

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR 6th APRIL 2023 – 5th APRIL 2024

In the Spring of 2023, the winter trackwork was completed, cars were repainted and maintained and one vehicle had its wheelsets replaced. All of the above was done with the Association's help.

During the 2023 operating season, much assistance was given to the railway management by providing relief drivers to enable the full service to operate, despite temporary shortages of paid staff. Limited track maintenance continued.

In June, the Association arranged for the recovery of ex-Southend/Volk's Car 9 from a local garden centre back to more secure storage at the Volk's Railway, to facilitate inspections, publicity and fund raising.

In August, a major two-day event to commemorate the 140th Anniversary of the railway was organised in conjunction with the Council. Marketing of this event on local news channels, radio stations and social media undoubtedly contributed to record numbers of passengers being carried by the railway in 2023. Substantial donations were made to the Association, especially in conjunction with educational tours of the railway's premises.

In February 2024, the Heritage Railway Association gave the Volk's Railway its 'Railway of the Year 2024' award, again raising the public profile of both the railway and of the Association. At the March official reopening of the line, the Association arranged for the unveiling of a new permanent display of 5 plaques and certificates, awarded to the Volk's Railway and the Association between 2013 and 2024.

During the winter of 2023/24, a considerable length of track was renewed by volunteers and staff and much scrap metal collected for recycling.

Also, over the winter, talks were arranged on Brighton's Locomotive Works, Local History, American Interurban Networks and Light Rail in Lancashire.

Ian Gledhill, our chairman for many years, retired from the Board in 2023 and from organising events in the spring of 2024.

Plans for future years include several educational initiatives, plans for vegetation control and raising funds for vehicle restoration.

Currently the Board comprises trustees David Cowstick (Treasurer), Tim Steven (Secretary), Mick Mills (Chairman), Phil Hamerton (Membership Secretary) and Barrie McFarlane (Archivist) along with non-trustee officer David Bailey (Editor). We do remain under resourced and are inviting more members to consider becoming trustees.

We have also continued to publish our regular journal Volk's News, containing up-to-date information about our activities, about the railway together with articles of relevant transport and historical interest.

Through the above, we consider that we have paid sufficient regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and thereby complied with Section 4 of the 2006 Act. At the year end, the Association held total cash assets of £33,908.67 of which Reserved Funds amounted to £26,074.92.

Signed:



(Chairman)



(Secretary)

(On behalf of the Trustees) 20th May 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Volk's Electric Railway Association

No (if any)
1186970

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
06/04/2023

To

Period end date
05/04/2024

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Transfer from previous non-charitable Association	-	-	-	-	
Membership Fees	2,205	-	-	2,205	1,988
Unrestricted Donations	871	-	-	871	641
Restricted Donations	-	-	-	-	
Miscellaneous income received	376	-	-	376	412
Fund raising activities	686	7,542	-	8,228	6,296
Interest	213	-	-	213	43
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	4,351	7,542	-	11,893	9,380
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
None	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4,351	7,542	-	11,893	9,380
A3 Payments					
Meeting expenses	193	-	-	193	89
Volk's News magazine production & distribution	896	-	-	896	1,033
Insurance policy	-	-	-	-	
Restoration	202	2,265	-	2,467	100
Hospitality	493	-	-	493	
Administrative Expenses	190	-	-	190	95
Fund Raising Stock	256	-	-	256	118
Bank / Square / SumUp Charges		107		107	77
Website Costs	1,010			1,010	300
Special Event Expenses	210			210	
Miscellaneous	73	-	-	73	8
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	3,523	2,372	-	5,895	1,820
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Computer equipment	403	-	-	403	
Loud Speaker	64	-	-	64	
Sub total	467	-	-	467	
Total payments	3,990	2,372	-	6,362	1,820
Net of receipts/ payments	361	5170.00	-	5,531	7,560
A5 Transfers between funds	244	- 244	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	7,229	21,149	-	28,378	20,820
Cash funds this year end	7,834	26,075	-	33,909	28,380



Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash floats		-	-
	Bank Account funds-Working capital	7,834		
	Bank Account funds for Council projects		10,490	
	Bank Account funds for VERA Projects		12,151	
	Bank Account funds for Car 9 project		3,434	-
	Total cash funds	7,834	26,075	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

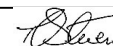
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Southend Railway Car No. 9	Restricted Car 9 Fund	-	1,000
	Museum Models	Unrestricted Funds	-	5,000
	Heritage Artefacts	Unrestricted Funds	-	17,000
	Miscellaneous	Unrestricted Funds	-	250
	Office Equipment	Unrestricted Funds	-	650
			-	
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	None		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	DC COWSTICK	06.08.24
	TC STEVEN	06.08.24