931	22,230	24,725
<i>Governance Costs</i>		625	-	625	906
<i>Other Resources Expended</i>		-	-	-	-
Total Resources Expended		17,540	5,931	23,471	25,932
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		5,373	4,065	9,438	(1,427)
Gross Transfers Between Funds		-	-	-	-
Other Recognised Gains/(Losses)		-	-	-	-
Net Movement in Funds		5,373	4,065	9,438	(1,427)
Total Funds Brought Forward		1,167	6,152	7,319	8,746
Total Funds Carried Forward		6,540	10,217	16,757	7,319

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year. All incoming resources and expended derive from continuing activities.

Balance Sheet

31 December 2023

Notes	31 Dec 2023 £	31 Dec 2022 £
Fixed Assets	-	-
Current Assets		
Debtors	618	511
Cash at bank & in hand	16,228	6,944
	<u>16,846</u>	<u>7,455</u>
Current Liabilities		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(89)	(136)
Net Current Assets	<u>16,757</u>	<u>7,319</u>
Net Assets	<u>16,757</u>	<u>7,319</u>
Funds		
Unrestricted Fund	6,540	1,167
Restricted Fund	10,217	6,152
Total Funds	<u>16,757</u>	<u>7,319</u>

For the period ending 31 December 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the Trustees on 17 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



C Manning (Treasurer)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1: Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and Financial Reporting Standard for Small Entities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the company.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the Directors for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor or through the terms of a fundraising appeal.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities when the company is entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following policies are applied to particular categories of income:

Voluntary income is received by way of grants, donations and gifts and is included in full in the Statement of Financial Activities when receivable. Grants, where entitlement is not conditional on the delivery of a specific performance by the charity, are recognised when the charity becomes unconditionally entitled to the grant.

Investment income is included when receivable.

Incoming resources from charitable trading activity are accounted for when earned.

Incoming resources from grants, where related to performance and specific deliverables, are accounted for as the charity earns the right to consideration by its performance.

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the Trustees' annual report.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates:

Costs of generating funds comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income and the costs of trading for fundraising purposes.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity, the costs of Trustee meetings and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

Note 2: Total Resources Expended	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Staff Costs	3	20,911	19,744
Other Costs		1,319	4,981
		<hr/> 22,230	<hr/> 24,725

Note 3: Staff Costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	20,637	19,567
Social security costs	-	(55)
Pension costs	274	232
	<hr/> 20,911	<hr/> 19,744

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

Note 3: Staff Costs (continued)

The average number of persons (headcount) employed by the Trust during the year was as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Business Development Officer	1	1
Volunteer Co-ordinator	1	1
	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 2

Note 4: Trustee Remuneration & Related Party Transactions

No members of the Trust received any remuneration during the current or prior year. £158 (2022: Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to members during the year.

No related party transactions took place during the current or prior year.