



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024. To 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**

**Charity name: Bexhill Heritage**

**Charity registration number: 1196525**

## **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The conservation, protection and improvement of the Bexhill-on-Sea built environment
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	<p>The main activities of the Charity during this period included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Ongoing restoration of Shelter 4 on Bexhill's seafront. Most of the cost of materials was met by Rother District Council. There was additional expenditure of £2055 to cover expenditure on additional tools and some specialist items as well as graphics for the new heritage gallery and the purchase twelve commemorative plaques. This was in addition to the £557 expended in 2023/4 by Bexhill Heritage for personal protective equipment. A special contribution from members in exchange for a commemorative plaque raised £1,200 which offset a proportion of these costs.</li><li>- Completing the restoration of the Collins and Pallott mural on Town Hall Square. Expenditure on this project was £3443 which was met solely from membership fees and donations. Included in the cost was a working platform (£403) and transport trolley (£65) both of which will be used in the charity's future projects. The charity also paid a consultancy fee of £912 to Orbis Conservation who provided invaluable advice for the successful completion of this specialist project.</li></ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Completing a full restoration of Bexhill's only remaining K6 phone box on public land. The cost of replacement parts, materials, equipment and the hire of a professional sandblaster was £4000. £2000 was contributed by Rother District Council's community fund and received in financial year 2025/26. The Council's grant matched a £2,000 contribution from Bexhill Heritage.</li> <li>- Work began on one of two bus shelters for which we received a restoration grant from the Town Council. Vegetation was cleared in order for the building to dry out and for restoration to begin. No cost in the 2024/25 reporting year.</li> <li>- A project group surveyed the town with a view to making an application to extend Bexhill's current conservation area to include an 'Eastern Conservation Area'. No cost.</li> <li>- Work began to produce a Listing Candidates Report of local buildings that could be considered for either Local Listing or National Heritage listing. This list currently contains approximately 80 structures. No cost.</li> <li>- Comments made on planning applications or development proposals with heritage implications No cost.</li> <li>- Hosting guest speakers at our members meetings (5 in the period + 1 AGM) on a variety of topics designed to increase public knowledge and understanding of the town's history and heritage. Also, attending and organising town events to reach a wider public, and giving talks to local groups. We also organised two educational trips for our members. The cost of members' meetings including guest speakers and trips was £1006 over the accounting period. This was largely offset by income from catering, raffles, and trip income.</li> </ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance	Para 1.18	The trustees have taken full account of the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit and are

issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit		confident that all the Charity's activities are consistent with this guidance.
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### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant-making	Para 1.38	The Charity does not currently award grants.
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Through this accounting period the Charity operated a business current account and an instant-access, interest-bearing account with the Nat West Bank. There were no additional investments.
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<p>All the Charity's officers are volunteers as are those members engaged on restoration and research work. A core group of fourteen volunteers was responsible for the planning, management, and implementation of work on Shelter 4, the Collins and Pallott mural and the K6 phone box. Volunteers have been supported from time to time by professional tradespeople and local authority officers.</p> <p>Our volunteer historian and support officer continued to make a very significant contribution to the development of our website and to the maintenance of the Bandstand booking system.</p> <p>Our volunteer planning officers continued to assess all planning applications with heritage implications. Our intervention led to planning control intervention on one listed building.</p>
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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	<p><b>1. Completing three restoration projects and starting a fourth.</b> Volunteers completed a full repaint of a listed sea-front shelter (Shelter 4), restored the Collins and Pallott mural on the Sainsburys building in Town Hall Square, completed the restoration of Bexhill's last remaining K6 phone box on public land and began work on the restoration of a 'heritage' bus shelter.</p> <p><b>2. Continuing to promote the importance of heritage and highlight the town's heritage assets.</b> Presentations to local groups and organisations, and to groups of elected members brought Bexhill's rich heritage to a wider and often influential audience. This helped to influence local authority decision-making. Extensive work undertaken and discussion with members on an application to extend Bexhill's current conservation area to include an 'Eastern Conservation Area' and the production of a list of local buildings to be considered for either Local Listing or National Heritage listing. A heritage gallery installed in Shelter 4 and permanent interpretation boards and temporary seafront displays brought the Charity's message to a wider public. This helped in the recruitment of active members and meant that local fundraising was effective.</p> <p><b>3. Ongoing community use of the town's Victorian Bandstand restored by Bexhill heritage</b> The Bandstand (formerly restored by Bexhill Heritage) continues to be used by the wider local community (local organisations, clubs, faith groups and charities) to entertain, inform and engage. This use ensures that it remains a valued local building and helps prevent damage and disrepair.</p>

