

FRIENDS OF BEEHCROFT LIBRARY

England & Wales · Charity number 1188953

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-04-07

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Beechcroft Library
188 Beechcroft Road
Upper Stratton
Swindon
SN27QQ

Phone 01793 680030

Email beechcroftfriends@gmail.com

Activities

Objects: THE ADVANCEMENT OF EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN PARTICULAR BY THE PROVISION OF LIBRARY FACILITIES AND SERVICES FOR LEARNING, FOR INFORMATION, ADVICE AND OTHER RELATED LIBRARY PROVISION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE RESIDENTS AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY IN STRATTON ST MARGARET AND THE SURROUNDING AREAS.

Activities: We act as an independent group dedicated to promoting, supporting and improving the library and community hub. We contribute to the Library's finances by applying for grants, encouraging donations and organising fundraising events. We use these funds to improve the library with a wide range of furniture, materials, equipment and consumables. We help organise groups, activities and events.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Other Finance
- **What:** Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Swindon

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£1,224	£1,450	-	-
2024-03-31	£2,253	£2,091	-	-
2023-03-31	£3,096	£2,250	-	-
2022-03-31	£1,361	£1,086	-	-
2021-03-31	£0	£404	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Joan Lesley Hemingway	Chair	2020-03-03
Anne Marie Chalk		2022-02-22
Clive Nicholas Carter		2020-03-03
Gregory Wade Browne		2020-03-03
Indra Robson		2020-03-03
Lynette Rose Dodson		2020-03-03
Nigel Peter Chalk		2022-02-22
RICHARD PHILIP HEMINGWAY		2020-03-03
linda frances O'Kane		2021-10-19

Accounts

Annual Report for the period from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

Organisation name: Friends of Beechcroft Library

Charity registration number: 1188953

Objectives and Activities

This annual report has been created following guidance contained in the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) issued by the Charity Commission.

	SORP Ref.	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Purposes as defined in the Constitution agreed in April 2020: The advancement of education for the public benefit in particular by the provision of library facilities and services for learning, for information, advice and other related library provision for the benefit of the residents and the wider community in Stratton St Margaret and the surrounding areas.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The main activities undertaken to achieve the aims are: • Working with the Library Staff and Stratton Parish Council to develop the library as a community hub • Meeting with Library staff and Parish to agree objectives, approach and activities • Running events and activities such as Basic IT skills, social groups and clubs, developing/ displaying Stratton History Archive material, organising regular events • Promoting the Library via social media, posters, displays, developing a community network • Raising funds to support activities.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees assess each of their activities with regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP Ref.	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The Friends do not currently give grants to individuals or other organisations
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	The Friends do not currently undertake any social investments
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	There are no employees, all the Trustees are volunteers. Library Volunteers are engaged by the Parish rather than the Friends but are supported and encouraged by the Friends. Their contribution is vital in enabling the Library and the Friends to undertake the numerous activities and groups which take place

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The Friends continue to support Stratton St Margaret Parish Council in developing Beechcroft Library into a thriving multi-functional community library. We were excited to welcome a new stakeholder in March 2024 with the opening of the Brewbook Community Cafe in the library. Co-locating with another community service is already showing benefits in terms of enhanced community engagement, increased footfall and a reduction in operational costs for the Parish. Co-location will potentially improve long term sustainability for the library and community hub and we feel the future of the library is secure. The Friends reviewed their key objectives at the beginning of the year to ensure they were still appropriate. It was agreed to retain them but with an increased focus on supporting education, training and skills. All the Friends' activities in support of Beechcroft Library are aligned to our four key objectives, namely: 1. Improving health and well-being, 2. Encouraging community engagement, 3. Supporting education, training and skills 4. Reducing the cost impact of running the library. Our achievements this year are discussed under the relevant objective below.
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Achievements and Performance (continued)

	SORP Ref.	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Objective 1 - Improving health and well-being The regular groups and activities supported by the Friends are all well attended and help to mitigate the loneliness and isolation experienced by some of our residents. These regular groups include: • Fun Art Group • Friendship Group • Getting On-line workshops • Book Club • Local and Family History Research • Chess Club • Lego Club These regular groups are supplemented by activities organised by library staff, volunteers and the Parish team, resulting in a very busy, welcoming and engaging feel to the library. We work closely with the library staff to put on various free activities for children during half terms and longer holidays. We continue to run the Home Delivery Book Service for local residents who are housebound and unable to visit the library. Members of the Friends liaise closely with the Swindon Live Well Hub, especially the Social Prescribers and Community Navigators. They direct their clients to the various services provided by the library such as Stratton Advice Point, Getting Online workshops, Friendship Group and Art Group. Members of the Friends also work closely with the local Primary Care networks in particular to help with potential digital exclusion as the NHS becomes oriented towards digitisation of their services. We also work closely with Stratton Advice Point which has successfully claimed over £300,000 in welfare benefits for service users during 2024-25. Objective 2 - Encouraging community engagement We have built a strong collaborative working relationship with the new community cafe Brewbook which opened March 2024, with joint involvement in several events and with the exchange of ideas and initiatives. The co-location is proving very beneficial in enhancing community engagement for the library. The library has organised or taken part in various one-off

