



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	05	2023		30	04	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Myrtle Park Friends

Other names charity is known by

Friends of Myrtle Park

Registered charity number (if any)

1195824

Charity's principal address

8 Unity Street North

Bingley

Postcode

BD16 1EN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Rosie Sharp	Chair		
2	Lindsay Bennett	Secretary		
3	Joy Smith	Membership Secretary		
4	Gaynor Smith			
5	Moira Pearce		010523-190224	
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20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Constitution – Association model, adopted 16th September 2021

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

All current trustees stand down and are eligible for re-election at the AGM. A notice for the AGM will be sent to members at least 14 days before the date of the meeting including a nomination form. New trustees can also be co-opted by the existing committee at any time, as long as the maximum number of trustees does not exceed 10.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Each newly appointed trustee will be given a copy of the constitution, a copy of the latest annual accounts and trustees report, and referred to guidance on the roles and responsibilities of a trustee available on the Charity Commission website.

The trustees oversee the day to day running of the group. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.

We have a paid membership scheme that we advertise via social media and to visitors in the park, which provides a small income to enable us to put on free activities and events, for additional resources for the Park Hub and its upkeep.

We seek the views of our members and visitors via social media, newsletters, emails and questionnaires.

We work with the Parks Manager at Bradford Council as well as the gardeners and council staff, raising any issues and working together to improve the park for visitors.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The object of the CIO is for the benefit of the inhabitants of Bingley, Bradford City ("the area of benefit"), to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit in particular but not exclusively by the preservation, promotion, support, assistance and improvement of Myrtle Park, Bingley, Bradford City.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The trustees can confirm that they are aware of the need to make decisions to ensure the best public benefit possible, in line with guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

We hold bi-weekly action days on a Sunday morning, run by the trustees and open to members of the public to volunteer to help. This involves gardening and maintenance of several community beds. We open the Park Hub to visitors every Sunday afternoon to look at the displays and information about the park, make use of the children's nature activities and resources, and provide leaflets on local groups and community activities. We also organise family activities such as an Easter Trail event.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

We are grateful for the many hours our Trustees and volunteers contribute. Without this valuable contribution of time, energy and expertise we would not be able to achieve so much.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Spring/Summer 2023

- We supported an event on 13/5/23 called “Our Clean River”, organised by Plastic-Free Bingley and the Aire Rivers Trust. We loaned out our litter picking equipment and used the Park Hub as a base for the event.
- We supported the series of Brass Band concerts on the bandstand by putting out chairs and through advertising to the local community.
- We hosted an additional jazz band concert at the Park Hub
- We organised a consultation with users of the skatepark about improvements they would like to see, and we passed on these concerns and requests to Bradford Council. As a result, two new benches were installed, encouraging spectators to use those instead of sitting on the ledges, improving safety and the experience for all involved.

Autumn/Winter 2023

- We took part in the Bingley 5 Rise Frocks Women’s Institute “Love is in the Aire”: River Action Day on 17/09/23. The event included raising awareness of pollution impacts on our river through riverfly monitoring, litter picking, a talk from the Urban Pollution Hunter raising awareness about sewage outflows, story time for children and river-themed activities in the Park Hub.
- We supported a series of Rhyme Time sessions that took place in the Park Hub on alternate Wednesday afternoons from June 2023 to January 2024. This was a free, informal nursery rhyme and action song session for under 5s. We estimated about 20 families took part across the sessions.
- We received a second set of 4000 crocus bulbs donated by Bingley Airedale Rotary club in support of the Purple for Polio campaign (4000 were also planted in 2022) and organised a community planting session on 4/11/23. Volunteers from the Bingley Men’s Shed, the WI Bingley Bloomers, Jerr Wood Action group and local residents helped the trustees on a cold and rainy morning! The bulbs are starting to establish themselves now and looked delightful in Spring this year.

Spring 2024

- We decided not to hold our larger Easter Trail event this year, but instead we provided some small crafting activities in the Park Hub – an Easter basket and cards.
- We created a “portable” Brass Rubbing Trail that we install in the park during our Sunday afternoon sessions. These are small wooden stands built by the Bingley Men’s Shed with brass plaques on top. The accompanying trail sheet has clues to identify each item and we also have a number of extra nature activity sheets to go along with the trail. They have been very popular

with young children and we hope to install a more permanent trail around the park in the future.

