

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE20714 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1187978

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 1ST APRIL 2025
FOR
RYE HERITAGE CENTRE

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
Landgate Chambers
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	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Balance Sheet	7 to 8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9 to 13
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	14 to 15

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 1st April 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

To advance education for the public benefit in the history and heritage of the Ancient Town of Rye by maintaining a Heritage Centre and organising exhibitions and events.

Nothing in this constitution shall authorise an application of the property of the CIO for the purposes which are not charitable in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Significant activities

To exhibit the town model, by means of a light and sound model show which explains the unique history of the Ancient Town of Rye, by entry fee.

Linked to the model is a timeline of supporting heritage exhibits.

There are sales of related heritage items to add income.

There are related activities such as town walks and other heritage activities to add income.

A programme of digitisation is under way to enhance the heritage value.

There is a schools programme.

Public benefit

The trustees have regard to the guidance on public benefit issues by the Charities Commission.

Volunteers

Volunteers are fundamental to the operation and add value.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

As in previous years, several thousand visitors from home and abroad have come to the centre and many of these people have watched the town model show illustrating the history of the town of Rye. Further, local publicity has meant that many more locals are visiting the centre; often using the model and its show to introduce their visitors to the town before exploring in earnest. Visitor experience has been enhanced by the addition of hearing loops in the reception area and model show room.

School parties, both local and international have once again increased with schools from the EU seeing a welcome increase now that the difficulties caused by Brexit are gradually being overcome. Locally, this year the centre was able to offer two work experience placements to students at Rye's high school - an increase from last year.

The town model show continues to be enhanced with projection-mapping now adding to the overall audio-visual experience. This new technology was put to good use in the development of a new "Rye in World War II" show. Further enhancements have been added to the "Smugglers' Attic" display making the exhibit more robust and user-friendly.

Particularly pleasing has been the retention of almost all of our high-quality volunteers, many of whom have widened the spectrum of tasks that they are now able to perform. We also recruited new volunteers but, as volunteers are always required, our recruitment efforts continue.

The planned programme of educational and entertaining talks and town tours has been expanded aided by the recruitment of a new, experienced walking tour guide.

The Heritage Centre continues to improve its profile and widen its follower base on social media.

The Heritage Centre continues to be closely involved with the life of Rye including many of the annual festivals and events that the town puts on each year. For example, the Heritage centre organised and delivered a community engagement project working with Rye Players to commemorate the locally well-known Fletcher family.

In line with our heritage objectives, the centre produced and published a new historical guide book to the town of Rye. Additionally, we worked with Screen Archive South East to digitise and make available to the public home movie footage of local historical significance.

Fundraising activities

We continue to be successful in raising funds from a number of individual donors, Heritage Centre visitors and grant-giving organisations although somewhat less so than previous years.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

The trustee board made a decision to retain a minimum of £5,000 as a reserve. This sum represents overheads and salaries for approximately three months.

At the year end the CIO held unrestricted reserves of £29,998 and restricted reserves of £240. This amount is sufficient to meet the minimum reserve aims stated above.

Principal funding sources

The charity's principal sources of funds are:

- income from model shows
- shop sales
- walks and talks
- grants and donations

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Going concern

This is a small charity which is not likely to have huge reserves of capital to call upon. Nevertheless, we are confident that, through the use of prudent financial management, we can remain solvent and prosper. This has proven to be the case in this financial year as the available funds of the organisation are enhanced compared to the financial year preceding.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

By the trustee board on the basis of their suitability in terms of skills and experience and their willingness to volunteer for the role.

Organisational structure

The charity is run by a trustee board.

The board formulates policy which is implemented through the employed manager.

The manager organises volunteers to support various aspects of the centre's operation.

Induction and training of new trustees

There are some twenty policies agreed by the board that serve as guidance for the manager and new trustees.

Internal and external training courses are made available for both the manager and new trustees to learn about particular aspects of their role as required.

Related parties

The charity has a good relationship with Rye Town Council which owns the site. The board leases the building on a peppercorn rent basis which is subject to lease and contract.