		community events during the year such as coffee mornings, raffles, book sales etc. These included: • 4th May - Book stall at the Craft Fair organised by Brewbook, who kindly donated £80 to supplement the £47.50 raised on the book stall for the Library. • 28th June - Book stall, History display and Library information stall at Stratton Festival, which raised £64.50 for Prospect Hospice • 10th August - Book stall and tombola at the Brewbook Summer Craft market which raised £55.50 for the Library plus £50 generously donated by Brewbook • 14th September - Book stall, History display and Library information stall at Stratton Community Fete, which raised £24.50 for the Library • 27th September - Coffee morning in conjunction with Brewbook Cafe which raised £1,012.10 for Macmillan Cancer Support • 5th October - Book stall at the Autumn Craft Fair organised by Brew Book which raised £21.50 for the Library • 9th October - members of the Friends gave a well received talk about our work at Community Libraries Network Annual Awards event. • 30th November and 12th December - Book stall, raffle and tombola at the Brewbook Christmas fair followed by the raffle draw at Parish Christmas Carol event. We raised £525.51 for Prospect Hospice. Kingsdown School's Art Department generously provided another eight pieces of art to the Library in May 2024. Each piece is the final outcome of a Year 10 or Year 11 student's GCSE Art work. Pictures are on display in the Library, Brew Book cafe and Grange Community Centre. Public transport links within the parish are poor, so we maintain a small book-exchange library at Grange Community Centre in Lower Stratton. We are very fortunate that the Stratton St Margaret History Society is based in the library and the team work hard to maintain the history archive from multiple sources. They curate the various history displays both in the library and at various events throughout the Parish. The displays engender a lot of local interest and their Facebook Group now has over 1300 followers. They have started producing a series of leaflets on walks
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		around Stratton and various local history topics, and these will be available from the library. Several of our Trustees are active members of various local organisations including: • The Swindon Trustee Network, • Get Connected Swindon, • Stratton St Margaret History Society, • Local Primary Care Networks • Live Well Swindon • Wiltshire Building Records • Swindon and District Local History Society • Wiltshire On-line Parish Clerks • National Literacy Trust • Community Managed Libraries Network • Women's Institute Objective 3 - Supporting education, skills and training The Friends have increased their focus on this objective this year in view of the findings identified in the 2019 Indices of Deprivation. The deprivation is most severe within the Educational, Skills and Training domain where some areas of Stratton are ranked within the worst 3% in England. The Friends and library staff have joined the National Literacy Trust, in order to work together with Swindon Stories to support Children's literacy. The Friends piloted a writing competition for primary school children during the summer holidays and involved local children's author Steven Antony to judge the competition. The Friends have formed a literacy sub-group together with staff and the volunteers who run Story Time, in order to develop a programme of literacy initiatives for children. The Friends organise information displays with relevant reading material to support national awareness days and campaigns, including: • World Earth Day • Day 80th Anniversary • Child Mental Health week • Women's History Month • Summer Reading Challenge • British Science Week Digital exclusion is a problem in the local area and the Library is
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		a registered Digital Inclusion hub, and the Friends are members of Libraries Connected Digital Inclusion Network. The Friends run weekly Getting Online workshops to help users with a range of queries including: • Improving confidence with digital devices • Setting up and using the NHS and other apps • Accessing council services which are only accessible online, eg Blue Badges, Housing benefit, etc • Online safety and security • Searching and applying for jobs online Our monthly LEGO Club encourages young children to think creatively. LEGO is not only fun but also a powerful educational tool that supports learning in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) fields. Chess is also recognised as a valuable STEM learning activity for children and is also a great way of developing and maintaining mental sharpness in adults. Our popular weekly chess club has coached many children and adults over the last year. We are very fortunate to have Peter Richmond as our chief chess coach, a former 9 times Wiltshire Champion who has coached 11 national champions. Objective 4 - Reducing the cost impact on the Parish of running the library The Friends have organised or taken part in various money making activities during the year such as coffee mornings, regular book sales, raffles, tombolas, can recycling, etc., and have raised £693 in sales and donations to support activities in Beechcroft library. We also donated £288 of supplies to the Community Pantry, which is co-located in the Library. Although this is only a small amount in relation to the overall cost of running the library, we hope that it provides some of the nice-to-have elements for the public, such as craft materials, prizes, children's activity resources, badges, books, etc. Future Plans Looking to the future, we are hoping to support further initiatives within education, skills and training domain, and to work with the National Literacy Trust. We are also excited to be working with Stratton St Margaret Parish and with Brewbook Cafe to develop Beechcroft Library
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		into an even more successful and vibrant community hub.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP Ref	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Formal fundraising objectives were not defined other than ensuring that the objectives described in the previous section were supported financially where necessary.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable

Financial Review

	SORP Ref.	
Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Our income for 2024-25 was £1,223.88: We have spent £1,450 on purchases for the library, including £288 for restocking the Community Pantry in the Library. Our net worth as at 31 March 2025 was £2,158.22, which is a reduction of £226.12 on the previous year. Please see the Annual Financial Report for full details.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Our Reserves Policy states that we will only hold reserve funds if we have formal financial commitments. As we now have Public Liability Insurance premiums going forward we will ensure that we have sufficient funds to cover the premium and run-off insurance in the event that the charity closes down.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Sufficient to cover Public Liability Insurance Premium which was £214 in 2024-25, and the estimated premium of roughly £800 for run-off insurance for 7 years in the event the charity closes down.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	We are dependent on the continued existence of Beechcroft Library. There is little chance that the Library would close in the near future as it is a popular resource for the parish.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	We have received £500 in grants this year from Stratton St Margaret Parish Council We have received £539 in donations and £154 from sales of books
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	There are few risks facing the Friends charity and they are all categorised as low, the highest risks are: - Activities where safeguarding risks may arise - Heavy use of available space in the library due to the popularity of the library may restrict space available for events and activities

Structure, Governance and Management

	SORP Ref.	
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation following the Foundation model
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions	Para 1.25	The existing Trustees can select new Trustees as required following the procedure described in the next section.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Recruitment of Trustees for the Friends should be in line with the guidance given below: • There is a written job description / person specification for the post • If a trustee wishes to volunteer for the Library they should complete a Parish Council volunteer application form and the Parish Recruitment policies be followed • A suitable induction programme is provided • The applicant is given a copy of the Safeguarding Policy and knows how to report concerns.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a written constitution. We are not affiliated to any wider network
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	We work closely with Stratton St Margaret Parish Council who run Beechcroft Library.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Friends of Beechcroft Library
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1188953
Charity's principal address	188 Beechcroft Road, Swindon, SN2 7QQ

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Lesley Hemingway	Chair		
2	Richard Hemingway	Treasurer		
3	Indra Robson			
4	Lynette Dodson			
5	Greg Browne	Secretary		
6	Clive Carter			
7	Linda O'Kane	Deputy Chair		
9	Nigel Chalk	Deputy Treasurer		
10	Anne Chalk			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	Not applicable
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Not applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Not applicable

Exemptions from disclosure

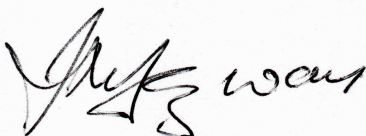
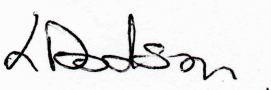
Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	JOAN LESLEY HEMINGWAY	ANNETTE ROSE DODSON,
Position(s) (eg Secretary, Chair)	CHAIR	TRUSTEE,
Date(s)	20.5.2025	20-5-2025

CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALESCharity Name
Friends of Beechcroft LibraryNo (if any)
1188953

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/04/2024		31/03/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