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set.	Para 1.41	The restoration of Shelter 4 took longer than anticipated due to inclement weather, volunteer sickness absence and pressure on resources due to a concurrent project (the mural).
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set.	Para 1.41	The Charity was successful in raising funds to meet our maintenance obligations for the Bandstand. Bandstand users contributed £353 during the accounting period.
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	Not applicable
Other		

**Financial Review**

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p>The charity made a loss on the year of £3915 in this accounting year. However, £2000 was owed to the charity by Rother District Council for the restoration of the Normans Bay K6 phone kiosk. This was paid in early April 2025.</p> <p>The charity completed three major restorations in 2024/25 resulting in higher project and equipment expenditure than last year at £9959 compared to £4641 in 2023/24. Over 70% of the charity's expenditure was devoted to restoration and maintenance activities in 2024/25 compared to 52% in 2023/24.</p> <p>£26,320 was carried forward into 2025/26 which includes a £15,000 restricted grant from Bexhill Town Council to restore two 'heritage' bus shelters on Hastings Road and De La Warr Road.</p> <p>The charity therefore has access to an unrestricted carry-forward of £11,320 as at 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025, to be used on future projects including the maintenance of previously restored buildings. This places the charity</p>
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		in a robust financial position for the year ahead.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The Charity's policy on reserves is to retain the equivalent of six months average expenditure, not including spending on projects. This is to enable the Charity to meet its regular commitments and running costs should there be an unexpected collapse in membership subscriptions and donations.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£2000 was available as a reserve at the end of the accounting period – March 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2025. This is based on the equivalent of six months of average expenditure, not including spending on projects or equipment.
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	There are no uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern.

#### **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	The Charity's principal source of funds is grant income from local authorities, followed by membership subscriptions and donations. The Charity sold cards, badges and souvenirs, organised raffles and ran an annual tombola.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	During this accounting period, the Charity ran a current account and an interest-bearing account with the same bank (Nat West). The savings account provided £610 of interest.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	During this accounting period, the Charity faced the following risks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- over-commitment of some committee members and trustees especially the Chairman who also acted as treasurer.</li> <li>- Imbalance in membership which is comprised predominantly of older people.</li> </ul> The Charity has gone some way to mitigate these risks through the recruitment of additional trustee and committee members, including a Membership Secretary, a Secretary and a Planning Officer. Trustees

		have carried out a full risk-assessment to identify further mitigation measures and are keen to recruit a treasurer. The ongoing music and event programme for the bandstand and this year's restoration projects have gone a long way to consolidate the Charity's good reputation and promote the work we do to a wider audience.
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Charity Commission scheme. Our constitution specifies how the Charity is governed.
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
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	Trustees are elected for one, two, or three-year terms at the Charity's Annual General Meeting (AGM) in June. Each member of the charity has one vote. They may vote in person, by proxy or by post / email. Trustees may co-opt additional trustees between AGMs, but any co-opted trustee serves only until the next AGM at which point they must be elected by members should they wish to continue.

