

**THE FRIENDS OF BENNERLEY VIADUCT  
REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1187044**

## THE FRIENDS OF BENNERLEY VIADUCT

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## **THE FRIENDS OF BENNERLEY VIADUCT**

### **ANNUAL REPORT**

The charity numbered 1187044 registered with the Charity Commissioners is administered by a committee comprising:

Chair of Trustees	John Scruton
Vice-Chair	James Dawson
Chair of Operations	Glynn Lowth
Chair of Audit	Nick Tooley
Treasurer	Tim Reed
Other Members	Ron Lee, Melvin Bailey, Bill Tomson

The report of this committee is available as a separate appendix on request.

# **THE FRIENDS OF BENNERLEY VIADUCT**

## **TRUSTEE'S REPORT**

The twelve months since the last annual report have probably been the most eventful in the FoBV's short history.

The twelve months of the 2022/23 operational year have continued to be very eventful for the Friends of Bennerley Viaduct (FoBV).

### **Purpose of FoBV**

The Friends of Bennerley Viaduct are dedicated to restoring, conserving and celebrating Bennerley Viaduct for the wider public good.

### **Activities of FoBV**

- The viaduct continues to be open for public use, and is enjoyed and used by walkers and cyclists from near and far.
- FoBV has continued to maintain its charitable status, and follows the guidance issued by the Charity Commission. It is a Charitable incorporated organisation, operating under a constitution available to all
- A 99-year lease has been agreed between Railway Paths Ltd (RPL) and FoBV enabling FoBV to have greater control and influence over the management and development of the viaduct. This was signed on June 20<sup>th</sup> 2022. RPL remain responsible for the maintenance of the structure of the viaduct.
- The National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) Bridging the Gap project was established and developed with the appointment of 3 staff to explore the opportunities to develop a range of activities at the viaduct, explore the future financial viability of FoBV, and develop the resilience and sustainability of the organisation. The progress of the project is regularly monitored by the NLHF.
- FoBV had partnered with Kimberley Town Council and Broxtowe Borough Council to submit a Levelling Up bid to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) during 2022. In January 2023 it was announced that in the Levelling Up Fund (LUF) bid had been successful, so that FoBV would have the funds available to construct an eastern ramp, visitor centre and car parking. An architect and planning consultant were appointed in order to submit a planning application in July 2023. Extensive negotiations and consultations took place with trustees, members and volunteers, RPL and Harworth Estates and Broxtowe Borough Council. Successful negotiations have taken place with Harworth regarding the potential future transfer of land at the eastern end of the viaduct to the Friends for the erection of the proposed ramp, visitor centre and car park.
- FoBV continues to benefit from an active and engaged membership and a number of active volunteers, without which it could not function.

- 6 trustees were co-opted during the year following an extensive publicity campaign, interviews and selection.
- The Severn Trent (ST) Access to Nature project began in May 2021 was successfully concluded at the end of July this year. £25,000 was secured by an application made FoBV.
- Bridging the Gap. The National Lottery Heritage Fund application for this project was written, submitted, approved and started between June 2021 and 01 March 2022. The three members of staff funded by the project are all now in post.
- The FoBV financial report for 22/23 has been circulated with the AGM papers. It shows FoBV to be in sound financial health.

## **Funding of FoBV**

The FoBV continues to be funded through grants, donations and trading activities. The accounts are prepared by the treasurer and subject to an independent examination by an external firm of accountant.

The organisation has appropriate policies and procedures in place, and maintains a minimum reserves policy. The charity remains a going concern.

## **Trustees of FoBV**

John Scruton	Appointed 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2019 – Chair of Trustees
James Dawson	Appointed 22 <sup>nd</sup> December 2020 – Vice Chair
Glynn Lowth	Co-opted 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2022 – Chair of Operations
Nick Tooley	Co-opted 14 <sup>th</sup> December 2022 – Chair of Audit
Tim Reed	Co-opted 17 <sup>th</sup> May 2023 - Treasurer
Ron Yee	Co-opted 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2022
Melvin Bailey	Co-opted 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2023
Bill Tomson	Co-opted 4 <sup>th</sup> October 2022

## **Risk Register**

FoBV maintains and regular reviews a risk register.

Risks identified by the Trustees going forward include:

- Failure to deliver the NLHF and LUF project as required
- Failure to retain trustees and/or staff
- Inability to raise sufficient income & grants to ensure sustainability.
- Risks & liabilities arising from being a lessee of the viaduct
- Inability to progress the eastern ramp and/or visitor centre for whatever reason, and failure to create an effective staffing & financial model to manage the visitor centre.
- Reputational damage concerning the community and/or key stakeholders

All these risks are being mitigated by appropriate action & planning.

We continue to be grateful for the on-going support of volunteers, members, trustees and staff, and all external stakeholders during the development of FoBV and Bennerley Viaduct.

**John Scruton,  
Chair of FoBV Trustees  
July 2023**

**THE FRIENDS OF BENNERLEY VIADUCT**

**FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 MARCH 2023**

**CLIENTS' CERTIFICATION**

I approve the attached accounts which show a net surplus for the year of £32,952.

I confirm that I have made available to Briants all the information and explanations necessary for the production of these accounts and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all income due to the business has been shown in the accounting records.

I confirm that the accounts will not be released to any other party other than the members of the Friends of Bennerley Viaduct without the written consent of Briants.

I understand that you will accept no liability to any third party using these accounts without your express permission.

J Scruton  
Chair

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**THE FRIENDS OF BENNERLEY VIADUCT**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**31 MARCH 2023**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Friends of Bennerley Viaduct (Registered Charity Number 1187044) for the year ended 31 March 2023, which are set out on pages 9 to 10.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity 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 Trustee'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 2011 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- (3) the accounts do 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:

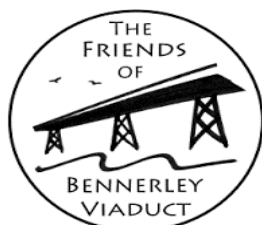
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Briant', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Name: Ian Briant

Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Date: 25 August 2023





Charity Number - 1187044

# FRIENDS OF BENNERLEY VIADUCT

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY - RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

### YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds (from 1st April 2022)		2022/23 Total funds		2021/2022 (Previous Year)	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Receipts</b>								
Grant - WMF 3/Amex	-		2,940		2,940		8,000	
Gift Aid	896				896		1,764	
Merchandise Sales	3,207				3,207		3,498	
Memberships & Donations	7,922				7,922		6,340	
Railway Ramblers	402				402	-		
NLHF - Bridging the Gap			97,517		97,517	-		
Other income - Severn Trent			2,395		2,395		29,572	
Bank Interest	27				27	-		
H M Gov - "Leveling-up" (Broxtowe B C)			40,000		40,000	-		
		12,434		142,852		155,305		51,174
<b>Payments</b>								
NLHF - Bridging the Gap			94,975		94,975		3,239	
World Monuments Fund (Closed)			7,940		7,940		-	
Severn Trent Water (Closed)			11,183		11,183		15,714	
John Nottingham Dec'd (Closed)			855		855			
H M Gov - "Leveling-up" (Broxtowe B C)			5,070		5,070			
Office rent					0		1,685	
Insurance	538				538		378	
Office & Sundry Expenses	266				266		3,825	
Merchandise	1,417				1,417		3,067	
PayPal & Card Fees	109				109		98	
Other Outgoings (Museums Assn. - Subscription)					0		14,764	
		2,330		120,023		122,353		44,770
Net receipts		10,124		22,829		32,952		6,404
Transfers between funds		11,513		-11,513		0		
Cash funds last year		18,808		15,687		34,495		28,090
Cash funds this year		40,445		27,003		67,447		34,494
<b>Cash Funds</b>								
NatWest		191				191		290
HSBC - Current a/c		6,512				6,512		1,305
HSBC - Deposit a/c		33,263		27,003		60,266		31,004
PayPal		479				479		1,895
		40,445		27,003		67,448		34,495
<b>Other Monetary assets</b>								
NLHF - Bridging the Gap - March Claim (Debtor)		0		11,523		11,523		
Sector Memberships & Subscriptions		243		0		243		
Insurance		321		0		321		
Merchandise stock		1,282		0		1,282		
		1,846		11,523		13,369		
<b>Liabilities</b>								
Greenwood Projects (to Dec '22)	NLHF - BTG			2,040		2,040		
Greenwood Projects (Jan to Mar 2023)	NLHF - BTG			1,224		1,224		
Broom House Books	NLHF - BTG			527		527		
Office Rent (March 2023)	FoBV Free Funds	518				518		
Examination of Accounts	FoBV Free Funds	500				500		
Other Expenses	FoBV Free Funds	50				50		
		1,068		3,791		4,859		