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	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Grant	500	-	-	500	800
Donations	539	-	-	539	1,320
Sales	154	-	-	154	133
Bank Interest	31	-	-	31	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,224	-	-	1,224	2,253
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,224	-	-	1,224	2,253
A3 Payments					
Non-inventory items purchased	989	-	-	989	1,252
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	989	-	-	989	1,252
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Inventory items purchased	461	-	-	461	839
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	461	-	-	461	839
Total payments	1,450	-	-	1,450	2,091
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 226	-	-	- 226	162
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 226	-	-	- 226	162

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash	15	-	-
	Bank	2,143	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,158	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		Agree/Not Agree	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
Details		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)

B3 Investment assets

		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

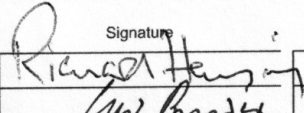
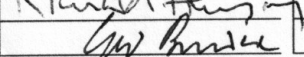
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Richard Hemingway	17/9/25
	Greg Browne	17/9/25

Accounts

Annual Report for the period From 1st April 2023 To 31st March 2024

Organisation name: Friends of Beechcroft Library

Charity registration number: 1188953

Objectives and Activities

This annual report has been created following guidance contained in the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) issued by the Charity Commission.

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Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The main activities undertaken to achieve the aims are: • Working with the Library Staff and Stratton Parish Council to develop the library as a community hub • Meeting with Library staff and Parish to agree objectives, approach and activities • Running events and activities such as Basic IT skills, social groups and clubs, developing/ displaying Stratton History Archive material, organising regular events • Promoting the Library via social media, posters, displays, developing a community network • Raising funds to support activities, purchasing craft materials, reference books, Refreshments
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees assess each of their activities with regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

Additional information (optional)

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Achievements and Performance

	SORP Ref.	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	When Stratton Parish council took over running the library from Swindon Borough Council in Sept 2017, it was for a trial period of 18 months, and we expected at any moment that the library would be closed. However, over the last 12 to 18 months there has been a remarkable transformation in Beechcroft Library. The library is fast becoming a role model for a multi-functional community library. The Parish councillors and officers are fully engaged with the potential and opportunities afforded by the library as a thriving community hub and we now feel the future of the library is completely secure. The Friends' activities in support of Beechcroft Library are all aligned to our four key objectives, namely: 1. To improve health and well-being, 2. To encourage community engagement, 3. To improve skills and training 4. To help support the library financially. Our achievements this year are discussed under the relevant objective below. Objective 1 - To improve health and well being The regular groups and activities supported by the Friends are all well attended and help to mitigate the loneliness and isolation experienced by some of our residents. These regular groups include: • Fun Art group, • Friendship Group, • Tea and Tech digital drop-in sessions, • Book Club, • Family History Research, • Chess Club • Lego Club. These regular groups are supplemented by activities organised by library staff, volunteers and the Parish team, resulting in a very busy, welcoming and engaging feel to the library. We continue to run the Home Delivery Book Service for local residents who are housebound. This is proving more resource intensive than anticipated and we have not rolled it out more widely yet.

		Between April 2023 and March 2024 we continued to run the self-service mini 'café' for library users, providing hot drinks and biscuits. This is free to users and has supported the library's registration as a Welcome Space over the winter months. This service will finish at the end of March when the new community cafe Brew Book is due to open. Members of the Friends liaise closely with the Swindon Live Well Hub, especially the Social Prescribers and Community Navigators. They direct their clients to the various services provided by the library such as Stratton Advice Point, Tea and Tech, Friendship Group and Art Group. Members of the Friends also work closely with the local Primary Care networks in particular to help with potential digital exclusion as the NHS becomes oriented towards digitisation of their services. We also work closely with Stratton Advice Point which has successfully claimed over £270,000 in welfare benefits for service users during 2023-24. Objective 2 - To encourage community engagement The library has organised or taken part in various one-off community events during the year such as coffee mornings, raffles, book sales etc. These included: • Coffee Morning in May for Mental Health Awareness week when we raised £300 for Swindon MIND. • Book stall, History display and Library information stall at Stratton Community Fete in June • Book stall, History display and Library information stall at Stratton Festival in July • Book stall, History display and Library information stall at Royal British Legion Fete in August • Coffee morning in October which raised £1000 for Macmillan Cancer Support • Cake stall and book stall at Stratton Wellness Day in November which raised £237 for Prospect Hospice. • Music and Mince Pies event in December which raised £220 for Beechcroft Library • Coffee morning in February 2024 which raised £351 for the Prospect Hospice . • We organised two children's film evenings during the winter months, but sadly these were poorly attended. • We hosted a visit from the local Brownies which was very
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		successful and will be repeated each year The Friends maintain a Facebook business page and an up to date website to improve our visibility, engage with residents and widen the reach of the library. The Friends' Web-site has been amended to clarify the role of the Friends and to remove overlap with information on the Parish Council Website. The website has been assessed for both Privacy and Accessibility and appropriate Privacy and Accessibility statements included on the site. Kingsdown School's Art Department has generously provided another eight pieces of art to the Library, in addition to the eight provided last year. Each piece is the final outcome of a Year 10 or Year 11 student's GCSE Art work. All 16 pictures are on display in the Library, Brew Book cafe and Grange Community Centre. We are very fortunate that the Stratton St Margaret History Society is based in the library and the history team work hard to maintain the history archive and curate the various history displays. Their detailed annual report is included in a separate section below. Several of our Trustees are active members of various local organisations including: • The Swindon Trustee Network, • Get Connected Swindon, • Stratton St Margaret History Society, • Local Primary Care Networks • Live Well Swindon • Wiltshire Building Records • Swindon and District Local History Society • Wiltshire On-line Parish Clerks Objective 3 - To improve skills and training The Library is a registered Digital Inclusion hub. This is an important service as there is only one other place in Swindon running digital inclusion sessions for residents. The Friends are also members of the Digital Inclusion Network within Libraries Connected organisation. As important providers of digital inclusion work in Swindon, members of the Tea and Tech team have been working with other local organisations to establish a Swindon forum to improve digital inclusion in the area. One of our trustees has produced the first Terms of Reference for this forum (called Get Connected Swindon) which has been accepted by the various
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		organisations involved, including Swindon Library & Information Service, Live Well Swindon, Swindon Seniors Forum, Swindon and Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership and Acorn Community Bank among others. We have purchased additional learning resources such as history books, and children's non-fiction books in line with the national curriculum, which are available to use as reference books within the library. Objective 4 - To help support the library financially The library has organised or taken part in various one-off events during the year such as coffee mornings, raffles, book sales, etc and has raised £1,453 in donations and sales to support activities in Beechcroft library. Stratton St Margaret History Society report ● Following the Parish decision to locate a café within the library, the area allocated for the Society has been reduced and moved out into the rear vestibule. After discussion we now also have some shelving to also keep out our books for general viewing. ● The Society has been holding regular bi-monthly meetings which I'm sad to say have been poorly attended. ● The Facebook site membership has continued to grow and is now up to 1,181. We are still receiving information from locals to update our more modern records. ● Current research from Clive is increasing our knowledge of pre-roman times. ● We did a 'Stroll around Stratton' physical and slide show events last year. ● Trolling through old newspaper records continues and a lot has been added during the past year. ● A number of new books and items have been added to the collection through the year. ➤ The Railways & History of HMEF Stratton. ➤ Diaries of William Hedges travels in India. ➤ 50 Years of Stratton Boys Brigade ➤ Arkell's memorabilia. ➤ British Leyland memorabilia. ● Current projects by Nigel include transcribing 1939 Register records for Gorse Hill, completing history of Stratton Workhouse/Hospital and a photo record of
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		Kingsdown Crematorium burials. - About 12 Family Tree Sessions in last year <i>Clive Carter (Archivist) & Nigel Chalk (Historian)</i> Charity Governance We have been working on improving our governance and risk management in line with new guidelines issued by the Charity Commission during 2023. Our Safeguarding and Risk Management policies were updated to reflect the latest guidance, and the following new policies were developed: - Serious Incident Reporting - Complaints Management - Internal Financial Controls - Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Future Plans Our thanks go to all the staff, the volunteers and Stratton St Margaret Parish Council who have supported the Library so wonderfully over the last year. Looking to the future, we are excited to be working with the Parish and with Brew Book Cafe to develop Beechcroft Library into an even more successful and vibrant community hub.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP Ref	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Formal fundraising objectives were not defined other than ensuring that the objectives described in the previous section were supported financially where necessary.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable

Financial Review

	SORP Ref.	
Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Our income for 2023-24 totalled £2,253.65, comprising: - A generous grant of £800 from Stratton St Margaret Parish Council £1,320 in donations £133 from the sale of books and cakes We have spent £2,090 on purchases for the library, including new books and equipment. We also repaid £382 of unspent

		grant from last year's Parish grant. Our net worth as at 31 March 2024 was £2,384, (£2.332 in the Co-op Bank and £52 in cash). Please see the Annual Financial Report for full details.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Our Reserves Policy states that we will only hold reserve funds if we have formal financial commitments. As we now have Public Liability Insurance premiums going forward we will ensure that we have sufficient funds to cover the premium and run-off insurance in the event that the charity closes down.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Sufficient to cover Public Liability Insurance Premium which was £160 in 2023-24, and the estimated premium of roughly £700 for run-off insurance for 7 years in the event the charity closes down.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	We are dependent on the continued existence of Beechcroft Library. There is little chance that the Library would close in the near future as it is a popular resource for the parish.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	We have received £800 in grants this year from Stratton St Margaret Parish Council We have received £1,320 in donations and £133 from sales of cakes and books
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	There are few risks facing the Friends charity and they are all categorised as low, the highest risks are: - Activities where safeguarding risks may arise - Over-reliance on a few key individuals

Structure, Governance and Management

	SORP Ref.	
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation following the Foundation model

Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions	Para 1.25	The existing Trustees can select new Trustees as required following the procedure described in the next section.
--	-----------	--

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Recruitment of Trustees for the Friends should be in line with the guidance given below: • There is a written job description / person specification for the post • If a trustee wishes to volunteer for the Library they should complete a Parish Council volunteer application form and the Parish Recruitment policies be followed • A suitable induction programme is provided • The applicant is given a copy of the Safeguarding Policy and knows how to report concerns.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a written constitution. We are not affiliated to any wider network
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	We work closely with Stratton St Margaret Parish Council who run Beechcroft Library.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Friends of Beechcroft Library
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1188953
Charity's principal address	188 Beechcroft Road, Swindon, SN2 7QQ

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Lesley Hemingway	Chair		
2	Richard Hemingway	Treasurer		
3	Indra Robson			
4	Lynette Dodson			
5	Greg Browne	Secretary		
6	Clive Carter			
7	Linda O'Kane	Deputy Chair		
9	Nigel Chalk	Deputy Treasurer		
10	Anne Chalk			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	Not applicable
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Not applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Not applicable

Exemptions from disclosure

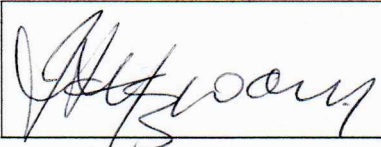
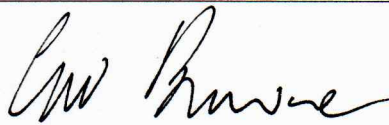
Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	JOAN LESLEY HEMINGWAY	GREGORY WADE BROWNE
Position(s) (eg Secretary, Chair)	Chair	Secretary
Date(s)	18. June 2024	18 June 2024.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Friends of Beechcroft Library

Charity Number
1932963

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/04/2023

To

31/03/2024

Section A Receipts and payments

	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					
Grant	800	-	-	800	1,820
Donations	1,320	-	-	1,320	1,157
Sales	133	-	-	133	119
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	2,253	-	-	2,253	3,096
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	2,253	-	-	2,253	3,096
A3 Payments					
Non-inventory items purchased	1,252	-	-	1,252	1,085
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,252	-	-	1,252	1,085
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Inventory items purchased	839	-	-	839	1,165
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	839	-	-	839	1,165
Total payments	2,091	-	-	2,091	2,250
Net of receipts/(payments)	162	-	-	162	846
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	162	-	-	162	846

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds
		to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
B1 Cash funds				
	Cash	52	211	-
	Bank	2,332	2,392	-

	-	-	-
Total cash funds	2,384	2,603	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

B2 Other monetary assets

Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

B3 Investment assets

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

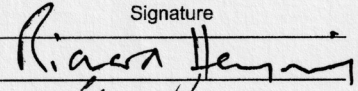
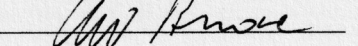
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

B5 Liabilities

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Richard Hemingway	19/11/2024
	Greg Browne	3/12/2024

Accounts

Annual Report for the period From 1st April 2022 To 31st March 2023

Organisation name: Friends of Beechcroft Library

Charity registration number: 1188953

Objectives and Activities

This annual report has been created following guidance contained in the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) issued by the Charity Commission.