### 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	All trustees are made aware of their legal responsibilities. Induction is through conversation with the Chairman. Formal policies and procedures have yet to be adopted but the trustee board intends to do this prior to any further expansion of the trustee board.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works.	Para 1.51	The Charity's trustee board is responsible for strategy, oversight, and evaluation. They are elected by members and report to members. The elected committee acts as the Charity's executive, making operational

		decisions consistent with the policies and plans set by the trustees. The committee is elected by members, and report to trustees and members.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Bexhill Heritage cooperates with Rother District Council and Bexhill Town Council in pursuit of its charitable objectives. We enjoy cordial links with Rother Voluntary Action, Bexhill 100 Motoring Club, the local Men's Shed, the Neighbourhood Board, Bexhill Old Town Preservation Society, Bexhill in Bloom, the Footbridge Project and St Barnabas Church and other local churches.
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Bexhill Heritage
Other name the charity uses	None
Registered charity number	1196525
Charity's principal address	c/o St Barnabas Church, Cantelupe Road, Bexhill-on-Sea, TN40 1JG

## 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	Stephen Johnson	Chairman and Treasurer		
2	Simon Allen	Projects' Officer		
3	Alexis Markwick	Support Officer Vice Chairman		
4	Samantha Barber	Ex-officio		
5	Yvonne Menzies	Secretary	January 2025 to March 2025	
6				
7				
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16				
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19				
20				

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

Director name		
Not applicable		

## Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
Not applicable		

## 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

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
None		

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

Not applicable
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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Not applicable
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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees:

<b>Signatures</b>					
<b>Full Names</b>	<b>Simon Allen</b>	<b>Samantha Barber</b>	<b>Steve Johnson</b>	<b>Alexis Markwick</b>	<b>Yvonne Menzies</b>
<b>Position</b>	<b>Projects officer</b>	<b>Ex-officio</b>	<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Vice-chairman</b>	<b>Secretary</b>

Date:

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CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
Bexhill Heritage	1196525

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	4/1/2024		3/31/2025

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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations and legacies	6,460	15,000	-	21,460	8,435
Charitable activities	1,007	-	-	1,007	1,174
Other trading activities	1,486	-	-	1,486	1,945
Investments	610	-	-	610	130
Other	666	-	-	666	148
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>10,229</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,229</b>	<b>11,832</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>10,229</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,229</b>	<b>11,832</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Projects	9,178	-	-	9,178	4,931
Equipment	781	-	-	781	443
Banking and accountancy fees	84	-	-	84	89
Stationery, printing, etc	714	-	-	714	436
Marketing	409	-	-	409	468
Venue hire and event costs	1,490	-	-	1,490	1,340
Communications	232	-	-	232	189
Insurance	253	-	-	253	253
Other	1,004	-	-	1,004	765
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>14,145</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,145</b>	<b>8,914</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>14,145</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,145</b>	<b>8,914</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 3,916</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>11,084</b>	<b>2,918</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>15,191</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>15,191</b>	<b>5,060</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>11,275</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,275</b>	<b>7,978</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 £
B1 Cash funds	Nat West current account	3,489	-	-
	Nat West Liquidity account	7,741	15,000	-
	Pay Pal account owng on 31.03.24	45	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>11,275</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	Pay Pal account	29	-	-
	Cash in hand	60	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
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)
	Gazebo	Unrestricted	-	-
	Platform	Unrestricted	-	-
	Step ladders	Unrestricted	-	-
	Publicity boards	Unrestricted	-	-
	Projectors and screen	Unrestricted	-	-
	Amplifier and associated equipment	Unrestricted	-	-
	Tools	Unrestricted	-	-
	Chairs and tables	Unrestricted	-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	None		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	Steve Johnson	Stephen J. L. Johnson	07/072025	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Independent examiner's report on the accounts

### Section A

### Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees**

Bexhill Heritage

**On accounts for the year  
ended**

31 March 2025

Charity no  
(if any)

1196525

**Set out on pages**

N/A

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2025 .

**Responsibilities and  
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, 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 Bexhill Heritage accounts 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 (other than that disclosed below \*) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

Signed:

Date:

16 January 2026

Name:

Kevin Bennett

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

MAAT

Address:

Olive Pine Accountancy Ltd

13 Napier House, Elva Way, Bexhill on Sea, TN39 5BF

**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**