

2023 Bamford with Thornhill Recreation Ground CIO Annual Report

Period: 1st April 2022 to 31st March 2023

Charity registration number: 1185738

Trustees as of 31/03/2023:

- Susan Beckett (Treasurer)
- Denry Leighton
- Joshua Ollerenshaw
- Malcolm Sowerby
- David Watson (Secretary/Chair)
- Mark Wood

Address: The Secretary, 2 The Beeches, Ashopton Road, Bamford, Hope Valley, Derbyshire S33 0DB

Structure, management, and trustee recruitment

The business of the CIO is managed through a bi-monthly meeting of its trustees. From time to time the trustees call on volunteer support from the local community in relation to the upkeep of the recreation ground.

Trustees are drawn from the local community, preferably from within the Bamford with Thornhill parish, which comprises the area of benefit. Trustee applicants are expected to have a history of having provided support to the management of the recreation ground, its activities and upkeep.

Objectives, activities and public benefit

The purpose of the CIO is as set out in the constitution:

The object of the Charity shall be to provide a recreation ground for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parishes of Bamford and Thornhill and the surrounding area or for the public at large for recreation or other leisure time occupation with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

Maintenance

As such the primary activities of the CIO, its trustees and volunteers are focused on ensuring access, maintenance, safety and the financial viability of the recreation ground for the beneficial enjoyment of the local community. To that end, this year we have had to make the tough decision to remove the swings after the wooden frames were showing significant rot in the ground. The play fort's panels are also rotting and require replacing. From early quotes, replacing the swing frames will cost a substantial amount of money over the next year. The play fort repairs will also be around £1,000. Therefore, looking ahead, fundraising will be required beyond money we take from events.

At the beginning of the year, the container toilet block had deteriorated beyond economical repair, so we have replaced with a new, smaller 2 cubicle installation. This is important for the public that use the ground and events. My thanks go to Joshua, Mark and Sue for organising and making it ready for safe public use.

Events Hosted

Bamford with Thornhill Recreation Ground continues to welcome a mixture of public and private events, which provides much needed income. We are pleased to continue hosting local events such as the Sheepdog Trials and Bamfest. Additionally, the recreation ground served as a fantastic venue for the school including their Sports day and the FUNdamentals festival, as well as a summer sports club. Next year, we look to carry on in the same manner and we already have a booking for a school Cyclocross event, showcasing the ground. The Parish Council will also be celebrating the King's Coronation.

Challenges and Future Initiatives

Raising funds remains an ongoing challenge for us. However, we are determined to explore various avenues and initiatives to generate the necessary resources. Our primary focus is to secure funding for the replacement of the swing frames and play fort and address any other repair needs within the play area, so it is a place children want to play. Beyond that, we are committed to finding ways to cater better to teenagers, enhancing their experience and positive engagement at the recreation ground.

With the retirement of John and Sally Soady, one of the significant limitations we faced this year was the scarcity of volunteers on the committee. We acknowledge that this hampers our ability to execute initiatives and fulfil our goals as efficiently. In the coming year, we aspire to attract more individuals who are willing to contribute their time and expertise to the committee. Expanding our volunteer base will enable us to achieve greater progress and better benefit our community.

Financial Review

Refer to a separate income and expenditure account. Of note:

- Against an annual income of £5,500.66 the CIO incurred a net expenditure of £13,489.30.
- Replacing the container toilet, at a cost of £7,470, accounts for most of our expenditure, with £819 still to be paid in the next financial year.
- Inflation has affected expenditure. Our maintenance overheads such as water, Community Charge, electricity have increased from £660 to £1038, which is only a partial year's increase. The full increase will be known next financial year. Insurance continues to be a significant expense at £1,287.
- Maintaining the play area cost £1,435 covering work to the swings, the rocking log, RoSPA report, play bark and new signage.
- The CIO was able to carry forward reasonably healthy cash balances into the new year. However, next year, we face significant costs to replace the two swing frames (circa £20,000) and repair the play fort (circa £1,200). The see-saw and roundabout also need replacing. It is unlikely we can safely afford all this work without additional funding above the income we receive through events. The generous £500 donations received from both the Parish Church and Hope Show really helps and will appear in the 2023/2024 accounts. Fundraising by Friends of Bamford Play Park & Recreation Ground will also be very welcome.

Bamford with Thornhill Recreation Ground Accounts

Income & Expenditure Account - 1st April 2022 to Year Ending 31st March 2023

	Income	Income		Expenditure	Expenditure
	2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023		2021 - 2022	2022 - 2023
Ground Hire	1,462.58	2,568.75	Council Tax	64.68	126.72
Donations	0.00	0.00	Water	314.94	433.75
Interest/Dividend	26.98	558.59	Insurance	1,772.77	1,287.49
Rallies	742.50	1,385.00	Maintenance	2,283.76	8,082.97
Misc	0.00	500.00	Grass Cutting	720.00	480.00
Grants	8,000.00	0.00	Extra Time Events	1,005.06	280.00
			ICO annual payment	35.00	35.00
			Cleaning	80.00	390.40
			Calor Gas	143.84	143.84
			Electricity	280.56	477.81
			Miscellaneous	467.06	282.74
Play Area/swings incl interest	0.00	488.32	Bradwell Co-op Donation	244.94	0.00
			Play Area/Swings	11,518.30	1,435.00
Increase in value of shares	99.83				33.58
			Decrease in value of shares		
Excess of expenditure over income	8,599.02	7,988.64	Excess of income over expenditure		
Total	18,930.91	13,489.30	Total	18,930.91	13,489.30
			RBS/Virgin Current Account	2,131.13	2,454.93
			Monmouthshire B Society	37,815.63	33,733.65
			Monmouthshire B Society P/A	13,332.15	9,135.27
			Cash Holdings	53,278.91	45,323.85
			Shares	860.73	827.15
			Cash and Share Holdings	54,139.64	46,151.00
			Decrease in Cash and Share values		(7,988.64)

I certify the Income and Expenditure Account is in accordance with the books and records of the Bamford with Thornhill Recreation Ground, in stating an excess of expenditure over income of £7,988.64 for the organisation for the year to 31st March. 2023.

John Hollis
Hon Auditor