	SORP Ref.	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Purposes as defined in the Constitution agreed in April 2020: The advancement of education for the public benefit in particular by the provision of library facilities and services for learning, for information, advice and other related library provision for the benefit of the residents and the wider community in Stratton St Margaret and the surrounding areas.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The main activities undertaken to achieve the aims are: • Working with the Library Staff and Stratton Parish to develop the library as a community hub • Meeting with Library staff and Parish to agree objectives, approach and activities • Promoting the Library via social media, posters, displays, developing a community network • Raising funds to support activities, purchasing craft materials, reference books, notice boards, Refreshments • Running events and activities such as Basic IT skills, social groups and clubs, children's story time, developing/ displaying Stratton History Archive material, organising regular events
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees assess each of their activities with regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP Ref.	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The Friends do not currently give grants to individuals or other organisations
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	The Friends do not currently undertake any social investments
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	There are no employees, all the Trustees are volunteers. Library Volunteers are engaged by the Parish rather than the Friends but are supported and encouraged by the Friends. Their contribution is vital in enabling the Library and the Friends to undertake the numerous activities and groups which take place

Achievements and Performance

	SORP Ref.	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	In March 2022 we restarted all our groups and activities after the COVID pandemic. Confidence among our service users started to improve and by the end of March 2023 footfall numbers had increased by 65% and are now exceeding pre-pandemic levels. The library had 19,898 visits between April 2022 and March 2023 The various groups and activities supported by the Friends are all well attended and are going some way to mitigating the loneliness and isolation experienced by some of our residents. Stratton Advice Point has been very busy this year with a campaign to improve take-up of Pension Credit and other under-claimed benefits. The advice point has successfully claimed in the region of £200,000 in welfare benefits for service users during 2022-23. The advice point liaises with the Social Prescribers and Community Navigators to provide benefits advice and support to their service users. We restarted our Tea and Tech digital drop-in sessions in spring and we liaise closely with the Digital Inclusion Officer at Swindon Borough Council. This is an important service as there are very few places in Swindon running digital inclusion sessions for residents. The Friends are also members of the Digital Inclusion Forum within Libraries Connected organisation. We have been trialling a Home Delivery Book Service for local residents who are housebound and have difficulty accessing the library. This is proving more resource intensive than anticipated and we have not rolled it out more widely yet. The Stratton History team has had a busy year with extracts of sales, advertisements, news items, photos and maps from online sources. Two displays were shown at the Stratton Jubilee Festival in the summer of 2022. A new history service was offered to library users in 2023 to provide assistance with Family History research, with eight users having been assisted to date. Since November 2022 we have been running a self service mini 'café' for library users, providing hot drinks and biscuits. This is free to users and has supported the library's registration as a Warm Space over the winter months. We held two successful Coffee mornings in September 2022 and February 2023 which raised £750 and £351 for Macmillan Cancer Support and the Swindon Carer's Centre respectively.

		Our thanks go to all the staff, the volunteers and Stratton St Margaret Parish Council who have supported the Library so wonderfully over the last year.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP Ref.	
Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	We aim to provide opportunities to improve health and well-being, to develop community engagement, and to improve skills and training. Objective 1 - To improve health and well being ● The Friends encourage and support volunteers of all ages and abilities alongside the library staff ● We work closely with Stratton Advice Point to provide a local Welfare benefits service ● We are providing a home delivery book service for local housebound residents. ● We run groups such as Friendship, art, Lego, chess, Scrabble, etc to provide users with the opportunities to socialise and reduce isolation ● We work closely with the Live Well team within Swindon Borough Council, particularly the Food Partnership Officer, Social Prescribers and Community Navigators Objective 2 - To encourage community engagement and cohesion ● The Friends maintain a Facebook business page and an up to date website to improve our visibility, engage with residents and widen the reach of the library. ● We support Wiltshire Building Records Archivist to develop an archive of local historical material. ● We are developing links with other local organisations such as churches and schools. The art department at Kingsdown School provides art work for display in the library ● We are active members of the Swindon Trustee Network, Swindon Connecting People Network, the Swindon Seniors Forum, and Swindon History Forum. Objective 3 - To improve economic growth, employment, training and skills ● Active members of the On-line Centres Network and the Good Thing Foundation's Digital Inclusion Network, Libraries Connected - Digital Inclusion Forum ● We run weekly Digital Drop-in sessions and are active members of the Get Connected Swindon Forum run by Swindon Borough Council ● We have purchased additional learning resources such as children's reference books in line with the national curriculum ● We have purchased self-help and well-being books for

		adults. Objective 4 - To reduce the cost impact on the Parish of running the community library ● We work very closely with Stratton St Margaret Parish Council to support the excellent work done by the council in running the library ● As a registered charity we are in a strong position to apply for grants to support the work of the library.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Formal fundraising objectives were not defined other than ensuring that the objectives described in the previous section were supported financially where necessary. Our income raised this year totalled £3096 and our total expenditure was £2250.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable

Financial Review

	SORP Ref.	
Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Our income for 2022-23 totalled £3,096, comprised of: ● A generous grant of £1820 from Stratton St Margaret Parish Council ● £1,157 in donations ● £119 from the sale of books and cakes We have spent £2250 on purchases for the library, including new books and equipment. Our net worth as at 31 March 2023 was £2603, (£2392 in the Co-op Bank and £211 in cash). Please see the Annual Financial Report for full details.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Our Reserves Policy states that we will only hold reserve funds if we have formal financial commitments. As we now have Public Liability Insurance premiums going forward we will ensure that we have sufficient funds to cover the premium.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Sufficient to cover Public Liability Insurance Premium which was £193 in 2022-23.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	We are dependent on the continued existence of Beechcroft Library. There is little chance that the Library would close in the near future as it is a popular resource for the parish.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	We have received £1820 in grants this year from Stratton St Margaret Parish Council We have received £1157 in donations
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	There are few risks facing the Friends charity and they are all categorised as low, the highest risks are: ● Over-reliance on a few individuals ● Maintaining community support ● Activities where safeguarding risks may arise ● Dependency on key income sources

