

# **Birmingham Tree People**

**Charity Number: 1190536**

*{Charitable Incorporated Organisation}*

## **Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements for the Period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024**

2<sup>nd</sup> July 2024

## Reference & Administration Details

Charity name: Birmingham Tree People  
Charity number: 1190536  
Charity's operating address: 32 Somerset Road  
Handsworth  
Birmingham  
B20 2JD

### *Names of the Charity Trustees who Manage the Charity*

	Trustee Name	Office (if any)	Appointed	Retired
1	Tonia Clark	Chair	23 July 2020	
2	Stephen Watson	Trustee	23 July 2020	
3	Simon Needle	Trustee	23 July 2020	
4	Nina Griffiths	Trustee	02 Feb 2021	
5	Deanne Brettle	Trustee	21 Oct 2021	
6	James Tucker	Trustee	15 Feb 2023	
7	Ian McDermott	Trustee	27 April 2023	
8	Julianne Statham	Trustee	18 January 2024	
9	Lawrence Weston	Trustee	18 January 2024	

### *Names & Addresses of Advisors*

**Name**                      **Address & Postcode**

Bank:                      Lloyds Bank, Box 1, BX1 1LT

## Structure, Governance & Management

### Description of the Charity's Trusts

**Type of Governing**    Constitution  
**Document:**

**How the Charity is**    Charitable Incorporated Organisation  
**Constituted:**

**Trustee Selection Methods:** Trustees are elected at a Trustees meeting. Local people who regularly attend BTP urban forest volunteer training are considered.

**How New Trustees are Inducted and Trained:** Prospective trustees are asked to attend a meeting before they commit. They meet with the Chair who explains the history and the role of the charity.

## Objectives & Activities

### Summary of the Objects of the Charity as set out in its Governing Document

Birmingham Tree People aims to plant, promote and protect trees in Birmingham. We provide free monthly training and organise activities. We are also a registered training centre for the Skills Education Group Level 2 in Arboriculture.

### Summary of the Main Activities Undertaken for the Public Benefit in Relation to the Charity's Objects

What the charity does: Education/training Environment/conservation/heritage.

Who the charity helps: People in Birmingham.

How the charity helps: Provides Advocacy/advice/information.

Where the charity operates: Birmingham.

## Achievements & Performance

### Statutory Declaration

The trustees declare that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the commission in exercising their powers or duties.

### Summary of the Main Achievements of the Charity for the Year – Chair's Report

This has been a pivotal year for BTP with the appointment of our first member of staff, thanks to funding from the Urban Forest Accelerator project in partnership with the National Trust and funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund Trees Call for Action Fund. Katy Hawkins, our Engagement Worker, has worked with communities in

Nechells, Bromford and Firs and Hodge Hill to support them to plant trees in their neighbourhoods and then to maintain them. Thank you to Simon Needle who secured this funding for BTP's work.

The UFA funding also enabled us to take on a self-employed contractor, Charley McDermott, to provide communications services. She has delivered a monthly newsletter and has greatly increased our social media presence.

Our close working with the National Trust also led to a visioning session for the BTP trustees facilitated by Vic Hopkins from Conquering Chaos. The trustees are reviewing the BTP mission and vision and developing objectives linked to the Urban Forest Master Plan.

Our City of Nature funded contractor, Justine Marklew, finished her contract with us at the start of the year after some great work in Bordesley and Highgate to engage local people with trees in local parks. Justine also co-ordinated the tree planting that BTP committed to delivering for the Birmingham Trees for Life project. The remaining BTFL reserves were transferred from the Civic Trust to pay for this. We are incredibly grateful to the BTFL committee to trusting us to continue their legacy. A special thanks to Sue Griffith from BTFL who came along to BTP committee meetings to ensure that all the BTFL knowledge and wisdom was passed on.

Tree planting has been a large element of work this year. The BTFL plantings were finished and funding agreed from One Tree Planted and Trees for Cities to pay for 100 heavy standard trees in Nechells, Hodge Hill, Bromford and Firs, Newtown and Highters Heath to be planted in the winter of 2023/4. This was a huge amount of work and co-ordination was required between the BTP trustees, (a huge thank you to Ian McDermott who led on this), our staff and the City Council Tree Officers and tree contractors. There were several events with local people to plant the trees at which poems were read, songs sung, tree knowledge shared and trees decorated.

The trustees have been writing a tree planting strategy for the city which meets the objectives of the Urban Forest Master Plan and will help inform future tree planting both in terms of species selection and locations.

A new tree planting initiative has been launched this year by BTP. Called Treemembrance, it gives people the opportunity to pay for a memorial tree on City Council owned land. Trustee Julianne Statham co-ordinated this project and has so far

planted a tree for the Debt Justice campaign and is supporting several families with their memorial trees.

Tree surveying was also a busy area for BTP this year. There were two projects; the street tree survey continued and has been managed by trustee Nina Griffiths. She has trained more volunteers and in March, funding was secured from the West Midlands Combined Authority's Community Environment Fund to pay volunteer expenses and provide equipment and training. The second project was the itree project which was funded by the WMCA and in partnership with Treeconomics and Barton Hyatt. BTP's volunteers were trained and completed 450 plots within a couple of months.

The street tree survey has been supported by University of Birmingham students, Emily Bennett completed her student placement with the charity and Naya Desai has started her PhD on street trees. We are grateful to Deanne Brettle and Emma Ferranti for supporting these students in their work with BTP.

Trustee, Deanne Brettle, has also been leading on developing digital tree trails which are now on Treeplotter. These are being promoted to engage people across the city with trees in their local parks.

Monthly training has continued this year, led by Ian McDermott:

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December - Highbury Park - conifer identification session

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There have been several promotional and other training activities undertaken during the year. Two sessions on trees have been run for the Eden Project Communities programme and talks given to the Calthorpe Residents Association and the Coventry Tree wardens group.

Projects for 2024-25 were also started during the year; the Tree Board, the Benjamin Zephaniah legacy forest and the Tree Cities of the World conference in June 2024 in Birmingham.

BTP is fortunate in having a group of dedicated, hard-working trustees and paid workers who have ambitious plans for the growth of the charity.

## **Financial Review**

### **Brief Statement of the Charity's Policy on Reserves**

The charity aims to build up small reserves of 3 month's running costs to enable the payment of redundancy costs to our employee if these should be required. The reserves will also help to cover any funding gaps to enable the employee to be continuously employed.

### **Details of Any Funds Materially in Deficit**

None

## **Statutory Notes to the Accounts**

### **Particulars of Any Outstanding Guarantee Given by the CIO**

None

### **Particulars of Any Outstanding Debt**

None

## Declaration

**The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.**

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

**Signature(s):**

**Full Name(s):**

Tonia Clark

Nina Griffiths

**Position(s):**


Chair

Trustee

**Date:**

18<sup>th</sup> July 2024

18<sup>th</sup> July 2024

 <div>CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES</div>	Birmingham Tree People			1190536	CC16a
	Receipts and payments accounts				
	For the period from	Saturday, April 01, 2023	To	Sunday, March 31, 2024	

## Section A Receipts and payments

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Endowment funds</b>	<b>Total funds</b>	<b>Last year</b>
	<b>to the nearest £</b>	<b>to the nearest £</b>	<b>to the nearest £</b>	<b>to the nearest £</b>	<b>to the nearest £</b>
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Birmingham City Council		-	-	-	10,400
Veolia		-	-	-	-
itree survey	40,500	-	-	40,500	
Tree planting funding		12,810	-	12,810	
Trees for Cities	6,804	-	-	6,804	
Birmingham City of Nature		-	-	-	400
Centre for Sustainable Environment		-	-	-	5,200
Civic Society		-	-	-	8,000
Severn Trent		-	-	-	7,800
Western Power Distribution		-	-	-	600
Treemembrance	750	-	-	750	
donations to BTP	230	-	-	230	921
National Trust UFA		20,535	-	20,535	
Arb2 course fees	2,395	-	-	2,395	3,465
TreePlotter	-	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total(Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>50,679</b>	<b>36,345</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>87,024</b>	<b>39,786</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>50,679</b>	<b>36,345</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>87,024</b>	<b>39,786</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
staff payments	1,694		-	1,694	3,608



Arb 2 fees				-	2,000
itree survey	31,360			31,360	
Tree products		21,104		21,104	5,325
Equipment purchase				-	4,009
Sponsorship MTOA				-	500
National Trust UFA		24,654		24,654	
Skills Educ Group	1,404		-	1,404	840
Tree Council			-	-	175
Premises hire				-	246
website service	760		-	760	
Treeplotter software		4,200	-	4,200	8,250
Treemembrance	87			87	
accountancy fee	943		-	943	
Marketing	250			250	
insurance	348		-	348	348
	-	-	-	-	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>36,847</b>	<b>49,958</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>86,805</b>	<b>25,301</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>36,847</b>	<b>49,958</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>86,805</b>	<b>25,301</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>13,832</b>	<b>- 13,613</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>14,485</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>25,284</b>	<b>7,492</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,776</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>39,116</b>	<b>- 6,121</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32,995</b>	<b>14,485</b>

## 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 £
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		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	39,116	- 6,121	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	<b>Details</b>			
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	Debtor National Trust - March salaries	UFA	4,119	-
	Debtor Woodland Trust - support for meeting	Donations	100	-
	<b>Details</b>	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>			-	-
			-	-
	<b>Details</b>	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
	<b>Details</b>	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>				
			-	

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None



## Declaration

**The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report above.**

Signed on behalf of the Charity's Trustees

**Signature(s):**

**Full Name(s):**

Tonia Clark

Nina Griffiths

**Position(s):**


Chair

Trustee

**Date:**

18<sup>th</sup> July 2024

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Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
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		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
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			-	-
	<b>Details</b>	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			-	-
			-	-
	<b>Details</b>	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>				
			-	



**Report to the  
trustees/  
members of**

Birmingham Tree People

**On accounts  
for the period**

From 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024

**Charity no (if  
any)**

11905366

**Set out on pages**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period from 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent  
examiner's  
statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

10/07/2024

**Name:**

Andrew Hopkins

**Address:**

BVSC Accounting Services

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