

COCKERMOUTH MECHANICS BAND

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1190644

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

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Cockermouth Mechanics Band (the “Band”)
Registered Charity No. 1190644

Trustees Report for the period from 1st January 2023 to 31st December 2023

The Band is a CIO registered with the Charity Commission with number 1190644.

It has a constitution which closely follows the Charity Commission’s recommended pro forma for an Association CIO.

Summary of the Band’s Purpose

The purpose set out in the Constitution of the Band is “to advance the education of the public in the art and science of music, in particular music presented by Brass Bands, by means of rehearsals and concerts and other musical activities which the public will have access to and by providing opportunities for people to learn to play a brass instrument.”

Summary of the Band’s Activities during the reporting period

The Band continues to operate as a senior band, which rehearses twice a week, and a beginners’ band (known as the “Apprentices”) for learners and less experienced players, which rehearses once a week. Both are non – competing but take seriously the twin objectives of performing to the best of their ability and seeking to improve their standard of playing both individually and as a group.

The Band owns and maintains a stock of instruments which are available for loan free of charge to Band members; this enables the Band to help people of all standards to play instruments regardless of individual financial circumstances.

We also own and constantly add to our library of music which is suitable for, and available to, players of all levels. In particular this year we have increased the repertoire available to the Apprentices.

The improvement noted towards the end of last year, which followed the appointment of a new Musical Director, has continued and been consolidated. We often receive feedback from the public to the effect that we are playing better than ever.

Both the senior band and the Apprentices perform formally and informally. They play at events organised by, and open to, the local community as well as putting on their own concerts for the public to attend.

We have also, from time to time, assisted other bands in North West Cumbria (in Flimby, for example) by providing players to plug gaps in their line up and we envisage that continuing to be the case.

Statement as to Trustees' having regard to Charity Commission Guidance

The Trustees make every effort to follow all relevant Charity Commission Guidance, including as to public benefit.

Achievements this year

Both the senior band and the Apprentices have now performed in public more than in previous years, particularly in the run up to Christmas.

Our performances have included playing at the armistice parade, at various events in the Town such as the Christmas Lights switch on, Carols in the Cockermouth and Keswick town centres, Christmas concerts for local old peoples' homes, at the farmer's market, at a local fell race, at various agricultural shows during the summer (at Cockermouth, Keswick and Loweswater), and at the Town's free weekend music festival in July known as 'Cockermouth Live'.

We have also, sadly, provided music at funerals of longstanding members and supporters of the band.

Through these various activities we are known to be part of, and very much contributing to, the local community, we are highly visible, and we are achieving the purposes for which we are established.

We are sure that our reputation is growing, and that we are becoming more widely visible; this is evidenced by invitations to participate in new events this year which are likely to become regular commitments; examples are the Taste Cumbria weekend in Cockermouth, the Bluebell Service in Rannerdale, a memorial evening at Distington Crematorium and providing the music at a service of blessing at the Loweswater Show.

Financial Review

During the reporting period we have maintained a healthy financial condition through fund raising sufficiently to operate without financial pressure; we aim to be able to perform for the public benefit whether or not we are paid for performing, though we often receive generous donations.

Our cash balances enable the Band to continue to hire premises to rehearse (each week in the Quaker Meeting Rooms and in the Methodist Church) and store our library and spare instruments, to maintain and in some cases overhaul the band's instruments, to refresh and increase our music library, to buy new instruments when necessary or desirable, to continue property and liability insurance and memberships of relevant organisations and to be able to afford an increased level of other ongoing operating costs such as extra cleaning and higher rent and heating bills.

We maintain reserves at a level which we believe would enable us to operate for well over twelve months with no income, will enable us to replace some uniforms and music stands, acquire some new or second hand instruments if required for new players, continue the hire of additional larger premises, undertake a rolling programme of instrument repair and maintenance, provide working capital to stage our own events, to refresh our library of music and to be prepared for unforeseen contingencies.

In particular we consider it important that we have reserves sufficient to enable us to perform our purposes for the public benefit even if particular events or performances will not generate income.

We continue to be solvent and able to meet our liabilities as and when they fall due.

Governance

As noted above, the Band is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with a constitution which follows closely the Charity Commission's recommended form.

