

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER: 1195616

Histon & Impington Green Spaces
Unaudited Financial Statements
For the year ended
31 March 2024

Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

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Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Registered charity name	Histon & Impington Green Spaces
Charity registration number	1195616
Principal office	Histon & Impington Recreation Ground New Road Impington Cambridge CB24 9LU

The trustees	Mr J Jenkins	(Appointed 24 August 2021)
	Mr R Bensted-Smith	(Served from 24 August 2021 to 16 March 2024)
	Mr A Jenking	(Appointed 24 August 2021)
	Ms D Fisher	(Appointed 24 August 2021)
	Ms K Holliday	(Appointed 24 August 2022)
	Ms R Moulder	(Served from 24 August 2022 to 6 June 2023)
	Mr J Pavey	(Appointed 08 August 2022)
	Mr D Dives	(Appointed 16 March 2024)
	Mr I Ellis	(Appointed 16 March 2024)
	Mr D Parkin	(Appointed 16 March 2024)
	Dr N Bailey	(Appointed 16 March 2024)

Structure, governance and management

Histon & Impington Green Spaces is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and registered with the Charity Commission on 24 August 2021. The charity was governed by its constitution of 24th August 2021 up to 20th January 2023 when the Charity Commission endorsed a revised constitution based on the 'Association' model form. (Originally the charity had a 'Foundation' model constitution.)

The charity had nine trustees at the end of the period, all bar one drawn from the local community. Their expertise covers a mix of conservation, legal and business experience.

The Parish Council has a right to nominate a non-voting representative to attend charity trustees' meetings, recognising the importance the charity puts to engaging with the Histon & Impington community and the considerable support the Parish Council has provided.

Objectives and activities

The charitable objects for which the charity is established are, for the benefit of the public, the conservation, protection and improvement of the environment in the parishes of Histon and Impington by the advancement of biodiversity.

The vision of Histon & Impington Green Spaces (HIGS) is that the people of Histon & Impington will be the custodians and beneficiaries of an expanded network of wildlife-rich, green spaces that present and future generations can access and enjoy.

Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

The mission of HIGS is to secure, by acquisition or otherwise, long-term access to land in and around Histon & Impington and enable this to be managed for these twin purposes:

- nature conservation; and
- the community experiencing nature for its enjoyment, health and wellbeing.

The first spaces for these purposes are Long Meadow and Croft Close Set-aside (renamed Croft Close Nature Reserve in September 2024), collectively known as Abbey Fields. Here the charity is seeking to protect and enhance their biodiversity. Importantly these areas will be for local people to enjoy, to savour their serenity and to connect with nature.

Achievements and performance

The charity was set up to acquire the Abbey Fields properties, Long Meadow and Croft Close Nature Reserve (then called “Set-aside”), for the community and ensure their management for biodiversity conservation, preservation of archaeological heritage, educational use and people's enjoyment. The charity is legally responsible for the current fund-raising and financial management and then for looking after Croft Close Nature Reserve and Long Meadow.

The charity took on the lease of Long Meadow effective 21 June 2022 and has the option to purchase the Meadow on the current owner's demise. The charity completed the purchase of Croft Close Nature Reserve on 8 June 2023 (which has been a County Wildlife Site since 13 October 2022).

During the first Quarter HIGS took on all remaining functions of the Friends of Histon & Impington Green Spaces (FHIGS) and in late 2023 members of FHIGS were invited to become members of HIGS. At the end of the period, HIGS had 131 members.

In the period under review, HIGS has undertaken a range of activities aimed at both facilitating access to Croft Close Nature Reserve and Long Meadow, improving the habitat quality, undertaking biodiversity monitoring and engaging with its supporter base. The activities have included:

- Site management aimed at both keeping the network of paths open for visitors and habitat management. The latter included:
 - removal of brambles encroaching into grassland areas
 - an early cut of the hay meadow with the aim of improving the wildflower population by reducing competition from grasses and
 - clearing certain areas of scrub as part of a multi-year rotation.
 - All site management was undertaken by volunteers with the exception of some tree surgery
 - A programme of surveys and monitoring at both Croft Close Nature Reserve and Long Meadow, including:
 - Systematic flora surveys at Long Meadow and at Croft Close Nature Reserve
 - Monthly bird ringing at Croft Close Nature Reserve together with collating ad hoc sightings
 - Counts of butterflies as part of the Big Butterfly Count, staged as a participatory educational event, with 517 observations covering 16 species.
 - In engaging with our supporters, as part of both educational and fundraising activities, we have:
 - Put on a combined “Magical Moths & Beautiful Birds” wildlife demonstration event at Croft Close Nature Reserve.
 - Run a series of guided walks. Some were intended to provide an introduction to the sites, others addressed specific topics, including meadow flora, trees and spring birdsong.
 - Run a programme of three talks over the winter, covering “Birds of Cambridgeshire: winners and losers”, “A virtual tour of Abbey Farm” and “The mysterious work of Cambridge's dragonflies”
 - Held an educational Easter quiz event (in which over 120 children participated and bringing around 450 visitors to Long Meadow)
 - Participated in several community events, including those organised by Histon & Impington Sustainability, Histon & Impington Community Orchard Project and the annual Histon Feast Week.
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Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Trustees' Annual Report *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

- Published six “Abbey Fields” newsletters, issued to around 550 subscribers, as well as providing articles for the local news service, HI Hub as well as the Parish Council’s quarterly newsletter and a monthly parish newsletter.
- Published an Abbey Fields calendar, sold for fundraising.
- We have maintained good contact with The Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire & Northamptonshire, who have provided advice on habitat management.

The charity has also supported interventions to improve the environment and biodiversity within Histon and Impington away from the Abbey Fields sites:

- We have also supported the Histon & Impington Parish Council providing advice on management of wild green spaces under their control and led the planting of a wetland area on Histon’s The Green.
- We also helped organise and lead work parties removing invasive evergreen oaks from Histon’s WI Wood, which is owned by the County Council.
- As part of our Members’ Afternoon we held a workshop themed “Connecting with Nature”. Around 70 suggestions for action were identified, both for our Abbey Fields sites and elsewhere within Histon and Impington. At the end of the period these suggestions were being assessed.

Financial review

At the end of the period, the charity had assets of £314,732.

Of this, cash at the bank and in hand was £54,402 and the remainder, £260,330 are the tangible fixed assets relating to the charity’s Croft Close Nature Reserve property, bought on 8 June 2023.

The trustees' annual report was approved on 8th January 2025 and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:



Mr J Pavey
Trustee

Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Histon & Impington Green Spaces ('the charity') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').


I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
3. the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Robert Plumbly

Independent Examiner

Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended 31 March 2024

			2024		2023
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments					
Donations and legacies	4	6,599	38,422	45,021	110,671
Charitable activities	5	4,089	2,577	6,666	3,329
Total income		<u>10,688</u>	<u>40,999</u>	<u>51,687</u>	<u>114,000</u>
Expenditure					
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Costs of raising donations and legacies	6	161	919	1,080	2,179
Expenditure on charitable activities	7,8	1,132	12,743	13,875	4,074
Total expenditure		<u>1,293</u>	<u>13,662</u>	<u>14,955</u>	<u>6,253</u>
Net income and net movement in funds		<u>9,395</u>	<u>27,337</u>	<u>36,732</u>	<u>107,747</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		4,018	273,982	278,000	170,253
Total funds carried forward		<u>13,413</u>	<u>301,319</u>	<u>314,732</u>	<u>278,000</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Statement of Financial Position

31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	11	260,330	—
Current assets			
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>54,402</u>	<u>278,000</u>
Net current assets		<u>54,402</u>	<u>278,000</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>314,732</u>	<u>278,000</u>
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds		301,319	273,982
Unrestricted funds		<u>13,413</u>	<u>4,018</u>
Total charity funds	12	<u>314,732</u>	<u>278,000</u>

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 8th January 2025, and are signed on behalf of the board by:



Mr J Pavey
Trustee

The notes on pages 7 to 12 form part of these financial statements.

Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2024

1. General information

The charity is a public benefit entity and a registered charity in England and Wales and is unincorporated. The address of the principal office is Histon & Impington Recreation Ground, New Road, Impington, Cambridge, CB24 9LU.

2. Statement of compliance

These financial statements have been prepared in compliance with FRS 102, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland', the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)) and the Charities Act 2011.

3. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis.

Going concern

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees to further any of the charity's purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular future project or commitment.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure declared by the donor or through the terms of an appeal, and fall into one of two sub-classes: restricted income funds or endowment funds.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the statement of financial activities upon receipt.

Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2024

3. Accounting policies (continued)

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on a payments basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is classified under headings of the statement of financial activities to which it relates:

- expenditure on raising funds includes the costs of all fundraising activities, events, non-charitable trading activities, and the sale of donated goods.
- expenditure on charitable activities includes all costs incurred by a charity in undertaking activities that further its charitable aims for the benefit of its beneficiaries, including those support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.
- other expenditure includes all expenditure that is neither related to raising funds for the charity nor part of its expenditure on charitable activities.

All costs are allocated to expenditure categories reflecting the use of the resource. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs are apportioned between the activities they contribute to on a reasonable, justifiable and consistent basis.

Tangible assets

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Impairment of fixed assets

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly.

4. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Donations			
Donations including Gift Aid	6,599	19,999	26,598
Grants			
Grants received	—	18,423	18,423
	<u>6,599</u>	<u>38,422</u>	<u>45,021</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Donations			
Donations including Gift Aid	1,543	59,128	60,671

Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

4. Donations and legacies *(continued)*

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Grants			
Grants received	—	50,000	50,000
	<u>1,543</u>	<u>109,128</u>	<u>110,671</u>

5. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Walking tours and educational activities	1,358	2,577	3,935
Merchandise sales	2,731	—	2,731
	<u>4,089</u>	<u>2,577</u>	<u>6,666</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Walking tours and educational activities	471	—	471
Merchandise sales	2,858	—	2,858
	<u>3,329</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>3,329</u>

6. Costs of raising donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Fundraising costs	161	919	1,080

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Fundraising costs	—	2,179	2,179

Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2024

7. Expenditure on charitable activities by fund type

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives	1,132	12,111	13,243
Support costs	–	632	632
	<u>1,132</u>	<u>12,743</u>	<u>13,875</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives	1,097	2,592	3,689
Support costs	–	385	385
	<u>1,097</u>	<u>2,977</u>	<u>4,074</u>

8. Expenditure on charitable activities by activity type

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total funds 2024 £	Total fund 2023 £
Activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives	<u>13,243</u>	<u>632</u>	<u>13,875</u>	<u>4,074</u>

9. Staff costs

The average head count of employees during the year was Nil (2023: Nil).

No employee received employee benefits of more than £60,000 during the year (2023: Nil).

10. Trustee remuneration and expenses

No remuneration or other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity were received by the trustees.

No trustees have had any expenses reimbursed in the current or preceding year.

In accordance with the terms of an Order of the Charity Commission for England and Wales with Authorisation Number 2094/2223 the trustees purchased property from Jenking Let Ltd.

Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £
Cost	
At 1 April 2023	–
Additions	260,330
At 31 March 2024	<u>260,330</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 April 2023 and 31 March 2024	–
Carrying amount	
At 31 March 2024	<u>260,330</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>–</u>

The land and buildings relates to Abbey Fields, the full balance relates to land which is not depreciated.

12. Analysis of charitable funds

Unrestricted funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2024 £
General funds	<u>4,018</u>	<u>10,688</u>	<u>(1,293)</u>	<u>13,413</u>

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2023 £
General funds	<u>243</u>	<u>4,872</u>	<u>(1,097)</u>	<u>4,018</u>

Restricted funds

	At 1 April 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2024 £
Abbey Fields Properties	<u>273,982</u>	<u>40,999</u>	<u>(13,662)</u>	<u>301,319</u>

	At 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 March 2023 £
Abbey Fields Properties	<u>170,010</u>	<u>109,128</u>	<u>(5,156)</u>	<u>273,982</u>

Histon & Impington Green Spaces

Notes to the Financial Statements *(continued)*

Year ended 31 March 2024

12. Analysis of charitable funds *(continued)*

Abbey Fields Properties

This fund is for the acquisition and management of the Abbey Fields properties. The funds can also be used for anything related to developing and sustaining HIGS as a viable charity, able to be an effective owner and custodian of Abbey Fields on behalf of the community in perpetuity.

13. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	–	260,330	260,330
Current assets	13,413	40,989	54,402
Net assets	<u>13,413</u>	<u>301,319</u>	<u>314,732</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	–	–	–
Current assets	2,475	275,525	278,000
Net assets	<u>2,475</u>	<u>275,525</u>	<u>278,000</u>