Structure, Governance and Management

	SORP Ref.	
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation following the Foundation model
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions	Para 1.25	The existing Trustees can select new Trustees as required following the procedure described in the next section.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Recruitment of Trustees for the Friends should be in line with the guidance given below: ● There is a written job description / person specification for the post ● If a trustee wishes to volunteer for the Library they should complete a Parish Council volunteer application form and the Parish Recruitment policies be followed ● A suitable induction programme is provided ● The applicant is given a copy of the Safeguarding Policy and knows how to report concerns.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a written constitution. We are not affiliated to any wider network
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	We work closely with Stratton St Margaret Parish Council who run Beechcroft Library.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Friends of Beechcroft Library
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1188953
Charity's principal address	188 Beechcroft Road, Swindon, SN2 7QQ

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Lesley Hemingway	Chair		
2	Richard Hemingway	Treasurer		
3	Indra Robson			
4	Lynette Dodson			
5	Greg Browne	Secretary		
6	Clive Carter			
7	Linda O'Kane	Deputy Chair		
9	Nigel Chalk	Deputy Treasurer		
10	Anne Chalk			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	Not applicable
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Not applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Not applicable

Exemptions from disclosure

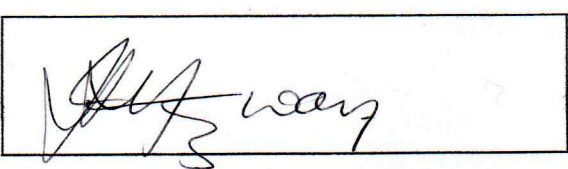
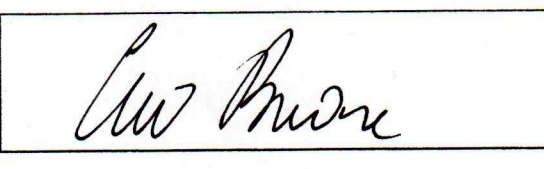
Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	JOAN LESLEY HEMINGWAY	GREGORY WADE BROOME
Position(s) (eg Secretary, Chair)	CHAIR.	SECRETARY
Date(s)	6 JUNE 2023	6 JUNE 2023

**FRIENDS OF UPPER STRATTON (BEEHCROFT) LIBRARY
BEEHCROFT ROAD
UPPER STRATTON
SWINDON
WILTSHIRE**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023**

FRIENDS OF UPPER STRATTON (BEEHCROFT) LIBRARY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2023

	2022-2023		2021-2022	
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income
Cash at Bank 1st April 2022		1,754		1,303
Cash in Hand 1st April 2022		3		179
<u>Income</u>				
Grant		1,820		1,000
Donations		1,157		361
Sales		119		-
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Activities and Events	840		-	
Insurance	193		164	
Decoration	112		-	
Display	151			
Social Media	95		53	
People Counter	-		234	
Repairs and Renewals	-		204	
Volunteer Motivation	432		-	
Café Refreshments	262		67	
Books	34		193	
Flowers	-		52	
Wildlife	107		-	
Professional Fees	20		-	
Miscellaneous Expenses	4		119	
Total	£2,250	£3,096	£1,086	£1,361
Cash at Bank 31st March 2023	2,392		1,754	
Cash in Hand 31st March 2023	211		3	
Net Worth	£2,603		£1,757	
	<u>£4,853</u>	<u>£4,853</u>	<u>£2,843</u>	<u>£2,843</u>



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from Period start date To Period end date

01/04/2022

31/03/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	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					
Grant	1,820	-	-	1,820	1,000
Donations	1,157	-	-	1,157	361
Sales	119	-	-	119	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	3,096			3,096	1,361
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total					
Total receipts	3,096			3,096	1,361
A3 Payments					
Non-inventory items purchased	1,085	-	-	1,085	1,086
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,085			1,085	1,086
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
Inventory items purchased	1,165	-	-	1,165	605
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,165			1,165	
Total payments	2,250			2,250	1,086
Net of receipts/(payments)	846			846	275
A5 Transfers between funds					
A6 Cash funds last year end					
Cash funds this year end	846			846	275

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash	211	-	-
	Bank	2,392	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	2,603	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
<i>Richard Hemingway</i>	Richard Hemingway	6/11/2023
<i>Greg Browne</i>	Greg Browne	6/11/2023

Accounts

Annual Report for the period From 1st April 2021 To 31st March 2022

Organisation name: Friends of Beechcroft Library

Charity registration number: 1188953

Objectives and Activities

This annual report has been created following guidance contained in the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) issued by the Charity Commission.

	SORP Ref.	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Purposes as defined in the Constitution agreed in April 2020: The advancement of education for the public benefit in particular by the provision of library facilities and services for learning, for information, advice and other related library provision for the benefit of the residents and the wider community in Stratton St Margaret and the surrounding areas.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The main activities undertaken to achieve the aims are: • Working with the Library Staff and Stratton Parish to develop the library as a community hub • Meeting with Library staff and Parish to agree objectives, approach and activities • Promoting the Library via social media, posters, displays, developing a community network • Raising funds to support activities, purchasing craft materials, reference books, notice boards, Refreshments • Running events and activities such as Basic IT skills, social groups and clubs, childrens' story time, developing/ displaying Stratton History Archive material, organising regular events
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees assess each of their activities with regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP Ref.	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The Friends do not currently give grants to individuals or other organisations
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	The Friends do not currently undertake any social investments
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	There are no employees, all the Trustees are volunteers. Library Volunteers are engaged by the Parish rather than the Friends but are supported and encouraged by the Friends. Their contribution is vital in enabling the Library and the Friends to undertake the numerous activities and groups which take place (when not under COVID restrictions)

