

Bamford with Thornhill Recreation Ground CIO Annual Report 2023-24

Period: 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

Charity registration number: 1185738

Trustees

Trustees as of 31st March 2024

- Senara Foster
- Denry Leighton
- Joseph Monck
- Joshua Ollerenshaw
- Malcolm Sowerby
- David Watson (Secretary/Treasurer/Chair)

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

Structure, Management, and Trustee Recruitment

The CIO's business is managed through a bi-monthly meeting of its Trustees. From time to time the Trustees call on volunteer support from the local community concerning 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 supporting 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.

Before touching on our activities over the previous year I want to acknowledge the sad death of Sue Beckett, our Treasurer. She managed our finances for many years and made a massive contribution to the ground. Her death leaves a big hole. I also want to recognise Harry Beckett, our previous Secretary, who died this year. He had also made a big difference while a Trustee.

The primary activities of the CIO, its trustees and volunteers are focused on ensuring access, maintenance, safety and financial viability of the recreation ground for the local community's enjoyment. To that end, this year's efforts have focused on repairing the playfort, where sections had been vandalised or worn out; and replacing the swing frames, as their wood had significantly rotted where they went into the ground.

At the end of the financial year, one of the two swing frames had been replaced. We took the opportunity to switch to a metal footing and GrassLok safety rubber matt surface. Both should reduce ongoing maintenance, whilst remaining safe. The second swing frame will be replaced next financial year.

To support this endeavour the CIO has received many generous donations, covering 60% of the cost of the first frame. Donations were from individuals and charities with which the CIO has a long-standing relationship. Also, Friends of Bamford Play Park & Recreation Ground helped through fundraising campaigns and events—a big thank you all.

Trustees must ensure the financial viability of the charity. To this end, we must attract ground rental fees from several large participation events to the recreation ground. This year showed strong demand with caravan rally and rental fees up 29% from the previous year.

The CIO continues to offer the ground free of charge for school sports events, including cyclocross and a Summer Sports club, which was well subscribed. It helps other local bodies fundraise and hold community events such as the Sheepdog Trials, Bamfest, the Fell race and celebrating the King's Coronation. We also try to balance the viewpoints and requirements of different groups whether ecological, neighbouring businesses, or the football team.

Looking forward to 2024/25 I would like to install the second swing frame, get Bamford FC playing on their home pitch and look longer term how we wish to maintain and develop the ground further to meet the CIO's purpose. Growing the number of Trustees will also help make the CIO more resilient heading into the recreation ground's 99th year.

Finally, a big welcome to Joseph Monck and Senara Foster, who join as new Trustees.

Financial Review

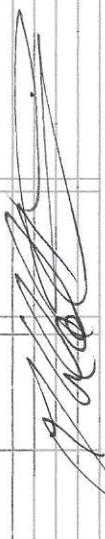
Note due to the death of Sue Beckett, our Treasurer, these figures are provisional pending access to the CIO's bank accounts. This has been constructed from bank statements and invoices I do have. The end-of-year interest on the Virgin Money account and the latest share value are missing. These would not make a significant difference to the overall figures.

Please refer to the separate income and expenditure account spreadsheet for full details. Of note:

- Against an annual income of £10,371, the CIO incurred a net expenditure of £16,090. Although we continue to spend more than we bring in we had a subsequent income of £5,000 from one October event and Friends of Bamford Play Park & Recreation Ground, giving an overall excess of circa £600. See below.
- An exceptional investment of £10,499 was for installing a new swing frame and surface, and repairs to the play fort. There was also increased expenditure on grass cutting, with 2023 being wetter than 2022. Miscellaneous costs were higher for electrical work in the container toilets.
- The CIO benefited from £3,210 in direct donations from generous individuals and charities, contributing to the new swings, for which we are very grateful. Although not shown in these accounts the Friends of Bamford Play Park & Recreation Ground raised a further

£3,000, through various activities and events, in the village. This will show in next year's figures because we have delayed transferring until regaining full access to the CIO's bank accounts.

- Ground hire and caravan rallies remain resilient with revenue increasing 29.5% year-on-year to £5,122. The CIO also took a further £2,000 for October's RunThrough event, though this money did not reach the accounts until after the financial year.
- Grounds & pavilion maintenance, electricity and insurance account for most of our normal outgoings.
- Although expenditure exceeded income, the CIO carries healthy cash balances into the new financial year.

Bamford with Thornhill Recreation Ground Accounts									
Income & Expenditure Account - 1st April 2023 to Year Ending 31st March 2024									
	Income	Income	Expenditure	Expenditure					
	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024	2022 - 2023	2023 - 2024					
Ground Hire	2,568.75	2,958.75	Council Tax	126.72					
Donations	0.00	3,240.00	Water	433.75					
Interest/Dividend	558.59	904.81	Insurance	1,287.49					
Rallies	1,385.00	2,164.00	Maintenance	8,082.97					
Miscellaneous	500.00	100.00	Grass Cutting	480.00					
Grants	0.00	958.00	Extra Time Events	280.00					
			ICO annual payment	35.00					
			Cleaning	390.40					
			Calor Gas	143.84					
			Electricity	477.81					
			Miscellaneous	282.74					
Play Area/swings	488.32	0.00	Play Area Insurance						
Incl Interest			Play Area/Swings	1,435.00					
Increase in value of shares		75.97	Decrease in value of shares	33.58					
Excess of expenditure over income	7,988.64	5,972.16	Excess of income over expenditure						
Total	13,489.30	16,373.69	Total	13,489.30					
			RBS/Virgin Current Account	2,454.93					
			Monmouthshire B Society	33,733.65					
			Monmouthshire B Society P/A	9,135.27					
			Cash Holdings	45,323.85					
			Shares	827.15					
			Cash and Share Holdings	46,151.00					
			Decrease in Cash and Share values						
				(5,972.16)					
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 £5,972.16 for the organisation for the year to 31st March, 2024.									
									
John Hollis Hon Auditor									