

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CEO20891 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1188221

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025
FOR
HITCHIN BAND

HITCHIN BAND

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Page
Trustees' Report	1 to 4
Independent Examiner's Report	5
Statement of Financial Activities	6
Statement of Financial Position	7
Notes to the Financial Statements	8 to 12

HITCHIN BAND
TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the CIO for the year ended 31 March 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

The object of the CIO is the advancement of the art of music, in particular brass band music, in Hitchin and the surrounding area, for the public benefit by:

- (a) Offering training and coaching to musicians of all ages to enable them to play to a standard ready for public performance and to develop their musical abilities;
- (b) Performing public concerts of varied and informative programmes;
- (c) Collaborating with other groups and individuals to enhance the offering to audiences.

Significant activities

The organization comprises three bands (Hitchin Band, Hitchin Community Brass and Hitchin Youth Brass Band), all of which maintained a full schedule of rehearsals and performances throughout the FY.

The main band undertook five paid engagements, three self-promoted concerts and, once again, staged eight sold-out performances of The Snowman over the Christmas period to audiences in Hitchin, Letchworth, and Bedford, involving collaboration with other local musicians, Hitchin Film, Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation and local children who had auditioned to sing a solo as part of each performance. The band also staged its first performance of "Wallace & Gromit - The Wrong Trousers", which was extremely well received and will be repeated twice in 2025.

The Youth Band continued to attract new members, including beginners with no previous experience. It remains supported entirely by volunteer tutors including several members of the main band, and caters to three levels of students, from complete beginners to intermediate players.

Hitchin Community Brass continued to serve a wide range of ages and abilities, including learners of all ages who wish to gain experience and enjoyment from playing in a brass band, supported by members from the main band. The band performed several engagements throughout the year, including the joint Christmas concert with the main and youth bands.

The organisation's AGM was held on 15.5.24 at Holwell Village Hall.

Public benefit

At all times, the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. Public performances by all three of our bands have been strongly supported and warmly welcomed by the public. Many of the bands' performances throughout the year have been free to the public - for example, outdoor events in Shefford, Letchworth and multiple performances in Hitchin town square. The Youth Band also put on several demo events for schools in the local area.

Our Youth Band and Community Band are open to anyone who wishes to join, without audition, and we offer free loan of instruments, tuition and coaching, and the chance to perform as a group for a low subscription (£1/rehearsal for Youth Band, £5/rehearsal for Community Brass).

We staged eight performances of The Snowman over the Christmas period to audiences in Hitchin, Letchworth and Bedford. These were multimedia experiences involving collaboration with other local musicians, Hitchin Film, Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation and local children who had auditioned to sing a solo as part of each performance. All performances were sold out and feedback has been tremendous.

HITCHIN BAND

TRUSTEES' REPORT **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Charitable activities

The band has continued its relationship with Richmond Hill School for children with complex needs. Members of the main band once again performed at the school free of charge, and we are working on a one-off additional performance of The Snowman which we will perform for the school in a relaxed environment.

Around Christmas 2024, the Youth Band once again performed carols in Hitchin to raise money for homelessness charity Shelter.

Our Youth Band and Community Band are open to anyone who wishes to join, without audition, and we offer free loan of instruments, tuition and coaching, and the chance to perform as a group for a low subscription (£1/rehearsal for Youth Band, £5/rehearsal for Community Brass). The youth band in particular provides the first introduction to playing an instrument for many children, tutored entirely by volunteers.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

Our subscription rates for members of the senior band have been maintained (at £25/month and £10/month for those not in full employment). This continues to provide a solid foundation, covering much of the core overheads of the organisation. We have invested in additional instruments and equipment for the Youth Band which will support its continuing expansion.

The Statement of Financial Activities shows a deficit, pre-revaluation of instruments, for the year of £5,733 (2023 deficit £2,436).

The balance of funds carried forward was £57,225 compared to £57,519 last year - these include the revalued instrument values.

Principal funding sources

Principle source of income in this financial year has been:

- Income from concerts and events;
- Member subscriptions;
- Paid engagements;
- Donations and public collections.

Reserves policy

The CIO currently has no formal policy on holding minimum reserves, however, we would expect to maintain a working balance not less than £5,000. This ensures the ability of the CIO to pay running costs in the event that numbers of members paying subscriptions were to reduce or paid events need to be cancelled.

Balance over past five FYs has not been below £5,000. Current cash balance exceeds £16,000.

Going concern

There are no concerns about the future of Hitchin Band continuing as a going concern.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a charitable incorporated organisation.

HITCHIN BAND

TRUSTEES' REPORT **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Charity constitution

In 2020, the inaugural year of the CIO, the members of the committee elected at the AGM on 9 May 19 became the trustees for the CIO. Their names were included in the draft CIO constitution which was formally proposed and unanimously accepted at that meeting. Induction and training of new trustees

(1) Elected charity trustees:

(a) At every annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one-third of the elected charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of elected charity trustees is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one-third shall retire from office, but if there is only one charity trustee, he or she shall retire;

(b) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;

(c) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub-clause

(d) of this clause; (d) The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been, or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;

(e) A person so appointed by the members of the CIO shall retire in accordance with the provisions of sub-clauses

(a) and (b) of this clause. A person so appointed by the charity trustees shall retire at the conclusion of the annual general meeting next following the date of his appointment, and shall not be counted for the purpose of determining which of the charity trustees is to retire by rotation at that meeting.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CEO20891 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1188221

Registered office

33 Crowland Road
Luton
Beds
LU2 8EH

Trustees

K A Birch
A P Hooker Secretary
Mrs D M Birch Chair
R Bush
Mrs H Landsman
A Ilott Treasurer
A Birring – resigned December 2024
A R Grady

Independent Examiner

Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1JQ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27/11/25 and signed on its behalf by:

HITCHIN BAND

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025


.....
A P Hooker - Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
HITCHIN BAND**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Hitchin Band ('the CIO')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the CIO for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the CIO (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').