Achievements and Performance

	SORP Ref.	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Unfortunately the Library was closed to groups and activities due to the coronavirus pandemic from the start of our reporting year until September 2021. Groups and activities restarted in September 2021 but unfortunately had to be temporarily suspended again due to Omicron in December 2021 and January 2022. In February 2022 we restarted all our groups and activities. Confidence among our service users started to improve and by the end of March 2022 attendance was increasing towards pre-pandemic levels. We held two successful Coffee mornings in September and March which raised £550 and £300 for Macmillan Cancer Support and the British Liver Trust respectively. We have been working with the Parish Council to develop a Home Delivery Book Service for local residents who are housebound and have difficulty accessing the library. This will run as a pilot scheme initially for 3 months to assess demand and the resources required to roll the service out more widely Our thanks go to all the staff, the volunteers and Stratton St Margaret Parish Council who have supported the Library over the last year in very difficult circumstances.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP Ref.	
Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	We aim to provide opportunities to improve health and well-being, to develop community engagement, and to improve skills and training. Objective 1 - To improve health and well being ● The Friends encourage and support volunteers of all ages and abilities alongside the library staff ● We work closely with Stratton Advice Point to provide a local Welfare benefits service ● We have been developing a pilot home delivery service for local housebound residents. ● We run groups such as Friendship, art, Lego, chess, scrabble, etc to provide users with the opportunities to socialise and reduce isolation Objective 2 - To encourage community engagement and cohesion ● The Friends maintain a Facebook business page to improve our visibility, engage with residents and widen the reach of the library. ● We support Wiltshire Building Records Archivist to develop an archive of local historical material. ● We are developing links with other local organisations such as churches and schools. ● We are active members of the Swindon Trustee Network, the Swindon Connecting People Network and The Swindon Seniors Forum. ● We have recruited additional Trustees this year with links to other local organisations in order to strengthen our community links. Objective 3 - To improve economic growth, employment, training and skills ● We are members of the On-line Centres Network which aims to improve digital inclusion. ● We are members of the Good Thing Foundation's Digital Inclusion Network ● We run weekly Digital Drop-in sessions ● We have purchased additional learning resources such as children's reference books to tie in with the national curriculum ● We have purchased self-help and well-being books for adults. Objective 4 - To reduce the cost impact on the Parish of running the community library As a registered charity we are in a strong position to apply for grants to support the work of the library.
Performance of fundraising	Para 1.41	Our fundraising exceeded our objectives this year

activities against objectives set		due to the generous grant from Stratton St Margaret Parish Council. We applied for £500 and were awarded £1000. We also received £361 in donations during the year.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable

Financial Review

	SORP Ref.	
Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	During the year to 31st March 2022, we have received grant of £1000 from Stratton St Margaret Parish Council and donations totalling £361. We have spent £1086.22 on purchases for the library, including new books and equipment. Our net worth as at 31 March 2022 was £1756.59, (£1753.85 in the Co-op Bank and £2.92 in cash).
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Our Reserves Policy states that we will only hold reserve funds if we have formal financial commitments.. As we now have Public Liability Insurance premiums going forward we will ensure that we have sufficient funds to cover the premium.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Sufficient to cover Public Liability Insurance Premium (currently £165)
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	We are dependent on the continued existence of Beechcroft Library. There is little chance that the Library would close in the near future as it is a popular resource for the parish.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	We have received £1000 in grants this year from Stratton St Margaret Parish Council We have received £361 in donations
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	- There was a possibility that the library would relocate away from Beechcroft Rd resulting in a fall in visitors, which in turn could lead to questions about its viability. The Parish Council have now decided that the Library will remain in its current location, due largely to the feedback from users. - We experienced a decline in library use due to the impact of the pandemic. However, since February we have seen an increase in attendance as service users recover their confidence - Over-reliance on a few individuals. Additional trustees have been recruited to mitigate this risk.

Structure, Governance and Management

	SORP Ref.	
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation following the Foundation model
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The existing Trustees can select new Trustees as required following the procedure described in the next section.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Recruitment of Trustees for the Friends should be in line with the guidance given below: ● There is a written job description / person specification for the post ● If a trustee wishes to volunteer for the Library they should complete a Parish Council volunteer application form and the Parish Recruitment policies be followed ● A suitable induction programme is provided ● The applicant has been given a copy of the Safeguarding Policy and knows how to report concerns.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a written constitution. Not affiliated to any wider network although we attend meetings of the Swindon Trustee Network
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	We work closely with Stratton St Margaret Parish Council who run Beechcroft Library

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Friends of Beechcroft Library
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1188953
Charity's principal address	188 Beechcroft Road, Swindon, SN2 7QQ

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Lesley Hemingway	Chair		
2	Richard Hemingway	Treasurer		
3	Indra Robson	Secretary		
4	Lynette Dodson			
5	Greg Browne			
6	Clive Carter			
7	Linda O'Kane		From Oct 2021	
8	Katie Gould		Until Jan 2022	
9	Nigel Chalk		From Feb 2022	
10	Anne Chalk		From Feb 2022	

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	Not applicable
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	Not applicable
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	Not applicable

Exemptions from disclosure

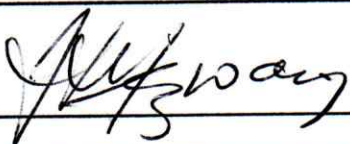
Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	J. L. HEMINGWAY	INDRA ROBSON
Position(s) (eg Secretary, Chair)	CHAIR	SECRETARY.
Date(s)	16. 5. 2022	16/05/2022.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Friends of Beechcroft Library

1188953

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/04/2021		31/03/2022

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Fundraising Sales	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	361	-	-	361	-
Grants	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,361	-	-	1,361	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,361	-	-	1,361	-
A3 Payments					
Costs of charitable activities	481	-	-	481	168
Independent examination	-	-	-	-	40
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	481	-	-	481	208
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
Assets retained for charity's own use	605	-	-	605	195
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	605	-	-	605	195
Total payments	1,086	-	-	1,086	403
Net of receipts/(payments)	274	-	-	274	403
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	274	-	-	274	403

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash	3		
	Bank	1,754		
	Total cash funds	1,757		
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		Agreement Error	OK	OK

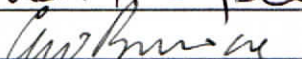
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets				

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets				

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities				

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Richard Hemingway	22/06/22
	Greg Browne	22/06/22

Accounts

Annual Report for the period From 1st April 2020 To 31st March 2021

Organisation name: Friends of Beechcroft Library

Charity registration number: 1188953

Objectives and Activities

This annual report has been created following guidance contained in the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) issued by the Charity Commission.

	SORP Ref.	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	Purposes as defined in the Constitution agreed in April 2020: The advancement of education for the public benefit in particular by the provision of library facilities and services for learning, for information, advice and other related library provision for the benefit of the residents and the wider community in Stratton St Margaret and the surrounding areas.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The main activities undertaken to achieve the aims are: • Working with the Library Staff and Stratton Parish to develop the library as a community hub • Meeting with Library staff and Parish to agree objectives and approach • Promoting the Library via social media, posters, displays, developing a community network • Raising funds to support activities, purchasing craft materials, reference books, notice boards, Refreshments • Running events and activities such as Basic IT skills, joining Online Services Network, social groups and events
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees assess each of their activities with regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP Ref.	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	The Friends do not currently give grants to individuals or other organisations
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	The Friends do not currently undertake any social investments
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Library Volunteers are engaged by the Parish rather than the Friends but are supported and encouraged by the Friends. Their contribution is vital in enabling the Library and the Friends to undertake the numerous activities and groups which normally take place when not under COVID restrictions.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP Ref.	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Unfortunately from the start of our reporting year the Library has been closed for long periods due to the coronavirus pandemic. This has had a profound impact on our normal activities as we have not been able to run any groups or activities due to the restrictions that have have been in place throughout the year. However we have taken the opportunity of a quiet time to put in place the governance, policies and procedures recommended by the Charity Commission. Our thanks go to all the staff and volunteers who have supported the Library over the last year in very difficult circumstances.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP Ref.	
Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	Objective 1 - To improve health and well being ● The Friends encourage and support volunteers of all ages and abilities alongside the library staff ● We have worked closely with Stratton Advice Point to provide a remote Welfare benefits service during the pandemic Objective 2 - To encourage community engagement and cohesion ● The Friends maintain a Facebook business page and are working with a web developer to set up a website. This will improve our visibility, improve marketing/publicity and widen the reach of the library. ● We support Wiltshire Building Records to develop an archive of local historical material. Six displays have been created for use in the library and other locations when coronavirus restrictions are lifted.. A separate annual report describes the work undertaken by the Wiltshire Building Records Archivist. ● In order to strengthen community cohesion we have joined the Swindon Trustee Network to share knowledge and support with other community user groups and organisations

		Objective 3 - To improve economic growth, employment, training and skills ● We are members of the On-line Centres Network which aims to help people use digital technology to access essential services and take advantage of the opportunities the internet provides. ● The Friends have provided the funding for additional learning resources such as a selection of reference and self-help books, etc. Objective 4 - To reduce the cost impact on the Parish of running the community library The Friends have not raised any funds for the library this year due to the pandemic, however as a registered charity we are in a strong position to apply for grants to support the work of the library going forward.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Due to the restrictions imposed under the pandemic we have not raised any funds this year
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable

Financial Review

	SORP Ref.	
Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	During the year to 31st March 2021, we have not raised any funds, nor received any grants or donations, due to COVID and the Library's effective closure for much of the year. We have spent £404.18 on purchases for the library, including new books, bookends, craft materials, face shields and Christmas tree lights. Our net worth as at 31 March 2021 was £1,482.29, (£1,502.29 in the Co-op Bank and £179.11 in cash).
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	Our Reserves Policy states that we will only hold reserve funds if and when we have formal financial commitments such as Public Liability Insurance premiums.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	Zero
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	We do not currently have any formal financial commitments.
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Entirely dependent on the continued existence of Beechcroft Library. In the unlikely event of the Library closing there would be no reason for our continuing existence.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	We have not raised any funds nor received any grants this year due to coronavirus restrictions.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	● The Coronavirus pandemic has severely impacted our work. When restrictions do eventually lift we will in effect be back at square one in terms of developing the community hub. ● There may be difficulty in restarting fundraising activities after the pandemic ● Decline in library use due to the impact of the pandemic. ● In the unlikely event of the Library closing there would be no requirement for the Friends to continue

Structure, Governance and Management

	SORP Ref.	
Type of governing document	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation following the Foundation model
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	The existing Trustees can select new Trustees as required following the procedure below.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	Recruitment of Trustees for the Friends should be in line with the guidance given below: ● There is a written job description / person specification for the post ● If a trustee wishes to volunteer for the Library they should complete a Parish Council volunteer application form and the Parish Recruitment policies be followed ● A suitable induction programme is provided ● The applicant has been given a copy of the Safeguarding Policy and knows how to report concerns.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	Charitable Incorporated Organisation with a written constitution. Not affiliated to any wider network although we attend meetings of the Swindon Trustee Network
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	We work closely with Stratton St Margaret Parish Council who run Beechcroft Library

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Friends of Beechcroft Library
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	1188953
Charity's principal address	188 Beechcroft Road, Swindon, SN2 7QQ

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Lesley Hemingway	Chair		
2	Richard Hemingway	Treasurer		
3	Indra Robson	Secretary		
4	Lynette Dodson			
5	Greg Browne			
6	Clive Carter			
7	Katie Gould			

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
N/A		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
N/A		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Exemptions from disclosure

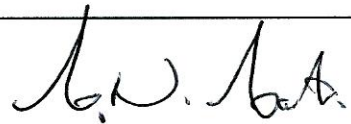
Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	JOAN LESLEY HEMMING	OLIVE NICHOLAS CARTER
Position(s) (eg Secretary, Chair)	CHAIR	Archivist
Date(s)	28.6.21	28/6/21



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Friends of Beechcroft Library

1188953

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

Period start date
4/1/2020

To

Period end date
3/31/2021

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
Fundraising Sales	-	-	-	-
Donations	-	-	-	-
Grants	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	-	-	-	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	-	-	-	-
A3 Payments				
Costs of charitable activities	364	-	-	364
Independent examination	40	-	-	40
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	404	-	-	404
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)				
Assets retained for charity's own use	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-
Total payments	404	-	-	404
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 404	-	-	- 404
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 404	-	-	- 404

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash	179	-
	Bank	1,303	-
		-	-
	Total cash funds	1,482	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
			-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
			-
			-
			-
			-
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	
		Richard Hemingway	

CC16a

Last year
to the nearest £

-
-
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**Endowment
funds**
to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

**Endowment
funds**
to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

**When due
(optional)**

Date of
approval

**FRIENDS OF BEEHCROFT LIBRARY
BEEHCROFT ROAD
SWINDON**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2021**

	2021	
Cash at Bank 1st April 2020		1563
Cash in Hand 1st April 2020		323
<u>Income</u>		
Fundraising Sales		-
Donations		-
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Grant	-	
Postage and Stationery	-	
Domain Registration	17	
Facebook Boosting	-	
Easter Event Costs	-	
Notice Board	-	
Bookends	28	
Display Boards	-	
Travelling Expenses	20	
Refreshments	-	
Craft Materials	26	
Books	188	
Games and Jigsaws	-	
Professional Fees	40	
Miscellaneous Expenses	85	
Cash at Bank 31st March 2021	1303	
Cash in Hand 31st March 2021	179	

Chris Vaughan (of Chris Vaughan Accountants, 195 Ermin Street Swindon, SN3 4NA, as Independent Assessor for Friends of Beechcroft Library) produced the above based on accounts produced by Richard Hemingway, Treasurer to Friends of Beechcroft Library