The centre also has good relationships with many organisations in the town and is expanding these connections. In particular, contacts with the Rye Museum, the Rye Harbour Nature Reserve and the Chamber of Commerce have been established with a view to working together for the benefit of Rye in the future, particularly in the area of tourism.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE20714 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1187978

Registered office

The Old Sail Loft

Strand

Rye

East Sussex

TN31 7AY

RYE HERITAGE CENTRE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 1ST APRIL 2025

Trustees

Mr C R Hoggart Chair

Mr S J Blattman

Mr R A Sperring (resigned 27/5/2025)

Ms S R Sherburne (resigned 19/9/2024)

Mr M W Eve

Mr M T Blincow

Mr I Walker Trustee

Mrs G Pascall (appointed 25/2/2025)

Independent Examiner

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP

Chartered Accountants

Landgate Chambers

24 Landgate

Rye

East Sussex

TN31 7LJ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mr C R Hoggart - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
RYE HERITAGE CENTRE

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Rye Heritage Centre ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 1st April 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.

Mr David Ashby

Gibbons Mannington & Phipps LLP
Chartered Accountants
Landgate Chambers
24 Landgate
Rye
East Sussex
TN31 7LJ

Date:

RYE HERITAGE CENTRE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 1ST APRIL 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		3,225	-	3,225	9,917
Charitable activities					
Education		30,944	2,676	33,620	815
Other trading activities	2	32,977	-	32,977	50,625
Investment income	3	56	-	56	45
Total		<u>67,202</u>	<u>2,676</u>	<u>69,878</u>	<u>61,402</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	4	29,238	-	29,238	36,939
Charitable activities					
Education		22,890	2,128	25,018	21,402
Shop Activity		4,174	-	4,174	6,464
Total		<u>56,302</u>	<u>2,128</u>	<u>58,430</u>	<u>64,805</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)					
Transfers between funds	12	10,900 5,724	548 (5,724)	11,448 -	(3,403) -
Net movement in funds		16,624	(5,176)	11,448	(3,403)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		13,374	5,416	18,790	22,193
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>29,998</u>	<u>240</u>	<u>30,238</u>	<u>18,790</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

RYE HERITAGE CENTRE

BALANCE SHEET
1ST APRIL 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	9	8,204	1	8,205	3,660
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	10	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
Cash at bank		21,993	240	22,233	16,323
		23,493	240	23,733	17,823
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(1,699)	(1)	(1,700)	(2,693)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		21,794	239	22,033	15,130
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		29,998	240	30,238	18,790
NET ASSETS		29,998	240	30,238	18,790
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				29,998	13,374
Restricted funds				240	5,416
TOTAL FUNDS				30,238	18,790

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 1st April 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 1st April 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
Mr C R Hoggart - Trustee

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Plant and machinery - 25% on reducing balance

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 1ST APRIL 2025

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2025	2024
	£	£
Shop income	32,977	50,202
Commission	-	423
	<u>32,977</u>	<u>50,625</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>56</u>	<u>45</u>

4. RAISING FUNDS

Other trading activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Opening stock	1,500	1,500
Purchases	9,105	16,814
Closing stock	(1,500)	(1,500)
Staff costs	10,762	11,811
Repairs & Maintenance	1,192	1,532
Insurance	1,557	1,448
Light and Heat	3,190	2,209
Telephone	877	858
Post and Stationary	400	502
Advertising	866	1,365
Commission	-	400
Card processing fees	1,011	-
Computer costs	278	-
	<u>29,238</u>	<u>36,939</u>

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	2,734	1,219
Other operating leases	1	1
Independent Examiners fee	<u>1,200</u>	<u>960</u>

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 1st April 2025 nor for the year ended 1st April 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 1st April 2025 nor for the year ended 1st April 2024.