During the reporting period there were ten Trustees (the minimum provided for in our constitution is three, the maximum is twelve) who were listed as required on the Charity Commission's register. One of those trustees resigned shortly after the 2023 year end, so at the date of this report there are nine.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Cockermouth Mechanics Band
Other name the charity uses	None
Registered charity number	1190644
Charity's principal address	Packhorse Cottage, Low Lorton, Cumbria CA13 9UW

Names of the charity trustees who managed the charity during the reporting period

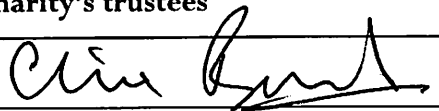
	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Date appointed	Notes
1	Andrew Skillen		From 06.05.2021	Retired and re elected 26.10.2023
2	Jane Hunter	Chair	From 30.07.2020	Retired and re elected 27.10.2022
4	Eleanor Moore		From 06.04.2021	Retired and re elected 27.10.2022
6	Bill Smith		From 06.05.2021	Retired and re elected 27.10.2022
7	Jeremy Clarkson		From 06.05.2021	Retired and re elected 27.10.2022; Retired January 2024
8	Peter MacGibbon		From 06.05.2021	Retired and re elected 26.10.2023
9	Clive Barnard		From 30.07.2020	Retired and re elected 27.10.2022
11	Luke Jones		From 27.10.2022	Retired and re elected 26.10.2023
12	Joe Mansfield		From 27.10.2022	
13	Rebecca Goodwin		From 27.10.2022	

None of the Trustees hold property on behalf of the Band; none of the Trustees hold funds as custodian for others.

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)	Celine BARNARD	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Trustee	

Date 10th October 2024.

COCKERMOUTH MECHANICS BAND

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Prior period £
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Income from:			
Charitable activities	3.1	2,250	1,810
Fundraising and donations		2,205	1,888
Income from fundraising concert		3,742	3,975
Bank interest		75	20
Total		<u>8,272</u>	<u>7,693</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	4.1	3,341	3,976
Costs of fundraising concert		2,491	2,119
Other	4.2	1,116	982
Total		<u>6,948</u>	<u>7,077</u>
NET INCOMING RESOURCES		1,324	616
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		<u>1,324</u>	<u>616</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Funds brought forward		15,018	14,402
Funds carried forward		<u>16,342</u>	<u>15,018</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements.

COCKERMOUTH MECHANICS BAND

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Prior period end £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets		0	0
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank		15,759	14,751
Debtors and prepayments	5	609	288
Total current assets		<u>16,368</u>	<u>15,039</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within 1 year	6	26	21
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>16,342</u>	<u>15,018</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>16,342</u>	<u>15,018</u>
ACCUMULATED FUNDS			
Unrestricted funds	7	16,342	15,018
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>16,342</u>	<u>15,018</u>

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on Monday 7th October 2024
and signed on its behalf by:



J E Hunter, Chair of the Trustees

The notes form part of these financial statements.

COCKERMOUTH MECHANICS BAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts, and in accordance with the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014, and with the Charities Act 2011.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

2.1 Income

Recognition of income

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets and liabilities, or income and expenditure.

2.2 Expenditure and liabilities

Liability recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

2.3 Assets

Tangible fixed assets

All purchases of equipment and other items of lasting benefit are treated as expenditure in the year of purchase.

COCKERMOUTH MECHANICS BAND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023

3. ANALYSIS OF INCOME

3.1 Charitable activities

This represents income from musical engagements and performances other than the annual fundraising concert.

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted funds £	Prior period £
4.1 Charitable activities		
Hire of premises	2,079	1,946
Purchase and repair of instruments	206	1,555
Purchase of music	673	475
Purchase of uniforms	383	
	<u>3,341</u>	<u>3,976</u>
4.2 Other expenditure		
Accounting services		311
Insurance	288	280
Stationery	316	166
Band social	376	
Other	136	225
	<u>1,116</u>	<u>982</u>

4.3 Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023.

There were no trustees' expenses for the period 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023.

5. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	31/12/23 £	31/12/22 £
Debtors	300	
Prepayments	309	288
	<u>609</u>	<u>288</u>

6. CREDITORS, AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN 1 YEAR

	31/12/23 £	31/12/22 £
Accruals	26	21
	<u>26</u>	<u>21</u>
		8

COCKERMOUTH MECHANICS BAND

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2023 TO 31 DECEMBER 2023**

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

£

Unrestricted funds

Balance brought forward

15,018

Income

8,272

Expenditure

-6,948

Balance carried forward

16,342