- One of our members spent a considerable amount of time researching the history of Myrtle Park and gave a talk to the trustees and our regular volunteers on 12/05/24 that was very much enjoyed by all. We hope to repeat the talk and invite local residents to attend.
- Our biggest project this calendar year is the ongoing renovation and replanting of the Sunken Garden. After a severe prune and removal of overgrown shrubs and stubborn roots in the winter, we have been actively seeking support and donations to replenish the beds in this area. Volunteers have been working tirelessly during our Action Days, to dig over the beds, enrich the soil and design the new planting. We have kindly received donations of plants from Bingley Garden Centre and Bradford Council through the NEET project.

Ongoing activities

- We have committed to spending between £20-£50 on crocus bulbs each year for the next few years to improve the displays in the park
- From March until October, we hold bi-weekly Action Days in the park and invite members of the public to join us. We are engaged in ongoing improvements to the sunken garden and a community long bed, an area around the newly instated rose arbour and to our veg beds.
- We work alongside Bingley Town Council to set out chairs for the summer programme of local brass bands that perform in the bandstand and advertise the programme on our Facebook page and on our notice boards to promote it and increase attendance.
- We open the Park Hub to the general public every Sunday from 2-4pm. We have had approximately 500 visitors during the last year. The Hub has displays for visitors to learn more about the park. We have compiled a collection of memories about the park and the surrounding area from the 50s and 60s from local residents. There are also photos of the park over the last 100 years. Our children's corner offers nature-themed toys, books, dressing up clothes and colouring sheets to our younger visitors. We also provide bug hunter kits that can be taken out by young families free of charge. We have a wide range of nature spotter sheets to cover all the seasons which can be taken out by families with clipboards and pens to mark off their finds. We offer free

use of the Hub to various local groups such as Action Stations, Walkers are Welcome, Glen Bowling Green, Grim up North, Rhyme Time sessions, and local jazz groups for their practice space.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We aim to keep a minimum of £250 in the current account at all times in order to cover our minimum commitments, primarily our public liability insurance.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

We apply for grants for specific projects or resources. We have received 2 grants in this financial year but the projects are being undertaken in the 2024-25 year: one from the Damartex Foundation for a mural and picnic benches, and one from Bingley Town Council for a pop-up farm as part of a town festival next year. These will be reported on in next year's annual report.

We raise small amounts of funding from donations from the sale of books and greetings cards, and membership fees. We use these general funds to pay for materials such as crafts and printing, as well as upkeep of the Park Hub, plants for the community beds and gardening tools/equipment.

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

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)

Lindsay Bennett

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Secretary

Date

18th August 2024

**FRIENDS OF MYRTLE PARK (FOMP) - INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 APRIL 2024**

INCOME	2024	2023
Membership Fees	178.00	232.00
Donations	186.90	1,728.24
Local Authority Grants	600.00	338.87
Other Grants	5,662.00	7,555.00
Sale of Cards	78.00	67.00
Sale of Books	120.00	20.00
Sale of Plants	24.00	
Use of Hub	10.00	135.00
Misc Fundraising	93.00	
Easter Trail	0.00	38.75
	6,951.90	10,114.86
Excess of Expenditure over Income	-	49.57
	6,951.90	10,164.43
EXPENDITURE		
Gardening	96.72	150.00
Events & Activities	723.69	
Hub Expenses	293.26	1,904.80
Cards	0.00	108.00
Books	0.00	
Printing	69.94	40.18
Insurance	0.00	99.31
Sundries	13.49	35.27
Easter trail	37.46	179.66
Christmas	0.00	92.01
Damart Seats	0.00	7,555.20
Paddling Pool Refurbishment	4,281.60	
	5,516.16	10,164.43
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,435.74	
	6,951.90	10,164.43
<u>BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30th APRIL 2024</u>		
	£	£
Balance as at 1st May 2023 B/F	627.73	677.30
Deficit/Surplus for the Year	1,435.74	49.57
	2,063.47	627.73
REPRESENTED BY:-		
Cooperative Bank Account	1,920.85	556.54
Cash on hand	142.62	71.19
Deduct CURRENT LIABILITIES	0.00	0.00
	2,063.47	627.73