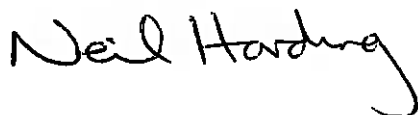
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the CIO are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your CIO's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In 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.



Neil Harding FCA

Bradshaw Johnson
Chartered Accountants
Croft Chambers
11 Bancroft
Hitchin
Hertfordshire
SG5 1JQ

Date: 1-12-25

HITCHIN BAND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	31.3.25 Unrestricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies		8,446	8,539
Other trading activities	2	15,993	13,423
Other income		<u>1,725</u>	<u>3,045</u>
Total		<u>26,164</u>	<u>25,007</u>
 EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Charity activities		<u>30,518</u>	<u>30,740</u>
 NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)			
Other recognised gains/(losses)		(4,354)	(5,733)
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets		<u>5,487</u>	<u>5,439</u>
Net movement in funds		1,133	(294)
 RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward		<u>57,225</u>	<u>57,519</u>
 TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>58,358</u>	<u>57,225</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

HITCHIN BAND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
31 MARCH 2025

	Notes	31.3.25 Unrestricted funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	6	42,497	41,834
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	7	1,433	1,604
Cash at bank		<u>15,358</u>	<u>16,257</u>
		16,791	17,861
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(930)	(2,470)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>15,861</u>	<u>15,391</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>58,358</u>	<u>57,225</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>58,358</u>	<u>57,225</u>
FUNDS	9		
Unrestricted funds		<u>58,358</u>	<u>57,225</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>58,358</u>	<u>57,225</u>

The CIO is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2025.

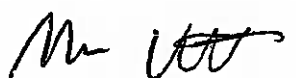
The members have not required the CIO to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the CIO keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the CIO 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.

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 27/11/25 and were signed on its behalf by:



A Hott - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

HITCHIN BAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements for the CIO, 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 Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Hitchin Band meets the definition of public entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements are presented in sterling (£).

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 CIO 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.

Instruments - 20% on reducing balance

Instruments and equipment were revalued by the Trustees as at 31 March 2025. This will be revisited on an annual basis.

Taxation

The CIO 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 CIO. 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.

HITCHIN BAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Concert income	<u>15,993</u>	<u>13,423</u>

3. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>5,487</u>	<u>5,439</u>

4. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2025 nor for the year ended 31 March 2024.

5. 2024 COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM	
Donations and legacies	8,539
Other trading activities	13,423
Other income	<u>3,045</u>
Total	<u>25,007</u>
EXPENDITURE ON	
Charitable activities	
Charity activities	<u>30,740</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(5,733)
Other recognised gains/(losses)	
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets	<u>5,439</u>
Net movement in funds	(294)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS	
Total funds brought forward	57,519
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>57,225</u>

HITCHIN BAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Instruments £
COST OR VALUATION	
At 1 April 2024	41,834
Additions	<u>663</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>42,497</u>
DEPRECIATION	
Charge for year	5,487
Revaluation adjustments	<u>(5,487)</u>
At 31 March 2025	<u>-</u>
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 March 2025	<u>42,497</u>
At 31 March 2024	<u>41,834</u>

Cost or valuation at 31 March 2025 is represented by:

	Instruments £
Valuation in 2025	<u>42,497</u>

If instruments and equipment had not been revalued they would have been included at the following historical cost:

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Cost	<u>42,497</u>	<u>41,834</u>
Aggregate depreciation	<u>30,620</u>	<u>25,133</u>

7. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
Other debtors	<u>1,433</u>	<u>1,604</u>

HITCHIN BAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Other creditors	-	230
Accrued expenses	<u>930</u>	<u>2,240</u>
	<u>930</u>	<u>2,470</u>

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	32,385	(4,354)	(293)	27,738
Revaluation reserve	<u>24,840</u>	<u>5,487</u>	<u>293</u>	<u>30,620</u>
	<u>57,225</u>	<u>1,133</u>	-	<u>58,358</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>57,225</u>	<u>1,133</u>	-	<u>58,358</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	26,164	(30,518)	-	(4,354)
Revaluation reserve	-	-	<u>5,487</u>	<u>5,487</u>
	<u>26,164</u>	<u>(30,518)</u>	<u>5,487</u>	<u>1,133</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>26,164</u>	<u>(30,518)</u>	<u>5,487</u>	<u>1,133</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	38,118	(5,733)	32,385
Revaluation reserve	<u>19,401</u>	<u>5,439</u>	<u>24,840</u>
	<u>57,519</u>	<u>(294)</u>	<u>57,225</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>57,519</u>	<u>(294)</u>	<u>57,225</u>

HITCHIN BAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

9. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	25,007	(30,740)	-	(5,733)
Revaluation reserve	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,439</u>	<u>5,439</u>
	<u>25,007</u>	<u>(30,740)</u>	<u>5,439</u>	<u>(294)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>25,007</u>	<u>(30,740)</u>	<u>5,439</u>	<u>(294)</u>

10. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2025.