7. STAFF COSTS

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2025	2024
Manager	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

8. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	9,917	-	9,917
Charitable activities			
Education	815	-	815
Other trading activities	50,625	-	50,625
Investment income	45	-	45
Total	<u>61,402</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,402</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	36,939	-	36,939
Charitable activities			
Education	14,133	7,269	21,402
Shop Activity	6,464	-	6,464
Total	<u>57,536</u>	<u>7,269</u>	<u>64,805</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	3,866	(7,269)	(3,403)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	9,508	12,685	22,193
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>13,374</u>	<u>5,416</u>	<u>18,790</u>

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Rye Town Model £	Plant and machinery £	Totals £
COST			
At 2nd April 2024	1	6,563	6,564
Additions	-	7,279	7,279
	<u>1</u>	<u>13,842</u>	<u>13,843</u>
At 1st April 2025			
DEPRECIATION			
At 2nd April 2024	-	2,904	2,904
Charge for year	-	2,734	2,734
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,638</u>	<u>5,638</u>
At 1st April 2025			
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 1st April 2025	1	8,204	8,205
	<u>1</u>	<u>3,659</u>	<u>3,660</u>
At 1st April 2024			

Rye Town Model - See Note 13

10. STOCKS

	2025 £	2024 £
Stocks	1,500	1,500

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Social security and other taxes	735	1,728
Other creditors	6	5
Accrued expenses	959	960
	<u>1,700</u>	<u>2,693</u>

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

The restricted fund represents grants received for specific purposes.

Transfers between funds

The fixed assets purchased by the charity in the year using restricted funds do not have restricted conditions attached to their usage, and as such a transfer has been made to the general funds to reflect this.

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 1st April 2025.

14. RYE TOWN MODEL

On 1 April 2020 Rye Heritage Centre CIO purchased the Rye Town Model from Rye Town Council for the nominal fee of £1.00. Under the terms of the purchase Rye Heritage Centre CIO agreed that should the CIO cease to operate in the future, Rye Town Council has the first refusal to purchase the Rye Town Model for the £1.00 nominal fee.

The Rye Town Model is shown within a separate asset category at it's nominal value of £1.00.

15. RENT

On 1 April 2020 Rye Heritage Centre CIO entered a lease agreement with Rye Town Council to rent the Heritage Centre building on a peppercorn rent basis at the nominal annual fee of £1.00. This agreement is for the term of 5 years and will be re negotiated at the end of the lease.

RYE HERITAGE CENTRE

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 1ST APRIL 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	3,225	9,917
Other trading activities		
Shop income	32,977	50,202
Commission	-	423
	<u>32,977</u>	<u>50,625</u>
Investment income		
Deposit account interest	56	45
Charitable activities		
Grants	2,676	815
Model admission	26,650	-
Group bookings	4,294	-
	<u>33,620</u>	<u>815</u>
Total incoming resources	69,878	61,402
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Opening stock	1,500	1,500
Shop Purchases & Equipment	9,105	13,713
Ticket Fees	-	3,101
Wages	10,762	11,811
Repairs & Maintenance	1,192	1,532
Insurance	1,557	1,448
Light and Heat	3,190	2,209
Telephone	877	858
Post and Stationary	400	502
Advertising	866	1,365
Commission	-	400
Card processing fees	1,011	-
Computer costs	278	-
Closing stock	(1,500)	(1,500)
	<u>29,238</u>	<u>36,939</u>
Charitable activities		
Wages	10,762	11,811
Rent	1	1
Insurance	519	483
Carried forward	11,282	12,295

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

RYE HERITAGE CENTRE

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 1ST APRIL 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
Charitable activities		
Brought forward	11,282	12,295
Light and heat	1,063	736
Telephone	292	286
Postage and stationery	400	502
Advertising	866	1,365
Sundries	139	478
Equipment	-	260
Repairs & Maintenance	3,953	3,814
Subscriptions	840	1,509
Waste Disposal	194	239
Ticket Fees	3,393	-
Donations	25	413
Travel	-	248
Printing	-	1,837
Project expenses	1,464	1,627
Professional fees	782	-
IT costs	278	-
	<u>24,971</u>	<u>25,609</u>
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	97	78
Plant and machinery	2,734	1,219
	<u>2,831</u>	<u>1,297</u>
Governance costs		
Accountancy fees	1,390	960
	<u>1,390</u>	<u>960</u>
Total resources expended	<u>58,430</u>	<u>64,805</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u>11,448</u>	<u>(3,403)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements