

HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT

England & Wales · Charity number 1197491

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2022-01-13

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address c/o Headway House
Trenchard Avenue
Credenhill
Hereford
HR4 7DX

Phone 01432805705

Email info@growingpoint.org.uk

Website growingpoint.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROVIDE RELIEF AND TO PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC BY HORTICULTURAL THERAPY FOR THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE VULNERABLE OR SOCIALLY EXCLUDED, THROUGH OLD AGE, ILLNESS OR DISABILITY, EITHER MENTALLY OR PHYSICALLY (WHETHER PERMANENTLY OR TEMPORARILY) IN HEREFORDSHIRE AND THE AREAS ADJOINING HEREFORDSHIRE, BY:1. THE PROVISION OF ORGANISED HORTICULTURAL THERAPY SESSIONS TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE AND MENTAL WELLBEING FOR THIS GROUP OF PEOPLE, IN GARDEN SETTINGS OR APPROPRIATE ENVIRONMENTS SUCH AS RESIDENTIAL CARE, SUITED TO INDIVIDUAL NEED.2. PROMOTION OF SOCIAL INCLUSION. BEING PART OF A GARDENING GROUP IS A BENEFIT FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE LIMITED OPPORTUNITIES FOR SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT.3. PROMOTION OF HEALTHY LIVING, BY GROWING,HARVESTING AND COOKING FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.4. PROMOTION OF PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE BENEFITS OF SOCAIL AND HORTICULTURAL THERAPY BY MEANS OF SOCIAL MEDIA, WEBSITE AND EVENTS.

Activities: The purpose is the provision of gardening sessions (led by tutors) as a form of therapy for all age groups in all circumstances. Our beneficiaries enjoy being part of social groups and the opportunity to get involved in growing plants, harvesting produce and exhibiting at our Autumn Show. There are also social events including a BBQ.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information
- **What:** Disability
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- Herefordshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	£79,713	£95,141	-	-
2024-05-31	£84,203	£77,721	-	-
2023-05-31	£79,247	£86,175	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Laura Hone	Chair	2022-01-13
Candida Hopkinson		2024-11-19
Caroline Lechmere Lady		2023-01-31
Francis Huntley		2023-01-31
Jeanie Falconer		2023-01-31
Laura Mcarthur		2025-11-18
Mary Knight		2023-01-31
Nigel John Morries		2025-11-18
Thomas Pearson		2025-11-18
Virginia Aurora Colquhoun-Gonzalez		2025-11-18

Accounts



HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending

31st May 2025



(Charity Number 1197491)

HON PRESIDENT: Tamsin Westhorpe

c/o Herefordshire Headway, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX

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Email: info@growingpoint.org.uk

**HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT
(Charity No. 1197491)**

Annual Report for the Year ending 31st May 2025

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 31st May 2025

The Members of the Committee during the year were:

Chairman:	Laura Hone
Charity Manager:	Julian Reeves
Treasurer:	Andrew Huntley
Events:	Julie Cohn and Mary Knight
Minutes Secretary:	Caroline Lechmere

Trustees: Julie Cohn, Jeanie Falconer, Laura Hone, Candida Hopkinson, Andrew Huntley, Mary Knight, Caroline Lechmere, Nigel Morris, Janet Parry and Thomas Pearson

The charity was established in 1990 with, as its original governing instrument, a Constitution adopted on 29th April 1991. This Constitution was revised in 2014 and again in 2019. The charity's status was changed from an unincorporated charity to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) in December 2022.

Officers and Members of the Committee are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting held in November.

The Aim and Objectives of Herefordshire Growing Point

The aim of Herefordshire Growing Point is to enable vulnerable and disabled people of all ages to enjoy the social and therapeutic benefits of horticultural activities.

The objectives of Herefordshire Growing Point are:

To provide relief and to promote social inclusion for the benefit of the public by horticultural therapy for those people who are vulnerable or socially excluded, through old age, illness or disability, either mentally or physically (whether permanently or temporarily) in Herefordshire and the areas adjoining Herefordshire, by:

- 1) The provision of organised horticultural therapy sessions to enhance the quality of life and mental wellbeing for this group of people, in garden settings or appropriate environments such as residential care, suited to individual need.
- 2) Promotion of social inclusion. Being part of a gardening group is a benefit for individuals who have limited opportunities for social engagement.
- 3) Promotion of healthy living, by growing, harvesting and cooking fruit and vegetables.
- 4) Promotion of public awareness of the benefits of social and horticultural therapy by means of social media, website and events.

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Disclosures within the Annual Report and Accounts.

Herefordshire Growing Point will include or disclose the following in its Annual Report and Accounts:

- ***A statement that summarises the remuneration policy.***
- ***A summary of payments to Trustees for expenses.***
- ***The actual salary and other benefits received by the Manager.***
- ***The number of Tutors and their total remuneration.***

These disclosures are given in the appendices at the end of Report and Accounts.

Review of the Year 2024-25

The 2024/25 year was one of welcoming new people to Herefordshire Growing Point, but also sadly saying goodbye to others. We welcomed new tutor Carlie McNevin, but had to say goodbye to Ursula Ashworth who had been a Growing Point tutor for many years and has now retired. We were also delighted to welcome three new Trustees – Candida Hopkinson, Thomas Pearson and Nigel Morris. All these new trustees have a variety of skills and experience which they are generously using to the benefit of the charity. On the other side of the coin, long-standing trustee Fiona Paterson retired after many years as a trustee. Fiona has been a huge help over the updating of the Constitution and also overseeing HGP's compliance with the necessary policies and procedures. We would also like to thank Michelle Audouard who was writing funding bids on behalf of the charity and Jill Davies who did so much to help update the Growing Point accounting systems. Finally, we would like to thank Huw Foxall who was the independent auditor of the Growing Point accounts for a number of years. He was meticulous and his comments were always to the point and accurate. They all deserve very grateful thanks from everyone connected with the charity.

The biennial Gardeners' Question Time fundraising event was held in March and was a great success. With the generous sponsorship of **Bengough Property** and including Gift Aid, the evening raised about £2500, so an excellent total. The Hampton Bishop hall was a first class venue and the panel consisting of Nick Dunn of F P Matthews/Trees for Life and James Madge, Head Gardener at The Laskett. All brilliantly chaired by Tamsin Westhorpe, the Growing Point Hon. President. All the questions were answered with not only knowledge, but humour as well, so the evening was both successful and useful! A light supper of bread, cheese and fruit was provided by some of the Trustees and volunteers, so a huge thank you is due to them all.

The art exhibition held in Leominster in May was a real joy to see. That gardeners had taken a huge amount of trouble to create their art works which were original, imaginative, skilfully created and

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full of life. All the visitors were enthusiastic and full of praise, so this was an excellent show case for what the Herefordshire Growing Point gardeners can achieve.



With the help of Development Manager, Amelia Carter and tutor Kate Barrett, Senior Tutor Jo Rigney is updating Herefordshire Growing Point's social media accounts. As a result, more posts are coming in from care homes and can be shared.

It was recognised that the IT systems need updating, so this process has started with the help of an external consultant.

Charity Manager's Report

This year has been one of consolidation and updating of our processes and procedures to ensure we are fully compliant with the required legislation and guidance which applies equally to large and small charities.

Our new staff members Amelia and Kate have taken the charity in new and exciting directions. We have been able to develop a schools gardening project on a piece of land behind Stretton Sugwas village hall. This has the potential to develop into a significant activity for us and possibly a new funding stream.

The Demonstration Garden has been transformed this year by beds full of flowers for cutting and arranging. We now also have many plants labelled to a professional standard thanks to our tutors.



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Repairs and maintenance have been ongoing with help from our wonderful volunteers and a bit of brick-laying by me.

Promotional talks this year were given to Burghill, Tupsley and Leominster Gardening Clubs.

HVOSS received a grant called the UKSP Fund to enable those who are excluded from employment to access training and learning opportunities to move them towards employment or volunteering. We put four of our gardeners and one volunteer onto the programme and created a series of basic gardening tasks that they were able to work through. This was also a useful networking opportunity.

We are delighted to have recruited a new peripatetic tutor, Angie Toes who after her induction programme will start to work in care homes across the county.

Our links to Headway are very much improved and our staff teams work much more closely together now for the benefit of our gardeners.

The Autumn Show was attended by over 60 people with the usual prize giving and delicious cakes provided by the Trustees. 'Gardeners of the Year' were Stanley House



and we commissioned a new trophy from 'Kate Create' for 'Best Smile of the Year' which was won by David Hughes. Pat Churchward, the High Sheriff, presented the prizes and it was wonderful that she was able to join us.

The financial climate continues to be very challenging and we are grateful for Amelia's continued efforts to strengthen our position.

I would like to add my personal thanks to our regular volunteers who work so hard in the garden to keep up with its general maintenance: Janet, Mary, Andy, Andrew, Gerard and Colin. Without their input I would have had no time to do anything else!

Charity Development Manager

This year has been a year of development for Herefordshire Growing Point. Growing Point was Herefordshire's first horticultural therapy charity and has seen strong and steady growth over the last thirty years. During that time, it has seen witnessed significant changes in the economic climate and also expectations in terms of regulation and compliance. This year a considerable amount of time has been spent solidifying the foundations of the organisation. We have introduced new systems and processes to ensure this wonderful organisation runs as efficiently as possible, whilst also keeping our wonderful gardeners safe.

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In 2021 within Herefordshire there were 1,050 people (of all ages) registered as having a learning disability at GP Practices. This represents a prevalence of 0.6% of the population, which is statistically significantly higher than in England and Wales.

Modelled estimates suggest that GP registers reflect less than a quarter of all adults with Learning Disability, and that the true number in Herefordshire is likely to be around 2.3%. This is predicted to increase by 8% by 2035, disproportionately in the number aged 65+.

Evidence also suggests that 80% of wheelchair users struggle to access outside space, although there is a wealth of research which indicates time in nature can have a profound impact on their physical and mental health. **We are the only horticultural therapy charity in the county who can support wheelchair users and people with very complex learning disabilities.** Our therapy garden is fully accessible as we have fully accessible toilets and highly experienced staff and volunteers to support our clients. We have wheelchair friendly paths and raised beds at appropriate heights to enable people to fully engage with gardening. For clients who have limited use of their arms and legs, they often enjoy time just sitting in the garden, socialising, listening to the birds and touching plants and soil.

Accessibility is at the heart of all we do and this year our focus has been on maximising accessibility and reaching out to individuals who could most benefit from our work. We do not believe in barriers to nature, our ethos is to identify how to overcome them! This is Herefordshire Growing Point's unique selling point.

With this in mind, we were forced to evaluate our current garden and its layout and planting. To maximise the therapeutic value our client's experience from the garden, we began redesigning the garden and making the necessary changes. The changes included redesigning our polytunnel to include accessible raised beds. The raised beds have been designed by our staff team and built to order and allow gardeners to have 360-degree access allowing them to grow and do more. We are extremely proud of this design. The raised beds have been repaired, repointed and replanted. Rather than homing shrubs, these beds are now home to annuals which have a more therapeutic value.



Each year Herefordshire Growing Point has a theme that influences the workshops and path of our year. This year's theme was "What Gardening Means to me". The year began with an exquisite art exhibition lead by our senior horticultural therapist Jo. Gardeners were supported/encouraged to create art reflecting the impact nature and the garden has on them. The exhibition was a huge success, and it we had a wonderful day out as an organisation visiting it with our clients.

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We were honoured to work with Miles Johnson, ceramic artist in the spring. Miles supported our gardeners in creating self-reflective bust encapsulating the impact gardening has on our clients. The results were incredible! More information to come.

Our schools project Dig It continued to grow and we were both inspired and moved by the impact of the project. See Kate's report for further information.

All of the magnificent work we do, would not be possible without the support of trusts and foundations. This year we'd like to thank the trusts, organisations and individuals below:

Herefordshire Community Foundation	Albert Hunt Charitable Trust
Bengough Property	An anonymous donor
NGS garden grant	Community First
Mumford Trust	Dr Heather Barrett-Mold OBE
Garfield Weston Charitable Trust	Herefordshire Roundtable
Nathan Tomkins Trust	Herefordshire WI
The Marsh Charitable Trust	HVOSS
The Sam Morley Charitable Trust	Igence Radar
W A Cadbury Charitable Trust	The Jordan Foundation
The Lions Club	The Linda Hone Charitable Trust
E F Bulmer Charitable Trust	The Street Foundation

Tutor Reports - Head Tutor, Jo Rigney's report

It has been another productive and inspiring year for Herefordshire Growing Point. A year filled with growth, creativity and community connections. Our gardens and our participants have continued to thrive through a varied and engaging programme of activities.

In June, we were delighted to welcome representatives from a local charity shop. Kate and Kellys visit were both enjoyable and fruitful, resulting in the generous donation of two much needed sun canopies for the garden. These have already proved invaluable in providing shade and comfort for our gardeners during the hot summer, even more exciting was their offer to sell our plants through their store. This was a fantastic opportunity to raise both funds and awareness for our charity. We are grateful for their continued support.

Another memorable highlight of the summer was a lovely garden visit to our Chair, Laura Hone's home. We enjoyed a ramble through her beautiful gardens, followed by an indulgent afternoon tea with freshly baked scones filled with strawberries and cream provided by the trustees and volunteers. The day provided a welcome opportunity for relaxation, connection among volunteers, staff and trustees as well as our gardeners.



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In October, we hosted our annual autumn show. This event was well attended and received warmly by visitors. A particular highlight was seeing our longtime supporter Hilary Ward, honoured with the High Sheriff's award for services and community - richly deserved recognition for her dedication and contribution to Herefordshire Growing Point.



As the weather turned colder, we adapted our greenhouse to ensure our activities could continue comfortably throughout the winter months. The shelving was removed to create space for a round table and a small heater, transforming the greenhouse into a cosy craft space. This simple change has made a big difference allowing our gardeners to stay creative, social and warm through the darker months.

In November we launched our Dig It project, an exciting new initiative working in partnership with two Herefordshire schools. The project aimed to introduce young people to the joys and therapeutic benefits of gardening, fostering connection to nature and well-being from an early age. Please see Kate Barrett's report for more details.

Spring 2025

February brought a generous donation of seeds from Chiltern seeds, which were gratefully received and quickly incorporated into our sowing schedule. These have been a wonderful addition as part of a wider garden redesign, helping us plan for a colourful and productive year. March was a particularly busy and exciting month. We held our first ever exhibition at the Stable Gallery in Leominster, showcasing an inspiring collection of mixed media artworks including pottery paintings and crafts, created by both our outreach participants and regular HGP gardeners.

The exhibition's theme "What gardening means to me" celebrated creativity, community and the deep personal connections are participants have with nature.

Later that month, we hosted our "Gardeners Question Time" fund raising event which proved both enjoyable and successful. The evening brought together local gardening enthusiasts, supporters and volunteers for an engaging discussion and raised valuable funds to support our ongoing programmes

Summer 2025

In May, we hosted a series of pottery sessions led by local ceramicist, Miles Johnson. These workshops were enthusiastically received by our gardeners who explored new skills and creative expression through clay. The project culminated in a special evening celebration, showcasing the

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beautiful sculptures produced and highlighting the therapeutic value of our work. The success of this collaboration has inspired us to repeat and expand it next year.



This year saw a noticeable increase in public engagement and awareness of HGP'S work. Through a combination of social media activity and community events, our profile continues to grow.

Social media: our online following increased steadily across Facebook and Instagram helped by strong engagement with posts from the Stable Gallery exhibition and the Miles Johnson pottery project. These stories resonated widely, showing the creativity and confidence are gardeners gain from their work.

Local press and publicity : The Autumn show and Sculpture evening generated local press coverage, shining a spotlight on the work we do. With further collaborations in the pipeline, we hope to grow our audience and raise our profile further.

Dig It Project, November 2024 to July 2025. Kate Barrett, Horticultural Therapy Tutor

Purpose

The purpose of the Dig It Project was to provide a therapeutic horticulture setting for children and young people with additional needs to be able to improve their agency, build resilience and enhance their self esteem through building knowledge of how to garden for wildlife. It was important that the garden became a place where the children felt safe, valued, accepted and seen.

Funding

Hereford W.I. £1000

Street Foundation £4000

Lions Club £1000

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Schools involved

Riverside Primary School – children were predominantly 9 to 11 years old, with occasionally a younger child of 7. Children had mild needs such as lack of social integration, anxiety, family deprivation.

Brookfield School

Young people were between 11 and 15 years old.

Challenging behaviour and mental health needs.

Outcomes/Impact

Sessions took place either at Stretton Sugwas Village Hall Wildlife Garden or HGP Therapy Garden.

Activities undertaken included:

Creating a wildlife habitat hedge

Building a Bug Palace

Building Dens

Managing the space – creating paths, raised beds etc

Installing bird boxes

Clearing out the pond

Craft activities

Art activities

General gardening activities included:

Seed sowing

Watering

Planting out

Weeding

Digging out raised bed in polytunnel so that new bed could be installed

Children enjoyed learning about plants and wildlife:

Dalaila said she knew nothing about gardening before she started at Dig It and now she feels she knows more about the names of plants and bugs etc.

Children increased in self-confidence and resilience.

Evidenced by extracts from our Critical Reflection Diaries

16.6.25**What signs of resilience or agency did you notice in the participants?**

Lucas, regulating himself and choosing jobs he was interested in. George gradually added more and more water to his can as he realised he could manage it. All wanted to finish the job of filling the pond.

Aiden stung by stinging nettles and used a dock leaf to relieve. Did not make a fuss.

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19.5.25**What went well?**

Everyone engaged. Some children brought little issues with them and teachers from school had time to chat to them and help them process. Freedom to deviate from 'lesson plans.'

17.3.25**What signs of progress in horticultural skills and knowledge did you notice?**

Girls very keen to sow seeds and take plants home with them. They were excited to have things they could grow at home.

**Herefordshire Growing Point's Policies**

The following policies are in place and updated on a regular basis.

Thanks are due to the Trustees for making sure Herefordshire Growing Point is fully compliant and up to date with all necessary policies.

Complaints	Reimbursement of trustees;
Conflicts of Interest	Remuneration;
Disciplinary	Risk Management;
Equality and Diversity	Safeguarding;
Health & Safety;	Social Media and Guidance
Grievance	Standing orders for Charity Meetings
Membership;	Volunteers.
Recruitment;	Whistleblowing

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Conclusion

The 2024/25 year presented totally different challenges from the previous year, because the difficulties of dealing with drought began to be apparent very early on. Luckily, this was to an extent mitigated by the water storage solutions that had been put in place in 2023. However, we still had to ask Headway for help and we are most grateful to them for this.

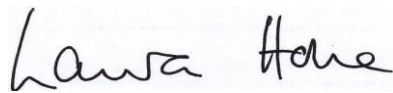
The necessary financial and IT systems have continued to be upgraded, so these are now really proving their worth.

The Leominster art exhibition was a particularly noteworthy event and the joy and pride the gardeners took in showcasing their work was inspiring.

The art exhibition could have taken place without the inspiration and hard work of the tutors and volunteers, so they deserve the highest praise. Although Growing Point is fortunate in the calibre of its volunteers, more are always needed, so we hope that successful events over the past year will have encouraged to come forward.

Finally, Herefordshire Growing Point wouldn't function without the hard work of the Manager, the Charity Development Manager, the tutors, the volunteers and the Trustees. All these people help with the many and varied tasks that seem to arise. Finally, everyone at Growing Point is grateful for the continuing help and support from Herefordshire Headway. Many thanks are due to all of them.

On behalf of the Trustees



Laura Hone –
Chairman, Hereford Growing Point.

Date: 11th November 2025



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Appendix One. Treasurer's report for year end 31 May 2025

Total monetary assets held on 31 May 2025 were £62,752.39 (£78,180.69). For this 12-month period, income from 'charitable activities' were £78,492.15 (£84,203.25). Expenditure was £95,154.43 and there was a deficit for the year of £16,649.28. Figures in (brackets) refer to the previous 12-month period ending 31 May 2024 as a comparison.

Analysis of the financial record as follows:

1. **Income from charitable activities.**

- Course income. Course fee income for the year was £10,369 (£16,033.07).
- Donations. These were £7877.90 (£23,574.77). The previous year's total was exceptional because of two donations totalling £16,900. As always, we are so grateful for the support of businesses as well as stalwart individuals who have supported us with regular giving over many years.
- Fundraising. Our 'Gardeners Question Time' raised just over £2415.
- Charitable Trusts (recorded as 'Trust grants'). The total sum received was £57,500 (£41,800). £38,300 was for unrestricted use and £19,200 was restricted for designated use. We are so grateful because it would not be possible to provide our service without this support.

2. **Expenditure on charitable activities.**

- Course expenditure. The total expenditure for all costs relating to the gardening therapy sessions was £37,031.48 (£22,698.23). The costs include tuition (2 salaried staff and 2 self-employed tutors), travel costs, training, materials, and DBS checks. The increase in 'lecturing' costs of £29,177.86 (£18,872.50) reflects salary increases, increase in the hours worked and the enrolment of the 2 salaried staff in the Nest workplace pension scheme. The view of the trustees was that the salary increases recognise the hard work of our staff and to provide a pension scheme. In particular, the Schools Garden project would not have been possible without their commitment and enthusiasm.
 - Headway site. The total rent was £5280 (£5200). The cost of garden maintenance was £1713.03 (£970.83). This included a bulk order of compost for £960 at a discount price rather than rather than buying small quantities at higher prices.
 - Overhead costs. The total Overhead costs were £56,682.83 (£34,46.46). The principal reason is the employment of a self-employed consultant over the 12-month period to review and develop the charity.
 - Equipment. One refurbished laptop computer was purchased.
 - Introduction
 - Herefordshire Growing Point is committed to ensuring a proper balance between (1) paying our manager, tutors and others who work for us fairly and (2) for the careful stewardship of our charity funds to provide assurance that the charity is operating for the public benefit and in the interests of the charity.
 - **Remuneration Policy.** Remuneration is determined by collecting information about comparable roles in other voluntary sector organisations to use as a benchmark. There is one salaried employee, the Charity Manager, who is paid monthly. The Manager can claim the tutor remuneration and travel allowances if he is required to run a session in the absence of a tutor. Tutors are treated as self-employed workers and not as salaried employees.
3. **Accountancy policy.** The policy is to record the purchase of any asset as an operating cost in the year of purchase under 'expenditure on charitable activities'. The asset value of this charity is recorded under 'summary of assets' in the financial summary (Appendix 2).
4. **Financial Reserves.** On 31 May 2025, the cash reserves are held in five separate bank accounts. These are NatWest online a/c £636.33; NatWest Bankline a/c £25,707.39; Co-op bank account £2,500; COIF charity deposit a/c £12,239.37; Redwood Bank a/c £21,527.86. In addition, cash £141.44 is held in hand. Herefordshire Growing Point has no liabilities.

The independent examination of the accounts will be carried out by Mr David Woodward CA. The trustees appreciate the time already taken and the advice given by him in carrying out this examination.



Andrew Huntley, hon. treasurer for Herefordshire Growing Point; Charity Commission reg: 1197491

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Appendix 2 - Herefordshire Growing Point financial summary year end 31 MAY 2025

statement of receipts and payments y/end 31.05.2025 Charity Commission reg: 1197491

INCOME from Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £ 31.05.2025	Total £ 31.05.2024
Course fee - bank receipts	7010.00		7010.00	12078.77
Course fee - cash receipts	3359.00		3359.00	3954.30
Fundraising	2415.37		2415.37	1550.00
Donations	7877.90		7877.90	23574.77
Trust Grants	38,300.00	19200.00	57500.00	41800.00
Refund	15.83		15.83	1245.41
Plant sales	314.05		314.05	
Total Receipts	59292.15	19200.00	78492.15	84203.25

EXPENDITURE on charitable activities

Session Lecturing	29277.86		29277.86	18872.50
Session materials & travel	3353.75		3353.75	2929.59
Volunteer travel	1449.45		1449.45	272.70
Training & DBS checks	873.87		873.87	18.78
Subscriptions	55.00		55.00	95.00
Schools garden project	1512.52		1512.52	0.00
Sculpture project	509.03		509.03	0.00
cash payments	0.00		0.00	339.66

Overhead costs

HGP management & development	37497.72		37497.72	20048.73
Consultancy : fundraising	1272.95		1272.95	715.00
PAYE/NIC	3612.47		3612.47	3102.14
Nest workplace pension	1972.52		1972.52	1133.20
Headway site rent	5280.00		5280.00	5200.00
Headway garden maintenance	1713.03		1713.03	970.83
Charity insurance	987.09		987.09	718.74
Bookkeeping & Accountancy software	2060.40		2060.40	1796.80
Telephone, website	1563.62		1563.62	1181.33
Office expenses	333.00		333.00	79.69
Autumn Show, Promotion & Publicity	363.05		363.05	170.00
misc expense	26.98		26.98	0.00

Vehicle & office equipment

Computers	339.99		339.99	785.00
Vehicle expenses	1087.13		1087.13	16488.27
Total Expenditure	95141.43	0.00	95141.43	74917.96

surplus (deficit) for the year	-16649.28
Cash in bank or in hand 01/06/2024	78180.69
Deposit interest: COIF/Redwood accs	1220.98
Total surplus (deficit) at 31/05/2025	62752.39

Reconciliation: cash in bank 31/05/25

	Online a/c	Bankline a/c	Coif/Redwood	Co-op Bank	Cash
TOTAL : £62752.39	636.33	25707.39	33767.23	2500.00	141.44

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Appendix 2 - Herefordshire Growing Point financial summary year end 31 MAY 2025					
statement of receipts and payments y/end 31.05.2025 Charity Commission reg: 1197491					
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31.05.2025	Total 31.05.2024	
Monetary Assets					
Cash in bank (01.06.2024)	75060.69	3120.00	78180.69	70498.82	
surplus/(deficit) for the year	-16790.72		-16790.72	5641.55	
cash in hand	141.44		141.44	841.02	
Charities Deposit Fund interest	563.45		563.45	562.97	
Redwood 35 day account	657.53		657.53	636.33	
	59632.39	3120.00	62752.39	78180.69	
Summary of Assets					
Year ending 31 May 2025					
NatWest online account			636.33		
NatWest bankline account			25707.39		
Charities Deposit Fund (COIF)			12239.37		
Redwood 35 Day Account			21527.86		
Co-op bank account			2500.00		
Cash in hand			141.44		
			£ 62,752.39		
Funds allocation at 31/05/2025	Unrestricted Funds		54490.39		
	Restricted Funds		8262.00		
	Total Assets		£ 62,752.39		
Accounts prepared by:					
Hon.Treasurer	Andrew Hunsley		date: 11.11.2025		
Independent Examiner	Stuart		date: 31.12.2025		
HGP restricted funds	at 31.05.2024	receipts to: 31/05/2025	payments to: 31/05/2025	£ balance at 31/05/2025	
EF Bulmer Trust		5000.00	3350.00	1650.00	
Community First		800.00	800.00	0.00	
Cray Trust		500.00	500.00	0.00	
Herefs Community Fdn		2000.00	1760.00	240.00	
Herefs Community Fdn		2800.00	2560.00	240.00	
HVOSS		2500.00	238.00	2262.00	
NHS Garden Grant		1600.00	1350.00	250.00	
Nathan Trust		1000.00	1000.00	0.00	
Clive Richards Foundation	1620.00	0.00	0.00	1620.00	
Street Foundation		2000.00	1000.00	1000.00	
Street Foundation		1000.00	0.00	1000.00	
Worshipful Co of Gardeners	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	0.00	
	3120.00	19200.00	14058.00	8262.00	
HGP accounts/AH/ 2024-2025					

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Appendix 3 : Pay - Salaries, tutor lecture fees and consultants fees paid**Pay Charity Manager salary (gross) and benefits year end 31/05/2025**

date	gross	Pension : employer's contribution
June	1886.80	41.00
July	1886.80	41.00
August	1886.80	41.00
September	1886.80	41.00
October	1886.80	41.00
November	1886.80	41.00
December	1886.80	41.00
January	1886.80	41.00
February	1886.80	41.00
March	1886.80	41.00
April	1953.10	41.00
May	1953.10	42.99
	22774.20	493.99

Payment of expenses to HGP Trustees year end 31.05.2025

date	expense	name	£
26/03/2025	Moneysoft	A Huntley	103.20

Pay to HGP tutors and staff salaries (gross) year end 31.05.2025

	date	tuition	Pension : employer's contribution
tutor	01/6 -30/11	825.00	
tutor	01/7 - 31/5	1210.00	
salared	01/6 - 31/5	16327.17	193.96
salared	01/6 - 31/5	12338.36	96.57

Pay bookkeeper (gross) year end 31.05.2025

date	amount
01/06 - 31/12	1742.40

Pay Charity Development Manager fee (gross) year end 31.05.2025

	date	fee
HGP development	01/6 - 31/5	18326.00
HGP fundraising	01/6 - 31/5	1272.95

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Appendix 4**HGP cash box summary year end 31.05.2025**

	dr	cr
01/06/2024 Cash		
b/f	841.02	
Cash		
received	951.27	
	1183.59	
	853.34	
	819.00	
	661.68	
Cash transfer to bank accounts		4468.88
Cash payments		699.58
TOTAL	5309.90	5168.46

Cash not banked	£
01/06/2025	141.44

APPENDIX 5

HGP Restricted Funds	at 31.05.2024	receipts to: 31/05/2025	payments to: 31/05/2025	£ balance at 31/05/2025
EF Bulmer Trust		5000		
Community First		800		
Cray Trust		500		
Herefs Community Fdn		2000		
Herefs Community Fdn		2800		
HVOSS		2500		
NGS Garden Grant		1600		
Nathan Tomkins Trust		1000		
Clive Richards Foundation	1620			
Street Foundation		2000		
Street Foundation		1000		
Worshipful Co of Gardeners	1500			
	£3120	£19200	0	0

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HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending

31st May 2025



(Charity Number 1197491)

HON PRESIDENT: Tamsin Westhorpe

c/o Herefordshire Headway, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX

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HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT
(Charity No. 1197491)

Annual Report for the Year ending 31st May 2025

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 31st May 2025

The Members of the Committee during the year were:

Chairman:	Laura Hone
Charity Manager:	Julian Reeves
Treasurer:	Andrew Huntley
Events:	Julie Cohn and Mary Knight
Minutes Secretary:	Caroline Lechmere

Trustees: Julie Cohn, Jeanie Falconer, Laura Hone, Candida Hopkinson, Andrew Huntley, Mary Knight, Caroline Lechmere, Nigel Morris, Janet Parry and Thomas Pearson

The charity was established in 1990 with, as its original governing instrument, a Constitution adopted on 29th April 1991. This Constitution was revised in 2014 and again in 2019. The charity's status was changed from an unincorporated charity to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) in December 2022.

Officers and Members of the Committee are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting held in November.

The Aim and Objectives of Herefordshire Growing Point

The aim of Herefordshire Growing Point is to enable vulnerable and disabled people of all ages to enjoy the social and therapeutic benefits of horticultural activities.

The objectives of Herefordshire Growing Point are:

To provide relief and to promote social inclusion for the benefit of the public by horticultural therapy for those people who are vulnerable or socially excluded, through old age, illness or disability, either mentally or physically (whether permanently or temporarily) in Herefordshire and the areas adjoining Herefordshire, by:

- 1) The provision of organised horticultural therapy sessions to enhance the quality of life and mental wellbeing for this group of people, in garden settings or appropriate environments such as residential care, suited to individual need.
- 2) Promotion of social inclusion. Being part of a gardening group is a benefit for individuals who have limited opportunities for social engagement.
- 3) Promotion of healthy living, by growing, harvesting and cooking fruit and vegetables.
- 4) Promotion of public awareness of the benefits of social and horticultural therapy by means of social media, website and events.

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Disclosures within the Annual Report and Accounts.

Herefordshire Growing Point will include or disclose the following in its Annual Report and Accounts:

- ***A statement that summarises the remuneration policy.***
- ***A summary of payments to Trustees for expenses.***
- ***The actual salary and other benefits received by the Manager.***
- ***The number of Tutors and their total remuneration.***

These disclosures are given in the appendices at the end of Report and Accounts.

Review of the Year 2024-25

The 2024/25 year was one of welcoming new people to Herefordshire Growing Point, but also sadly saying goodbye to others. We welcomed new tutor Carlie McNevin, but had to say goodbye to Ursula Ashworth who had been a Growing Point tutor for many years and has now retired. We were also delighted to welcome three new Trustees – Candida Hopkinson, Thomas Pearson and Nigel Morris. All these new trustees have a variety of skills and experience which they are generously using to the benefit of the charity. On the other side of the coin, long-standing trustee Fiona Paterson retired after many years as a trustee. Fiona has been a huge help over the updating of the Constitution and also overseeing HGP's compliance with the necessary policies and procedures. We would also like to thank Michelle Audouard who was writing funding bids on behalf of the charity and Jill Davies who did so much to help update the Growing Point accounting systems. Finally, we would like to thank Huw Foxall who was the independent auditor of the Growing Point accounts for a number of years. He was meticulous and his comments were always to the point and accurate. They all deserve very grateful thanks from everyone connected with the charity.

The biennial Gardeners' Question Time fundraising event was held in March and was a great success. With the generous sponsorship of **Bengough Property** and including Gift Aid, the evening raised about £2500, so an excellent total. The Hampton Bishop hall was a first class venue and the panel consisting of Nick Dunn of F P Matthews/Trees for Life and James Madge, Head Gardener at The Laskett. All brilliantly chaired by Tamsin Westhorpe, the Growing Point Hon. President. All the questions were answered with not only knowledge, but humour as well, so the evening was both successful and useful! A light supper of bread, cheese and fruit was provided by some of the Trustees and volunteers, so a huge thank you is due to them all.

The art exhibition held in Leominster in May was a real joy to see. That gardeners had taken a huge amount of trouble to create their art works which were original, imaginative, skilfully created and

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full of life. All the visitors were enthusiastic and full of praise, so this was an excellent show case for what the Herefordshire Growing Point gardeners can achieve.



With the help of Development Manager, Amelia Carter and tutor Kate Barrett, Senior Tutor Jo Rigney is updating Herefordshire Growing Point's social media accounts. As a result, more posts are coming in from care homes and can be shared.

It was recognised that the IT systems need updating, so this process has started with the help of an external consultant.

Charity Manager's Report

This year has been one of consolidation and updating of our processes and procedures to ensure we are fully compliant with the required legislation and guidance which applies equally to large and small charities.

Our new staff members Amelia and Kate have taken the charity in new and exciting directions. We have been able to develop a schools gardening project on a piece of land behind Stretton Sugwas village hall. This has the potential to develop into a significant activity for us and possibly a new funding stream.

The Demonstration Garden has been transformed this year by beds full of flowers for cutting and arranging. We now also have many plants labelled to a professional standard thanks to our tutors.



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Repairs and maintenance have been ongoing with help from our wonderful volunteers and a bit of brick-laying by me.

Promotional talks this year were given to Burghill, Tupsley and Leominster Gardening Clubs.

HVOSS received a grant called the UKSP Fund to enable those who are excluded from employment to access training and learning opportunities to move them towards employment or volunteering. We put four of our gardeners and one volunteer onto the programme and created a series of basic gardening tasks that they were able to work through. This was also a useful networking opportunity.

We are delighted to have recruited a new peripatetic tutor, Angie Toes who after her induction programme will start to work in care homes across the county.

Our links to Headway are very much improved and our staff teams work much more closely together now for the benefit of our gardeners.

The Autumn Show was attended by over 60 people with the usual prize giving and delicious cakes provided by the Trustees. 'Gardeners of the Year' were Stanley House



and we commissioned a new trophy from 'Kate Create' for 'Best Smile of the Year' which was won by David Hughes. Pat Churchward, the High Sheriff, presented the prizes and it was wonderful that she was able to join us.

The financial climate continues to be very challenging and we are grateful for Amelia's continued efforts to strengthen our position.

I would like to add my personal thanks to our regular volunteers who work so hard in the garden to keep up with its general maintenance: Janet, Mary, Andy, Andrew, Gerard and Colin. Without their input I would have had no time to do anything else!

Charity Development Manager

This year has been a year of development for Herefordshire Growing Point. Growing Point was Herefordshire's first horticultural therapy charity and has seen strong and steady growth over the last thirty years. During that time, it has seen witnessed significant changes in the economic climate and also expectations in terms of regulation and compliance. This year a considerable amount of time has been spent solidifying the foundations of the organisation. We have introduced new systems and processes to ensure this wonderful organisation runs as efficiently as possible, whilst also keeping our wonderful gardeners safe.

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In 2021 within Herefordshire there were 1,050 people (of all ages) registered as having a learning disability at GP Practices. This represents a prevalence of 0.6% of the population, which is statistically significantly higher than in England and Wales.

Modelled estimates suggest that GP registers reflect less than a quarter of all adults with Learning Disability, and that the true number in Herefordshire is likely to be around 2.3%. This is predicted to increase by 8% by 2035, disproportionately in the number aged 65+.

Evidence also suggests that 80% of wheelchair users struggle to access outside space, although there is a wealth of research which indicates time in nature can have a profound impact on their physical and mental health. **We are the only horticultural therapy charity in the county who can support wheelchair users and people with very complex learning disabilities.** Our therapy garden is fully accessible as we have fully accessible toilets and highly experienced staff and volunteers to support our clients. We have wheelchair friendly paths and raised beds at appropriate heights to enable people to fully engage with gardening. For clients who have limited use of their arms and legs, they often enjoy time just sitting in the garden, socialising, listening to the birds and touching plants and soil.

Accessibility is at the heart of all we do and this year our focus has been on maximising accessibility and reaching out to individuals who could most benefit from our work. We do not believe in barriers to nature, our ethos is to identify how to overcome them! This is Herefordshire Growing Point's unique selling point.

With this in mind, we were forced to evaluate our current garden and its layout and planting. To maximise the therapeutic value our client's experience from the garden, we began redesigning the garden and making the necessary changes. The changes included redesigning our polytunnel to include accessible raised beds. The raised beds have been designed by our staff team and built to order and allow gardeners to have 360-degree access allowing them to grow and do more. We are extremely proud of this design. The raised beds have been repaired, repointed and replanted. Rather than homing shrubs, these beds are now home to annuals which have a more therapeutic value.



Each year Herefordshire Growing Point has a theme that influences the workshops and path of our year. This year's theme was "What Gardening Means to me". The year began with an exquisite art exhibition lead by our senior horticultural therapist Jo. Gardeners were supported/encouraged to create art reflecting the impact nature and the garden has on them. The exhibition was a huge success, and it we had a wonderful day out as an organisation visiting it with our clients.

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We were honoured to work with Miles Johnson, ceramic artist in the spring. Miles supported our gardeners in creating self-reflective bust encapsulating the impact gardening has on our clients. The results were incredible! More information to come.

Our schools project Dig It continued to grow and we were both inspired and moved by the impact of the project. See Kate's report for further information.

All of the magnificent work we do, would not be possible without the support of trusts and foundations. This year we'd like to thank the trusts, organisations and individuals below:

Herefordshire Community Foundation	Albert Hunt Charitable Trust
Bengough Property	An anonymous donor
NGS garden grant	Community First
Mumford Trust	Dr Heather Barrett-Mold OBE
Garfield Weston Charitable Trust	Herefordshire Roundtable
Nathan Tomkins Trust	Herefordshire WI
The Marsh Charitable Trust	HVOSS
The Sam Morley Charitable Trust	Igence Radar
W A Cadbury Charitable Trust	The Jordan Foundation
The Lions Club	The Linda Hone Charitable Trust
E F Bulmer Charitable Trust	The Street Foundation

Tutor Reports - Head Tutor, Jo Rigney's report

It has been another productive and inspiring year for Herefordshire Growing Point. A year filled with growth, creativity and community connections. Our gardens and our participants have continued to thrive through a varied and engaging programme of activities.

In June, we were delighted to welcome representatives from a local charity shop. Kate and Kellys visit were both enjoyable and fruitful, resulting in the generous donation of two much needed sun canopies for the garden. These have already proved invaluable in providing shade and comfort for our gardeners during the hot summer, even more exciting was their offer to sell our plants through their store. This was a fantastic opportunity to raise both funds and awareness for our charity. We are grateful for their continued support.

Another memorable highlight of the summer was a lovely garden visit to our Chair, Laura Hone's home. We enjoyed a ramble through her beautiful gardens, followed by an indulgent afternoon tea with freshly baked scones filled with strawberries and cream provided by the trustees and volunteers. The day provided a welcome opportunity for relaxation, connection among volunteers, staff and trustees as well as our gardeners.



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In October, we hosted our annual autumn show. This event was well attended and received warmly by visitors. A particular highlight was seeing our longtime supporter Hilary Ward, honoured with the High Sheriff's award for services and community - richly deserved recognition for her dedication and contribution to Herefordshire Growing Point.



As the weather turned colder, we adapted our greenhouse to ensure our activities could continue comfortably throughout the winter months. The shelving was removed to create space for a round table and a small heater, transforming the greenhouse into a cosy craft space. This simple change has made a big difference allowing our gardeners to stay creative, social and warm through the darker months.

In November we launched our Dig It project, an exciting new initiative working in partnership with two Herefordshire schools. The project aimed to introduce young people to the joys and therapeutic benefits of gardening, fostering connection to nature and well-being from an early age. Please see Kate Barrett's report for more details.

Spring 2025

February brought a generous donation of seeds from Chiltern seeds, which were gratefully received and quickly incorporated into our sowing schedule. These have been a wonderful addition as part of a wider garden redesign, helping us plan for a colourful and productive year. March was a particularly busy and exciting month. We held our first ever exhibition at the Stable Gallery in Leominster, showcasing an inspiring collection of mixed media artworks including pottery paintings and crafts, created by both our outreach participants and regular HGP gardeners.

The exhibition's theme "What gardening means to me" celebrated creativity, community and the deep personal connections participants have with nature.

Later that month, we hosted our "Gardeners Question Time" fund raising event which proved both enjoyable and successful. The evening brought together local gardening enthusiasts, supporters and volunteers for an engaging discussion and raised valuable funds to support our ongoing programmes.

Summer 2025

In May, we hosted a series of pottery sessions led by local ceramicist, Miles Johnson. These workshops were enthusiastically received by our gardeners who explored new skills and creative expression through clay. The project culminated in a special evening celebration, showcasing the

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beautiful sculptures produced and highlighting the therapeutic value of our work. The success of this collaboration has inspired us to repeat and expand it next year.



This year saw a noticeable increase in public engagement and awareness of HGP'S work. Through a combination of social media activity and community events, our profile continues to grow.

Social media: our online following increased steadily across Facebook and Instagram helped by strong engagement with posts from the Stable Gallery exhibition and the Miles Johnson pottery project. These stories resonated widely, showing the creativity and confidence are gardeners gain from their work.

Local press and publicity : The Autumn show and Sculpture evening generated local press coverage, shining a spotlight on the work we do. With further collaborations in the pipeline, we hope to grow our audience and raise our profile further.

Dig It Project, November 2024 to July 2025. Kate Barrett, Horticultural Therapy Tutor

Purpose

The purpose of the Dig It Project was to provide a therapeutic horticulture setting for children and young people with additional needs to be able to improve their agency, build resilience and enhance their self esteem through building knowledge of how to garden for wildlife. It was important that the garden became a place where the children felt safe, valued, accepted and seen.

Funding

Hereford W.I. £1000

Street Foundation £4000

Lions Club £1000

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Schools involved

Riverside Primary School – children were predominantly 9 to 11 years old, with occasionally a younger child of 7. Children had mild needs such as lack of social integration, anxiety, family deprivation.

Brookfield School

Young people were between 11 and 15 years old.

Challenging behaviour and mental health needs.

Outcomes/Impact

Sessions took place either at Stretton Sugwas Village Hall Wildlife Garden or HGP Therapy Garden.

Activities undertaken included:

Creating a wildlife habitat hedge

Building a Bug Palace

Building Dens

Managing the space – creating paths, raised beds etc

Installing bird boxes

Clearing out the pond

Craft activities

Art activities

General gardening activities included:

Seed sowing

Watering

Planting out

Weeding

Digging out raised bed in polytunnel so that new bed could be installed

Children enjoyed learning about plants and wildlife:

Dalaila said she knew nothing about gardening before she started at Dig It and now she feels she knows more about the names of plants and bugs etc.

Children increased in self-confidence and resilience.

Evidenced by extracts from our Critical Reflection Diaries

16.6.25**What signs of resilience or agency did you notice in the participants?**

Lucas, regulating himself and choosing jobs he was interested in. George gradually added more and more water to his can as he realised he could manage it. All wanted to finish the job of filling the pond.

Aiden stung by stinging nettles and used a dock leaf to relieve. Did not make a fuss.

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19.5.25**What went well?**

Everyone engaged. Some children brought little issues with them and teachers from school had time to chat to them and help them process. Freedom to deviate from 'lesson plans.'

17.3.25**What signs of progress in horticultural skills and knowledge did you notice?**

Girls very keen to sow seeds and take plants home with them. They were excited to have things they could grow at home.

**Herefordshire Growing Point's Policies**

The following policies are in place and updated on a regular basis.

Thanks are due to the Trustees for making sure Herefordshire Growing Point is fully compliant and up to date with all necessary policies.

Complaints	Reimbursement of trustees;
Conflicts of Interest	Remuneration;
Disciplinary	Risk Management;
Equality and Diversity	Safeguarding;
Health & Safety;	Social Media and Guidance
Grievance	Standing orders for Charity Meetings
Membership;	Volunteers.
Recruitment;	Whistleblowing

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Conclusion

The 2024/25 year presented totally different challenges from the previous year, because the difficulties of dealing with drought began to be apparent very early on. Luckily, this was to an extent mitigated by the water storage solutions that had been put in place in 2023. However, we still had to ask Headway for help and we are most grateful to them for this.

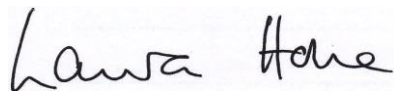
The necessary financial and IT systems have continued to be upgraded, so these are now really proving their worth.

The Leominster art exhibition was a particularly noteworthy event and the joy and pride the gardeners took in showcasing their work was inspiring.

The art exhibition could have taken place without the inspiration and hard work of the tutors and volunteers, so they deserve the highest praise. Although Growing Point is fortunate in the calibre of its volunteers, more are always needed, so we hope that successful events over the past year will have encouraged to come forward.

Finally, Herefordshire Growing Point wouldn't function without the hard work of the Manager, the Charity Development Manager, the tutors, the volunteers and the Trustees. All these people help with the many and varied tasks that seem to arise. Finally, everyone at Growing Point is grateful for the continuing help and support from Herefordshire Headway. Many thanks are due to all of them.

On behalf of the Trustees



Laura Hone –
Chairman, Hereford Growing Point.

Date: 11th November 2025



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Appendix One. Treasurer's report for year end 31 May 2025

Total monetary assets held on 31 May 2025 were £62,752.39 (£78,180.69). For this 12-month period, income from 'charitable activities' were £78,492.15 (£84,203.25). Expenditure was £95,154.43 and there was a deficit for the year of £16,649.28. Figures in (brackets) refer to the previous 12-month period ending 31 May 2024 as a comparison.

Analysis of the financial record as follows:

1. **Income from charitable activities.**
 - Course income. Course fee income for the year was £10,369 (£16,033.07).
 - Donations. These were £7877.90 (£23,574.77). The previous year's total was exceptional because of two donations totalling £16,900. As always, we are so grateful for the support of businesses as well as stalwart individuals who have supported us with regular giving over many years.
 - Fundraising. Our 'Gardeners Question Time' raised just over £2415.
 - Charitable Trusts (recorded as 'Trust grants'). The total sum received was £57,500 (£41,800). £38,300 was for unrestricted use and £19,200 was restricted for designated use. We are so grateful because it would not be possible to provide our service without this support.
2. **Expenditure on charitable activities.**
 - Course expenditure. The total expenditure for all costs relating to the gardening therapy sessions was £37,031.48 (£22,698.23). The costs include tuition (2 salaried staff and 2 self-employed tutors), travel costs, training, materials, and DBS checks. The increase in 'lecturing' costs of £29,177.86 (£18,872.50) reflects salary increases, increase in the hours worked and the enrolment of the 2 salaried staff in the Nest workplace pension scheme. The view of the trustees was that the salary increases recognise the hard work of our staff and to provide a pension scheme. In particular, the Schools Garden project would not have been possible without their commitment and enthusiasm.
 - Headway site. The total rent was £5280 (£5200). The cost of garden maintenance was £1713.03 (£970.83). This included a bulk order of compost for £960 at a discount price rather than rather than buying small quantities at higher prices.
 - Overhead costs. The total Overhead costs were £56,682.83 (£34,46.46). The principal reason is the employment of a self-employed consultant over the 12-month period to review and develop the charity.
 - Equipment. One refurbished laptop computer was purchased.
 - Introduction
 - Herefordshire Growing Point is committed to ensuring a proper balance between (1) paying our manager, tutors and others who work for us fairly and (2) for the careful stewardship of our charity funds to provide assurance that the charity is operating for the public benefit and in the interests of the charity.
 - **Remuneration Policy.** Remuneration is determined by collecting information about comparable roles in other voluntary sector organisations to use as a benchmark. There is one salaried employee, the Charity Manager, who is paid monthly. The Manager can claim the tutor remuneration and travel allowances if he is required to run a session in the absence of a tutor. Tutors are treated as self-employed workers and not as salaried employees.
3. **Accountancy policy.** The policy is to record the purchase of any asset as an operating cost in the year of purchase under 'expenditure on charitable activities'. The asset value of this charity is recorded under 'summary of assets' in the financial summary (Appendix 2).
4. **Financial Reserves.** On 31 May 2025, the cash reserves are held in five separate bank accounts. These are NatWest online a/c £636.33; NatWest Bankline a/c £25,707.39; Co-op bank account £2,500; COIF charity deposit a/c £12,239.37; Redwood Bank a/c £21,527.86. In addition, cash £141.44 is held in hand. Herefordshire Growing Point has no liabilities.

The independent examination of the accounts will be carried out by Mr David Woodward CA. The trustees appreciate the time already taken and the advice given by him in carrying out this examination.



Andrew Huntley, hon. treasurer for Herefordshire Growing Point; Charity Commission reg: 1197491

Hon. Patron: Tamsin Westthorpe

c/o Herefordshire Headway, Headway House, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX

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Appendix 2 - Herefordshire Growing Point financial summary year end 31 MAY 2025

statement of receipts and payments y/end 31.05.2025 Charity Commission reg: 1197491

INCOME from Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total £ 31.05.2025	Total £ 31.05.2024
Course fee - bank receipts	7010.00		7010.00	12078.77
Course fee - cash receipts	3359.00		3359.00	3954.30
Fundraising	2415.37		2415.37	1550.00
Donations	7877.90		7877.90	23574.77
Trust Grants	38,300.00	19200.00	57500.00	41800.00
Refund	15.83		15.83	1245.41
Plant sales	314.05		314.05	
Total Receipts	59292.15	19200.00	78492.15	84203.25

EXPENDITURE on charitable activities

Session Lecturing	29277.86		29277.86	18872.50
Session materials & travel	3353.75		3353.75	2929.59
Volunteer travel	1449.45		1449.45	272.70
Training & DBS checks	873.87		873.87	18.78
Subscriptions	55.00		55.00	95.00
Schools garden project	1512.52		1512.52	0.00
Sculpture project	509.03		509.03	0.00
cash payments	0.00		0.00	339.66

Overhead costs

HGP management & development	37497.72		37497.72	20048.73
Consultancy : fundraising	1272.95		1272.95	715.00
PAYE/NIC	3612.47		3612.47	3102.14
Nest workplace pension	1972.52		1972.52	1133.20
Headway site rent	5280.00		5280.00	5200.00
Headway garden maintenance	1713.03		1713.03	970.83
Charity insurance	987.09		987.09	718.74
Bookkeeping & Accountancy software	2060.40		2060.40	1796.80
Telephone, website	1563.62		1563.62	1181.33
Office expenses	333.00		333.00	79.69
Autumn Show, Promotion & Publicity	363.05		363.05	170.00
misc expense	26.98		26.98	0.00

Vehicle & office equipment

Computers	339.99		339.99	785.00
Vehicle expenses	1087.13		1087.13	16488.27
Total Expenditure	95141.43	0.00	95141.43	74917.96

surplus (deficit) for the year	-16649.28
Cash in bank or in hand 01/06/2024	78180.69
Deposit interest: COIF/Redwood accs	1220.98
Total surplus (deficit) at 31/05/2025	62752.39

Reconciliation: cash in bank 31/05/25

	Online a/c	Bankline a/c	Coif/Redwood	Co-op Bank	Cash
TOTAL : £62752.39	636.33	25707.39	33767.23	2500.00	141.44

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Appendix 2 - Herefordshire Growing Point financial summary year end 31 MAY 2025					
statement of receipts and payments y/end 31.05.2025 Charity Commission reg: 1197491					
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31.05.2025	Total 31.05.2024	
Monetary Assets					
Cash in bank (01.06.2024)	75060.69	3120.00	78180.69	70498.82	
surplus/(deficit) for the year	-16790.72		-16790.72	5641.55	
cash in hand	141.44		141.44	841.02	
Charities Deposit Fund interest	563.45		563.45	562.97	
Redwood 35 day account	657.53		657.53	636.33	
	59632.39	3120.00	62752.39	78180.69	
Summary of Assets					
Year ending 31 May 2025					
NatWest online account			636.33		
NatWest bankline account			25707.39		
Charities Deposit Fund (COIF)			12239.37		
Redwood 35 Day Account			21527.86		
Co-op bank account			2500.00		
Cash in hand			141.44		
			£ 62,752.39		
Funds allocation at 31/05/2025	Unrestricted Funds		54490.39		
	Restricted Funds		8262.00		
	Total Assets		£ 62,752.39		
Accounts prepared by:					
Hon.Treasurer	Andrew Hunsley		date: 11.11.2025		
Independent Examiner	Stuart		date: 31.12.2025		
HGP restricted funds	at 31.05.2024	receipts to: 31/05/2025	payments to: 31/05/2025	£ balance at 31/05/2025	
EF Bulmer Trust		5000.00	3350.00	1650.00	
Community First		800.00	800.00	0.00	
Cray Trust		500.00	500.00	0.00	
Herefs Community Fdn		2000.00	1760.00	240.00	
Herefs Community Fdn		2800.00	2560.00	240.00	
HVOSS		2500.00	238.00	2262.00	
NHS Garden Grant		1600.00	1350.00	250.00	
Nathan Trust		1000.00	1000.00	0.00	
Clive Richards Foundation	1620.00	0.00	0.00	1620.00	
Street Foundation		2000.00	1000.00	1000.00	
Street Foundation		1000.00	0.00	1000.00	
Worshipful Co of Gardeners	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	0.00	
	3120.00	19200.00	14058.00	8262.00	
HGP accounts/AH/ 2024-2025					

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Appendix 3 : Pay - Salaries, tutor lecture fees and consultants fees paid**Pay Charity Manager salary (gross) and benefits year end 31/05/2025**

date	gross	Pension : employer's contribution
June	1886.80	41.00
July	1886.80	41.00
August	1886.80	41.00
September	1886.80	41.00
October	1886.80	41.00
November	1886.80	41.00
December	1886.80	41.00
January	1886.80	41.00
February	1886.80	41.00
March	1886.80	41.00
April	1953.10	41.00
May	1953.10	42.99
	22774.20	493.99

Payment of expenses to HGP Trustees year end 31.05.2025

date	expense	name	£
26/03/2025	Moneysoft	A Huntley	103.20

Pay to HGP tutors and staff salaries (gross) year end 31.05.2025

	date	tuition	Pension : employer's contribution
tutor	01/6 -30/11	825.00	
tutor	01/7 - 31/5	1210.00	
salared	01/6 - 31/5	16327.17	193.96
salared	01/6 - 31/5	12338.36	96.57

Pay bookkeeper (gross) year end 31.05.2025

date	amount
01/06 - 31/12	1742.40

Pay Charity Development Manager fee (gross) year end 31.05.2025

	date	fee
HGP development	01/6 - 31/5	18326.00
HGP fundraising	01/6 - 31/5	1272.95

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Appendix 4**HGP cash box summary year end 31.05.2025**

	dr	cr
01/06/2024 Cash		
b/f	841.02	
Cash		
received	951.27	
	1183.59	
	853.34	
	819.00	
	661.68	
Cash transfer to bank accounts		4468.88
Cash payments		699.58
TOTAL	5309.90	5168.46

Cash not banked	£
01/06/2025	141.44

APPENDIX 5

HGP Restricted Funds	at 31.05.2024	receipts to: 31/05/2025	payments to: 31/05/2025	£ balance at 31/05/2025
EF Bulmer Trust		5000		
Community First		800		
Cray Trust		500		
Herefs Community Fdn		2000		
Herefs Community Fdn		2800		
HVOSS		2500		
NGS Garden Grant		1600		
Nathan Tomkins Trust		1000		
Clive Richards Foundation	1620			
Street Foundation		2000		
Street Foundation		1000		
Worshipful Co of Gardeners	1500			
	£3120	£19200	0	0

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Appendix 2 - Herefordshire Growing Point financial summary year end 31 MAY 2025

statement of receipts and payments y/end 31.05.2025 Charity Commission reg: 1197491

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31.05.2025	Total 31.05.2024
Monetary Assets				
Cash in bank (01.06.2024)	75060.69	3120.00	78180.69	70498.82
surplus/(deficit) for the year	-16790.72		-16790.72	5641.55
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Redwood 35 day account	657.53		657.53	636.33
	59632.39	3120.00	62752.39	78180.69
Summary of Assets				
Year ending 31 May 2025				
NatWest online account			636.33	
NatWest bankline account			25707.39	
Charities Deposit Fund (COIF)			12239.37	
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Funds allocation at 31/05/2025	Unrestricted Funds		54490.39	
	Restricted Funds		8262.00	
	Total Assets		£ 62,752.39	
Accounts prepared by:				
Hon.Treasurer	Andrew Hunting		date: 11.11.2025	
Independent Examiner	<i>[Signature]</i>		date: 31.12.2025	
HGP restricted funds	at 31.05.2024	receipts to: 31/05/2025	payments to: 31/05/2025	£ balance at 31/05/2025
EF Bulmer Trust		5000.00	3350.00	1650.00
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Clive Richards Foundation	1620.00	0.00	0.00	1620.00
Street Foundation		2000.00	1000.00	1000.00
Street Foundation		1000.00	0.00	1000.00
Worshipful Co of Gardeners	1500.00	0.00	1500.00	0.00
	3120.00	19200.00	14058.00	8262.00
HGP accounts/AH/ 2024-2025				

HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT

England & Wales - Charity number 1197491

Accounts



HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending

31st May 2024



(Charity Number 1197491)

HON PRESIDENT: Tamsin Westhorpe
c/o Herefordshire Headway, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX
Telephone: 01432 805705 Web: www.growingpoint.org

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HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT
(Charity No. 1197491)

Annual Report for the Year ending 31st May 2024

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 31st May 2024

The Members of the Committee during the year were:

Chairman:	Laura Hone	Deputy Chairman:	Julie Cohn
Charity Manager:	Julian Reeves		
Treasurer:	Andrew Huntley		
Events:	Julie Cohn and Mary Knight		
Minutes Secretary:	Caroline Lechmere		

Trustees: Laura Hone, Andrew Huntley, Janet Parry, Julie Cohn, Mary Knight, Fiona Paterson Shelagh Wynn (resigned in January 2024), Caroline Lechmere and Jeanie Falconer.

The charity was established in 1990 with, as its original governing instrument, a Constitution adopted on 29th April 1991. This Constitution was revised in 2014 and again in 2019. The charity's status was changed from an unincorporated charity to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) in December 2022.

Officers and Members of the Committee are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting held in November.

The Aim and Objectives of Herefordshire Growing Point

The aim of Herefordshire Growing Point is to enable vulnerable and disabled people of all ages to enjoy the social and therapeutic benefits of horticultural activities.

The objectives of Herefordshire Growing Point are:

To provide relief and to promote social inclusion for the benefit of the public by horticultural therapy for those people who are vulnerable or socially excluded, through old age, illness or disability, either mentally or physically (whether permanently or temporarily) in Herefordshire and the areas adjoining Herefordshire, by:

- 1) The provision of organised horticultural therapy sessions to enhance the quality of life and mental wellbeing for this group of people, in garden settings or appropriate environments such as residential care, suited to individual need.
- 2) Promotion of social inclusion. Being part of a gardening group is a benefit for individuals who have limited opportunities for social engagement.
- 3) Promotion of healthy living, by growing, harvesting and cooking fruit and vegetables.
- 4) Promotion of public awareness of the benefits of social and horticultural therapy by means of social media, website and events.

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Disclosures within the Annual Report and Accounts.

Herefordshire Growing Point will include or disclose the following in its Annual Report and Accounts:

- ***A statement that summarises the remuneration policy.***
- ***A summary of payments to Trustees for expenses.***
- ***The actual salary and other benefits received by the Manager.***
- ***The number of Tutors and their total remuneration.***

These disclosures are given in two appendices at the end of Report and Accounts.

Review of the Year 2023-24

A great deal of time was taken up with managing the consequences of not having a minibus. Taxies had to fill the gap and this was both expensive and unreliable. A fundraising programme was launched, but sufficient funding for a good quality second hand wheelchair adapted vehicle arrived unexpectedly quickly. This was due to some generous local support, as well as two charitable trusts. This was wonderful and a great relief and the gardeners who used the vehicle were delighted with the improvement.

A wreath-making workshop was arranged for early December which produced a lot of fun and laughter, as well as some really excellent wreaths at the end of the morning. There was also a Christmas bowling and shopping trip.



In February, Stuart Donachie and Chris Carter very generously allowed Growing Point to hold a fund raising event in their stunning garden. The event was originally billed as a snowdrop walk, but due to the very mild winter weather, the snowdrops were over, but all the magnificent hellebores were in flower, as well as other Spring bulbs and shrubs. The torrential rain experienced at the beginning of 2024 might have meant cancelling the event, but Herefordians are stoical people, so that wasn't necessary and the weather even improved enough for a few rays of sunshine. The Growing Point trustees provided a delicious lunch, the event was so popular that we had to resort to a waiting list and Stuart and Chris were immensely generous with their time by walking round the garden with the visitors and answering some of the many questions being posed. Everyone at Growing Point was immensely grateful for their generosity.

Also in the Spring, Herefordshire Growing Point was invited to have a stand at the annual Seed Swap in Hereford. The day was both interesting and enjoyable and useful contacts were made. Tamsin Westhorpe was the speaker and generously donated her fee.

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Sadly in January, we had to say goodbye to Shelagh Wynn who resigned as a Trustee. Laura Hone thanked Shelagh who was attending her last meeting as a trustee of HGP. Shelagh has been a wonderful trustee and has given of her time, expertise and wisdom freely, not to mention her tolerance and patience together with her work on the website. Shelagh also managed the process involved in applying for a QAVS award which involved a great deal of work. She also negotiated the intricacies and legal aspects regarding the charity's change of status to a CIO. This was made doubly difficult by the stops and starts during the Covid period. Everyone at Herefordshire Growing Point owes Shelagh a huge debt of gratitude for everything she has done in her time at HGP and hopefully we will still see her at events and special occasions in the future.

Charity Manager's Report

In June we were delighted to have a promotional video made by local Film Director Jonathan Zaurin. Our gardeners loved being involved and the resulting film brought tears to our eyes when we first saw what a superb job he had made of it. It now sits proudly on our website.

We had a stand at Hellen's Garden show and had some useful conversations. We also met some lovely people.



Our minibus finally reached the end of its useful life so we started a fundraising campaign with the hope of raising enough money to find a replacement. We expected that it would take some time to raise enough but were amazed when the Clive Richards Foundation, the Worshipful Society of London Gardeners Charity, the proceeds from the Hereford Seed Swap, the Cottage Herbery and other kind supporters, gave us sufficient funds to buy a nearly new Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle. Thanks to their generosity we can carry on bringing our gardeners into the Demonstration Garden without the stress and uncertainty of taxis.



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The 2023 Spring was hot and the late summer even hotter and we quickly realised the benefits of having five water storage tanks.

Our Autumn Show was very well attended with more than 60 people enjoying the presentations and the delicious cakes courtesy of our trustees. Gardener of the Year was Mark Randall and the Progress cup was awarded to David Ferguson Thomas. We were also able to present some lovely glass trophies to first prize winners, made specially for us by K8Create of Hereford.



The year ended with the wreath making workshop and a Christmas party for our gardeners.

We welcomed the Mayor of Hereford, Cllr Jacque Carwardine to the Demonstration Garden in the Spring and gave her a tour of the gardens where she met some of the gardeners.



Sadly we had to say goodbye two of our tutors; Sian Murcott in August and Rebecca Sheen in the following March. Both were excellent practitioners and highly regarded.

Following this, a recruitment process was started in the Spring and we were delighted to welcome Kate Barrett and Amelia Carter to the team. Kate as a new tutor and Amelia as a charity development manager. We also appointed a part-time fundraiser, Michelle Adouard to help us secure new sources of income

In addition, we welcomed Jess Reed as a new volunteer and are hopeful she may develop an interest in becoming a tutor in the future.

It was with great delight that we were able to celebrate Jean Well's 100th Birthday in April. She continues to be a very popular member of the Monday and Wednesday groups.

We now have two new groups of autistic adults coming on a Tuesday afternoon from Orchard End and Park House homes.

Tutor Reports - Head Tutor, Jo Rigney's report

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Since October 2023 we are no longer sending out activity packs to care homes as only one care home continued to request the packs. Sessions have now restarted at Stretton nursing home which was the only organisation still receiving the packs.

This autumn and winter, gardening activities centered on planting bulbs for the spring in pots. These were: daffodils, crocus, iris, and a few tulips. The plan was to make something to look forward to. Some groups have potted on biennials, sowed sweet pea seeds, onions, and garlic, and helped to tidy up their growing areas for the winter.

We have also collected autumn leaves to make leaf bowls and paper lanterns. Leaves have also been used to print leaf shapes onto tote bags which all the groups enjoyed making.



During December, activities were Christmas themed and many of the groups made origami stars to hang as decorations in addition to the Christmas wreaths. There was also a Christmas outing.



The Christmas period has been quiet regarding social media, except for the wreath making session which was a huge success.

During January the groups were thinking about the birds especially as the weather turned cold. As a result, the gardeners made bird seed feeders on fir cones and monkey nut rings. Andrew Keir was doing cooking sessions with the Monday groups as it was too cold to take the group outside.

Charity Development Manager

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I am thrilled to have joined the Herefordshire Growing Point team and so excited to help grow and develop this inspiring organisation. I will be spending the next number of weeks reviewing the current great work we do and then looking for new opportunities to help support our local community. The next few months will be about informing and creating a new strategic direction for the charity which will see us reach more people and make a greater impact throughout Herefordshire. I am already aware of the great success of our outreach programme, Forget me Not. This programme supports older and vulnerable people living in care homes across the county. I intend to continue to develop this project and increase the number of homes we are serving. I am also aware that there is a great need for alternative provisions for children living with anxiety and depression. I am keen to work with schools within Herefordshire to develop a project offering horticultural therapy to vulnerable children. Lastly, part of the strategy will look to see how we can increase the profile of this wonderful organisation and engage with local funders. My aim is to both grow Herefordshire Growing Point and look for sustainable ways to ensure the future of this much needed charity.



Funding Report – 1st June 2023 to 31st May 2024

Over the past year, Herefordshire Growing Point has had the support of the following organisations and we are grateful for this support:

The Eveson Charitable Trust
 The Worshipful Company of Gardeners of London Charity
 The Clive Richards Foundation
 The Cottage Herbery
 The Herefordshire Seed Swap
 ETL Systems
 E F Bulmer Trust

In addition to those listed above, the following charitable trusts and organisations have also supported Herefordshire Growing Point over the past year with unrestricted donations which are very much appreciated.

- The William A Cadbury Charitable Trust;
- Dr Heather Barrett-Mold OBE
- The Hone Family Charitable Trust
- Igence Radar
- The Jordan Foundation;
- The Sam Morley Charitable Trust.
- The Street Foundation

There was also support from two generous anonymous donors.

We are also grateful to the Co-op who continue to host a plant stall at Bobblestock

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Herefordshire Growing Point's Policies

The following policies are in place and updated on a regular basis.

- Complaints;
- Conflict of Interest;
- Covid Safer Practice;
- Equal Opportunities;
- Financial Management;
- Grievance;
- Health & Safety;
- Membership;
- Recruitment;
- Reimbursement of trustees;
- Remuneration;
- Risk Management;
- Safeguarding;
- Standing orders for Charity Meetings - and
- Volunteers.

The following policies are awaiting adoption

- Disciplinary
- Equality and Diversity
- Social Media
- Whistleblowing

Thanks are due to the Trustees for making sure Herefordshire Growing Point is fully compliant and up to date with all necessary policies.

Conclusion

Hon. Patron: Tamsin Westhorpe

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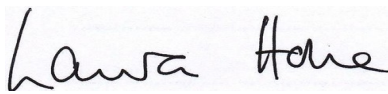
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This has been a year of ups and downs for Herefordshire Growing Point. The “downs” have been weather-related and produced some challenges, but in spite of this, some excellent exhibits were created for the Autumn Show which the High Sheriff was extremely impressed with.

The “ups” have been the new groups joining and then the recruitment of Michelle Audouard to help with the fundraising; tutor Kate Barrett and Amelia Carter as Development Manager. Kate and Amelia have already brought a wealth of new ideas and initiatives with them and have slotted in seamlessly with the existing tutors. There are now some very exciting plans on the drawing board which should start coming to fruition later in 2024.

Finally, Herefordshire Growing Point wouldn't function without the hard work of the Manager, the tutors, the volunteers and the Trustees. Also, with the continuing help and support from Herefordshire Headway. Many thanks are due to all of them.

On behalf of the Trustees



Laura Hone –
Chairman, Hereford Growing Point.

Date: 12th November 2024

Appendix One. Treasurer's report for year end 31 May 2024

Total monetary assets held on 31 May 2024 were £78,180.69 (£70,498.82). The income from 'charitable activities' was £84,203.25 (£50,646.89). Expenditure for the 12 month period was £77,720.68 (£60,421.79). For this period, 01/06/2023 – 31/05/2024, there was a surplus of £6482.57 (deficit £6928.50). Figures in (brackets) refer to the previous 12 month period ending 31.05.2023 as a comparison.

Analysis of the financial record as follows:

1. Income from charitable activities.

- Courses income. Course fee income for this 12 month period was £16,033.07 (£8231).
- Donations. These were £23,574.77 (£9,119). As a charity, we are so grateful for the support of businesses as well as individuals who have supported us this year and in previous years with regular giving. Donations have also been increased by donors using 'Givey', an online donations platform serving smaller charities.
- Fundraising. The Snowdrop Day in February raised over £1,550.
- Charitable Trusts (recorded as 'Trust grants'). The total amount received for this 12 month period was £41,800 (£30,569). £17,500 was classed as 'unrestricted' and £24,300 was classed as 'restricted' for specific projects. We are so grateful to these Trust grants. It would not be possible to provide our service without this financial support.
- Other income. Sale of the old minibus for £900 and a refund of vehicle insurance premium.

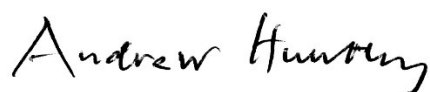
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4. Financial Reserves. On 31 May 2024, the cash reserves are held in three separate bank accounts. These are NatWest current account £44,793.42; COIF charity deposit account £11,675.92; Redwood Bank £20,870.33. In addition, cash (£842.02) is held in hand. The charity has no liabilities.

The independent examination of the accounts was carried out by Mr Huw Foxall FCMA. The trustees appreciate the time taken and the advice given by him in carrying out this important function without charge for many years and are most grateful.



Andrew Huntley, hon. treasurer for Herefordshire Growing Point; Charity Commission reg: 1197491.

APPENDIX TWO - Herefordshire Growing Point financial summary 01.06.23 - 31.05.2024

Hon. Patron: Tamsin Westhorpe

c/o Herefordshire Headway, Headway House, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX

Telephone: 01432 805705 Web: www.growingpoint.org.uk Email: hgrowingpoint@yahoo.co.uk

INCOME from Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31.05.2024
Course fees - bank receipts	12078.77		12078.77
Course fees - cash receipts	3954.30		3954.30
Fundraising	1550.00		1550.00
Donations	13574.77	10000.00	23574.77
Trust Grants	17500.00	24300.00	41800.00
sale of vehicle & refund	1245.41		1245.41
Total Receipts	£49903.25	£34300.00	£84203.25

EXPENDITURE on Charitable activities

Lecturing	18872.50		18872.50
Session Materials & Travel	2929.59		2929.59
Volunteer Mileage	272.70		272.70
Bookings, subs etc	95.00		95.00
Staff costs & DBS checks	18.78		18.78
Autumn Show	170.00		170.00
Cash payments	339.66		339.66

Overhead costs

Charity Manager	18882.58		18882.58
Telephone and internet	1181.33		1181.33
Nest Workplace Pension	1133.20		1133.20
PAYE/NIC	3102.14		3102.14
Charity Insurance	718.74		718.74
Book keeping & Accountancy software	1796.80		1796.80
office expenses	79.69		79.69
Consultancy : charity development	1166.00		1881.15
Consultancy : fundraising	715.15		
Headway site rent	5200.00		5200.00
Headway site works	970.83		970.83

Vehicle & office equipment

Computers	785.00		785.00
Vehicle expenses	1108.27		1108.27
Purchase of vehicle	0.00	15380.00	15380.00
Total expenditure on Charitable activities	59537.96	15380.00	74917.96
Transfer of cash receipts to bank	2802.72		2802.72
			£77,720.68

surplus (deficit) for the year	6482.57
Cash in Bank & in hand 01/06/2023	70498.82
Deposit Accs:COIF/Redwood interest	1199.30
Total surplus (deficit) at 31.05.2024	£78,180.69

Reconciliation	Current a/c	COIF a/c	Redwood a/c	Cash	Total
Cash in Bank year end 31/05/2024	44793.42	11675.92	20870.33	£841.02	£78,180.69

APPENDIX TWO (CONT.)**Herefordshire Growing Point financial summary 01.06.2023- 31.05.2024**

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 c/o Herefordshire Headway, Headway House, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX
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Statement of receipts & payments y/end 31.05.2024 Charity Commission reg: 1197491

Monetary Assets	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Assets : 31.05.2024	Total 31.05.2023
Cash in Bank (01.06.2023)	64086.62	6412.20	70498.82	76880.91
surplus/(deficit) for the year	5641.55		5641.55	-6928.50
cash in hand	841.02		841.02	29.10
Charities Deposit Fund (COIF) interest	562.97		562.97	290.86
Redwood 35 Day Account	636.33		636.33	226.45
Total Monetary Assets at 31/05/2023	71768.49	6412.20	78180.69	70498.82

Summary of Assets

Year ending 31 May 2024

NatWest current account	44793.42
Charities Deposit Fund (COIF)	11675.92
Redwood 35 Day Account	20870.33
Cash in hand	841.02
	<u>£ 78,180.69</u>

at 31/05/2024

Unrestricted Funds	£ 75,060.69
Restricted Funds	£ 3,120.00
Total Assets	<u>£ 78,180.69</u>

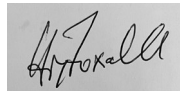
Accounts prepared by:

Hon.Treasurer



date: 18.11.2024

Independent Examiner



date: 18.11.2024

Restricted Funds	at 31.05.2023	receipts to: 31/05/2024	payments to: 31/05/2024	£ balance at 31/05/2024
EF Bulmer Trust		5000.00	5000.00	
Clive Richards Foundation		7000.00	5380.00	1620.00
Eveson Trust		10000.00	10000.00	
The Worshipful Company of Gardeners of London Charity		1500.00		1500.00
Hone Trust		800.00	800.00	
National Lottery	6412.20		6412.20	
		£24300.0		
	£6412.20	0	£27592.20	£3120.00

Appendix Three

Hon. Patron: Tamsin Westhorpe

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Herefordshire Growing Point

HGP Cash box summary for year end 31.05.2024

	item	dr	cr
01/06/2023	b/f	29.10	
	cash received	3,954.30	
	cash transferred to bank		2,802.72
	cash payments		3,39.66
	total	3,983.40	3,142.38
	cash not banked		
	31.05.2024		<u>£841.02</u>

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HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending

31st May 2024



(Charity Number 1197491)

HON PRESIDENT: Tamsin Westhorpe
c/o Herefordshire Headway, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX
Telephone: 01432 805705 Web: www.growingpoint.org

Email: hgrowingpoint@yahoo.co.uk

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HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT
(Charity No. 1197491)

Annual Report for the Year ending 31st May 2024

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 31st May 2024

The Members of the Committee during the year were:

Chairman:	Laura Hone	Deputy Chairman:	Julie Cohn
Charity Manager:	Julian Reeves		
Treasurer:	Andrew Huntley		
Events:	Julie Cohn and Mary Knight		
Minutes Secretary:	Caroline Lechmere		

Trustees: Laura Hone, Andrew Huntley, Janet Parry, Julie Cohn, Mary Knight, Fiona Paterson Shelagh Wynn (resigned in January 2024), Caroline Lechmere and Jeanie Falconer.

The charity was established in 1990 with, as its original governing instrument, a Constitution adopted on 29th April 1991. This Constitution was revised in 2014 and again in 2019. The charity's status was changed from an unincorporated charity to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) in December 2022.

Officers and Members of the Committee are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting held in November.

The Aim and Objectives of Herefordshire Growing Point

The aim of Herefordshire Growing Point is to enable vulnerable and disabled people of all ages to enjoy the social and therapeutic benefits of horticultural activities.

The objectives of Herefordshire Growing Point are:

To provide relief and to promote social inclusion for the benefit of the public by horticultural therapy for those people who are vulnerable or socially excluded, through old age, illness or disability, either mentally or physically (whether permanently or temporarily) in Herefordshire and the areas adjoining Herefordshire, by:

- 1) The provision of organised horticultural therapy sessions to enhance the quality of life and mental wellbeing for this group of people, in garden settings or appropriate environments such as residential care, suited to individual need.
- 2) Promotion of social inclusion. Being part of a gardening group is a benefit for individuals who have limited opportunities for social engagement.
- 3) Promotion of healthy living, by growing, harvesting and cooking fruit and vegetables.
- 4) Promotion of public awareness of the benefits of social and horticultural therapy by means of social media, website and events.

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Disclosures within the Annual Report and Accounts.

Herefordshire Growing Point will include or disclose the following in its Annual Report and Accounts:

- ***A statement that summarises the remuneration policy.***
- ***A summary of payments to Trustees for expenses.***
- ***The actual salary and other benefits received by the Manager.***
- ***The number of Tutors and their total remuneration.***

These disclosures are given in two appendices at the end of Report and Accounts.

Review of the Year 2023-24

A great deal of time was taken up with managing the consequences of not having a minibus. Taxies had to fill the gap and this was both expensive and unreliable. A fundraising programme was launched, but sufficient funding for a good quality second hand wheelchair adapted vehicle arrived unexpectedly quickly. This was due to some generous local support, as well as two charitable trusts. This was wonderful and a great relief and the gardeners who used the vehicle were delighted with the improvement.

A wreath-making workshop was arranged for early December which produced a lot of fun and laughter, as well as some really excellent wreaths at the end of the morning. There was also a Christmas bowling and shopping trip.



In February, Stuart Donachie and Chris Carter very generously allowed Growing Point to hold a fund raising event in their stunning garden. The event was originally billed as a snowdrop walk, but due to the very mild winter weather, the snowdrops were over, but all the magnificent hellebores were in flower, as well as other Spring bulbs and shrubs. The torrential rain experienced at the beginning of 2024 might have meant cancelling the event, but Herefordians are stoical people, so that wasn't necessary and the weather even improved enough for a few rays of sunshine. The Growing Point trustees provided a delicious lunch, the event was so popular that we had to resort to a waiting list and Stuart and Chris were immensely generous with their time by walking round the garden with the visitors and answering some of the many questions being posed. Everyone at Growing Point was immensely grateful for their generosity.

Also in the Spring, Herefordshire Growing Point was invited to have a stand at the annual Seed Swap in Hereford. The day was both interesting and enjoyable and useful contacts were made. Tamsin Westhorpe was the speaker and generously donated her fee.

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Sadly in January, we had to say goodbye to Shelagh Wynn who resigned as a Trustee. Laura Hone thanked Shelagh who was attending her last meeting as a trustee of HGP. Shelagh has been a wonderful trustee and has given of her time, expertise and wisdom freely, not to mention her tolerance and patience together with her work on the website. Shelagh also managed the process involved in applying for a QAVS award which involved a great deal of work. She also negotiated the intricacies and legal aspects regarding the charity's change of status to a CIO. This was made doubly difficult by the stops and starts during the Covid period. Everyone at Herefordshire Growing Point owes Shelagh a huge debt of gratitude for everything she has done in her time at HGP and hopefully we will still see her at events and special occasions in the future.

Charity Manager's Report

In June we were delighted to have a promotional video made by local Film Director Jonathan Zaurin. Our gardeners loved being involved and the resulting film brought tears to our eyes when we first saw what a superb job he had made of it. It now sits proudly on our website.

We had a stand at Hellen's Garden show and had some useful conversations. We also met some lovely people.



Our minibus finally reached the end of its useful life so we started a fundraising campaign with the hope of raising enough money to find a replacement. We expected that it would take some time to raise enough but were amazed when the Clive Richards Foundation, the Worshipful Society of London Gardeners Charity, the proceeds from the Hereford Seed Swap, the Cottage Herbery and other kind supporters, gave us sufficient funds to buy a nearly new Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle. Thanks to their generosity we can carry on bringing our gardeners into the Demonstration Garden without the stress and uncertainty of taxis.



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The 2023 Spring was hot and the late summer even hotter and we quickly realised the benefits of having five water storage tanks.

Our Autumn Show was very well attended with more than 60 people enjoying the presentations and the delicious cakes courtesy of our trustees. Gardener of the Year was Mark Randall and the Progress cup was awarded to David Ferguson Thomas. We were also able to present some lovely glass trophies to first prize winners, made specially for us by K8Create of Hereford.



The year ended with the wreath making workshop and a Christmas party for our gardeners.

We welcomed the Mayor of Hereford, Cllr Jacque Carwardine to the Demonstration Garden in the Spring and gave her a tour of the gardens where she met some of the gardeners.



Sadly we had to say goodbye two of our tutors; Sian Murcott in August and Rebecca Sheen in the following March. Both were excellent practitioners and highly regarded.

Following this, a recruitment process was started in the Spring and we were delighted to welcome Kate Barrett and Amelia Carter to the team. Kate as a new tutor and Amelia as a charity development manager. We also appointed a part-time fundraiser, Michelle Adouard to help us secure new sources of income

In addition, we welcomed Jess Reed as a new volunteer and are hopeful she may develop an interest in becoming a tutor in the future.

It was with great delight that we were able to celebrate Jean Well's 100th Birthday in April. She continues to be a very popular member of the Monday and Wednesday groups.

We now have two new groups of autistic adults coming on a Tuesday afternoon from Orchard End and Park House homes.

Tutor Reports - Head Tutor, Jo Rigney's report

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Since October 2023 we are no longer sending out activity packs to care homes as only one care home continued to request the packs. Sessions have now restarted at Stretton nursing home which was the only organisation still receiving the packs.

This autumn and winter, gardening activities centered on planting bulbs for the spring in pots. These were: daffodils, crocus, iris, and a few tulips. The plan was to make something to look forward to. Some groups have potted on biennials, sowed sweet pea seeds, onions, and garlic, and helped to tidy up their growing areas for the winter.

We have also collected autumn leaves to make leaf bowls and paper lanterns. Leaves have also been used to print leaf shapes onto tote bags which all the groups enjoyed making.



During December, activities were Christmas themed and many of the groups made origami stars to hang as decorations in addition to the Christmas wreaths. There was also a Christmas outing.



The Christmas period has been quiet regarding social media, except for the wreath making session which was a huge success.

During January the groups were thinking about the birds especially as the weather turned cold. As a result, the gardeners made bird seed feeders on fir cones and monkey nut rings. Andrew Keir was doing cooking sessions with the Monday groups as it was too cold to take the group outside.

Charity Development Manager

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I am thrilled to have joined the Herefordshire Growing Point team and so excited to help grow and develop this inspiring organisation. I will be spending the next number of weeks reviewing the current great work we do and then looking for new opportunities to help support our local community. The next few months will be about informing and creating a new strategic direction for the charity which will see us reach more people and make a greater impact throughout Herefordshire. I am already aware of the great success of our outreach programme, Forget me Not. This programme supports older and vulnerable people living in care homes across the county. I intend to continue to develop this project and increase the number of homes we are serving. I am also aware that there is a great need for alternative provisions for children living with anxiety and depression. I am keen to work with schools within Herefordshire to develop a project offering horticultural therapy to vulnerable children. Lastly, part of the strategy will look to see how we can increase the profile of this wonderful organisation and engage with local funders. My aim is to both grow Herefordshire Growing Point and look for sustainable ways to ensure the future of this much needed charity.



Funding Report – 1st June 2023 to 31st May 2024

Over the past year, Herefordshire Growing Point has had the support of the following organisations and we are grateful for this support:

The Eveson Charitable Trust
 The Worshipful Company of Gardeners of London Charity
 The Clive Richards Foundation
 The Cottage Herbery
 The Herefordshire Seed Swap
 ETL Systems
 E F Bulmer Trust

In addition to those listed above, the following charitable trusts and organisations have also supported Herefordshire Growing Point over the past year with unrestricted donations which are very much appreciated.

- The William A Cadbury Charitable Trust;
- Dr Heather Barrett-Mold OBE
- The Hone Family Charitable Trust
- Igence Radar
- The Jordan Foundation;
- The Sam Morley Charitable Trust.
- The Street Foundation

There was also support from two generous anonymous donors.

We are also grateful to the Co-op who continue to host a plant stall at Bobblestock

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Herefordshire Growing Point's Policies

The following policies are in place and updated on a regular basis.

- Complaints;
- Conflict of Interest;
- Covid Safer Practice;
- Equal Opportunities;
- Financial Management;
- Grievance;
- Health & Safety;
- Membership;
- Recruitment;
- Reimbursement of trustees;
- Remuneration;
- Risk Management;
- Safeguarding;
- Standing orders for Charity Meetings - and
- Volunteers.

The following policies are awaiting adoption

- Disciplinary
- Equality and Diversity
- Social Media
- Whistleblowing

Thanks are due to the Trustees for making sure Herefordshire Growing Point is fully compliant and up to date with all necessary policies.

Conclusion

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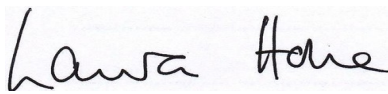
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The “ups” have been the new groups joining and then the recruitment of Michelle Audouard to help with the fundraising; tutor Kate Barrett and Amelia Carter as Development Manager. Kate and Amelia have already brought a wealth of new ideas and initiatives with them and have slotted in seamlessly with the existing tutors. There are now some very exciting plans on the drawing board which should start coming to fruition later in 2024.

Finally, Herefordshire Growing Point wouldn't function without the hard work of the Manager, the tutors, the volunteers and the Trustees. Also, with the continuing help and support from Herefordshire Headway. Many thanks are due to all of them.

On behalf of the Trustees



Laura Hone –
Chairman, Hereford Growing Point.

Date: 12th November 2024

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- Fundraising. The Snowdrop Day in February raised over £1,550.
- Charitable Trusts (recorded as 'Trust grants'). The total amount received for this 12 month period was £41,800 (£30,569). £17,500 was classed as 'unrestricted' and £24,300 was classed as 'restricted' for specific projects. We are so grateful to these Trust grants. It would not be possible to provide our service without this financial support.
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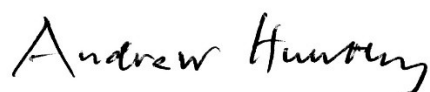
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Andrew Huntley, hon. treasurer for Herefordshire Growing Point; Charity Commission reg: 1197491.

APPENDIX TWO - Herefordshire Growing Point financial summary 01.06.23 - 31.05.2024

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Fundraising	1550.00		1550.00
Donations	13574.77	10000.00	23574.77
Trust Grants	17500.00	24300.00	41800.00
sale of vehicle & refund	1245.41		1245.41
Total Receipts	£49903.25	£34300.00	£84203.25

EXPENDITURE on Charitable activities

Lecturing	18872.50		18872.50
Session Materials & Travel	2929.59		2929.59
Volunteer Mileage	272.70		272.70
Bookings, subs etc	95.00		95.00
Staff costs & DBS checks	18.78		18.78
Autumn Show	170.00		170.00
Cash payments	339.66		339.66

Overhead costs

Charity Manager	18882.58		18882.58
Telephone and internet	1181.33		1181.33
Nest Workplace Pension	1133.20		1133.20
PAYE/NIC	3102.14		3102.14
Charity Insurance	718.74		718.74
Book keeping & Accountancy software	1796.80		1796.80
office expenses	79.69		79.69
Consultancy : charity development	1166.00		1881.15
Consultancy : fundraising	715.15		
Headway site rent	5200.00		5200.00
Headway site works	970.83		970.83

Vehicle & office equipment

Computers	785.00		785.00
Vehicle expenses	1108.27		1108.27
Purchase of vehicle	0.00	15380.00	15380.00
Total expenditure on Charitable activities	59537.96	15380.00	74917.96
Transfer of cash receipts to bank	2802.72		2802.72
			£77,720.68

surplus (deficit) for the year	6482.57
Cash in Bank & in hand 01/06/2023	70498.82
Deposit Accs:COIF/Redwood interest	1199.30
Total surplus (deficit) at 31.05.2024	£78,180.69

Reconciliation	Current a/c	COIF a/c	Redwood a/c	Cash	Total
Cash in Bank year end 31/05/2024	44793.42	11675.92	20870.33	£841.02	£78,180.69

APPENDIX TWO (CONT.)**Herefordshire Growing Point financial summary 01.06.2023- 31.05.2024**

Hon. Patron: Tamsin Westhorpe
 c/o Herefordshire Headway, Headway House, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX
 Telephone: 01432 805705 Web: www.growingpoint.org.uk Email: hgrowingpoint@yahoo.co.uk

Statement of receipts & payments y/end 31.05.2024 Charity Commission reg: 1197491

Monetary Assets	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Assets : 31.05.2024	Total 31.05.2023
Cash in Bank (01.06.2023)	64086.62	6412.20	70498.82	76880.91
surplus/(deficit) for the year	5641.55		5641.55	-6928.50
cash in hand	841.02		841.02	29.10
Charities Deposit Fund (COIF) interest	562.97		562.97	290.86
Redwood 35 Day Account	636.33		636.33	226.45
Total Monetary Assets at 31/05/2023	71768.49	6412.20	78180.69	70498.82

Summary of Assets

Year ending 31 May 2024

NatWest current account	44793.42
Charities Deposit Fund (COIF)	11675.92
Redwood 35 Day Account	20870.33
Cash in hand	841.02
	<u>£ 78,180.69</u>

at 31/05/2024

Unrestricted Funds	£ 75,060.69
Restricted Funds	£ 3,120.00
Total Assets	<u>£ 78,180.69</u>

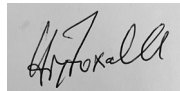
Accounts prepared by:

Hon.Treasurer



date: 18.11.2024

Independent Examiner



date: 18.11.2024

Restricted Funds	at 31.05.2023	receipts to: 31/05/2024	payments to: 31/05/2024	£ balance at 31/05/2024
EF Bulmer Trust		5000.00	5000.00	
Clive Richards Foundation		7000.00	5380.00	1620.00
Eveson Trust		10000.00	10000.00	
The Worshipful Company of Gardeners of London Charity		1500.00		1500.00
Hone Trust		800.00	800.00	
National Lottery	6412.20		6412.20	
		£24300.0		
	£6412.20	0	£27592.20	£3120.00

Appendix Three

Hon. Patron: Tamsin Westhorpe

c/o Herefordshire Headway, Headway House, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX

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Herefordshire Growing Point

HGP Cash box summary for year end 31.05.2024

	item	dr	cr
01/06/2023	b/f	29.10	
	cash received	3,954.30	
	cash transferred to bank		2,802.72
	cash payments		3,39.66
	total	3,983.40	3,142.38
	cash not banked		
	31.05.2024		<u>£841.02</u>

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Herefordshire Growing Point Trust

I report on the Report and Accounts of the Trust for year ended 31 May 2024 which are set out in the financial summary for this accounting period 2023-2024

Respective responsibilities of trustees and the examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations with you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 1300 of the 2011 Act;
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act,

Have not been met: Or

(2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name:

Mr Foxall

Relevant professional qualification or body:

MA, FCMA

Address:

5 North Hill Gardens WRI4 4PT

Date:

18 Nov. 2024

Accounts



HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT

Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending

31st May 2023



(Charity Number 1197491)

HON PRESIDENT: Tamsin Westhorpe

c/o Herefordshire Headway, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX

Telephone: 01432 805705 Web: www.growingpoint.org

Email: hgrowingpoint@yahoo.co.uk

HEREFORDSHIRE GROWING POINT
(Charity No. 1197491)

Annual Report for the Year ending 31st May 2023

The Trustees present their report for the year ended 31st May 2023

The Members of the Committee during the year were:

Chairman:	Laura Hone	Deputy Chairman:	Julie Cohn
Charity Manager:	Julian Reeves		
Treasurer:	Andrew Huntley		
Events:	Julie Cohn and Mary Knight		
Minutes Secretary:	Caroline Lechmere		

Trustees: Laura Hone, Andrew Huntley, Janet Parry, Julie Cohn, Mary Knight, Fiona Paterson (resigned in November 2022) Shelagh Wynn, Caroline Lechmere and Jeanie Falconer.

The charity was established in 1990 with, as its original governing instrument, a Constitution adopted on 29th April 1991. This Constitution was revised in 2014 and again in 2019. The charity's status was changed from an unincorporated charity to a CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation) in December 2022.

Officers and Members of the Committee are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting held in November.

The Aim and Objectives of Herefordshire Growing Point

The aim of Herefordshire Growing Point is to enable vulnerable and disabled people of all ages to enjoy the social and therapeutic benefits of horticultural activities.

The objectives of Herefordshire Growing Point are:

To provide relief and to promote social inclusion for the benefit of the public by horticultural therapy for those people who are vulnerable or socially excluded, through old age, illness or disability, either mentally or physically (whether permanently or temporarily) in Herefordshire and the areas adjoining Herefordshire, by:

- 1) The provision of organised horticultural therapy sessions to enhance the quality of life and mental wellbeing for this group of people, in garden settings or appropriate environments such as residential care, suited to individual need.
- 2) Promotion of social inclusion. Being part of a gardening group is a benefit for individuals who have limited opportunities for social engagement.
- 3) Promotion of healthy living, by growing, harvesting and cooking fruit and vegetables.
- 4) Promotion of public awareness of the benefits of social and horticultural therapy by means of social media, website and events.

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Disclosures within the Annual Report and Accounts.

Herefordshire Growing Point will include or disclose the following in its Annual Report and Accounts:

- ***A statement that summarises the remuneration policy.***
- ***A summary of payments to Trustees for expenses.***
- ***The actual salary and other benefits received by the Manager.***
- ***The number of Tutors and their total remuneration.***

These disclosures are given in two appendices at the end of Report and Accounts.

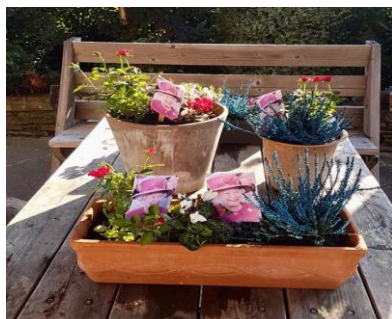
Review of the Year 2022-23

The past year was a busy one and highlighted by at last being able to hold fundraising events again. In October 2022 a Woodland Walk was held at Bosbury House, with Nick Dunn of F P Matthews leading it. The turn-out was excellent and the event raised over £1000. Everyone who attended enjoyed the day enormously and Nick Dunn was very generous with his time and expertise. Then in March, we restarted the popular Gardeners' Question Time evenings. The panellists were Stephen Anderton (Times Gardening columnist) and Steve Lloyd (Head Gardener at Hergest Croft Gardens); chaired by Tamsin Westhorpe (HGP Hon. President, Director of Stockton Bury Gardens, RHS judge and author). There was also a raffle with some very generous prizes. Again, an excellent turn-out, with over £1700 raised. Thanks are due to everyone who took part in and helped with these events.

Herefordshire Growing Point was also co-beneficiary of the March monthly Hellens Produce Market morning.

The extreme heat in the summer did indeed create challenging conditions, but due to the careful nurturing of the Manager and tutors, the garden survived and was in full bloom again in time for the Autumn Show.

The sad death of the late Queen Elizabeth was marked by some of the groups, who made their own tributes to her. Below is an example from Stanley House. Seven months later, Stanley House also marked a more joyful royal occasion – the King's Coronation - with another floral display.



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The Autumn Show also returned to full strength and the High Sheriff had the hard task of judging the universally excellent entries. Prior to the judging then during tea, guests were entertained by the Herefordshire Ukulele Orchestra, arranged by Trustee and member Janet Parry, which was much appreciated.



During the period between Christmas and the start of the growing season at the beginning of March, the gardeners were kept occupied with crafting and some cookery.

Just before the gardeners returned in full strength, the annual Development Day was held, organised by the Manager. As well as discussing plans and suggestions for the coming year, a first aid course was held, run by Anubis training, which was considered very useful.

Examples below of preparation work needed before Spring. This included restoring and painting an old ladder to create a plant stand; also spreading a quantity of donated mulch on the beds ready for planting.



Charity Manager's Report

This year has been very much one of consolidation for Growing Point at its new home in Credenhill. Improvements to the site include more water storage tanks, a new tool shed, some new raised beds and some concreting and ground work. We were very excited in July



with the arrival of a converted storage container half of which will be an office/work area for us. This will enable us to offer more indoor space when the weather is inclement.

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The Autumn Show was very well attended. Gardener of the Year was won by Paul Riches and newcomer by Les Wargren. As usual the exhibits from care homes and groups were of the highest quality. We also planted a tree for the 'Queen's Green Canopy'.

We were invited to the Hereford 'Seed Swap' in February and were delighted to be the beneficiary of the funds raised.

The manager continues to give talks to various groups and this year he spoke to Ledbury U3A, Bodenham gardening club, Eardisley social club, Eaton Bishop gardening club and Credenhill social club.

Our client groups have continued to grow in numbers since the end of the pandemic. We have new gardeners in all our groups. The Headway group in particular has developed into a busy, productive session with new members gaining in confidence with their gardening skills.

We welcomed Sian Murcott as a new peripatetic tutor which has enabled us to provide sessions in more care homes and it is gratifying that many of our regular homes want us to restart activities. We also took on two new homes just over the boundary in Worcestershire.

We also were pleased to welcome a new volunteer; Andy Luff who has grown into the role very quickly and provides excellent support to our gardeners. Special thanks are always due to our regular volunteers; Sarah Sargeantson, Janet Parry and Andrew Keir and to Colin Jones for his invaluable practical help. We are indebted too to Shelagh Wynn for her work on our website which goes from strength to strength.

Sadly, our fundraiser Kate Bishop left us in November to take up employment in Wales. She brought in a wealth of funds to us and will be greatly missed.

Socially there was an open day in conjunction with Headway in May, we ran a Summer Fun Day in August with a mixture of games and activities which was enjoyed by 18 attendees and we took a group of gardeners to the Railway Nursery and Hay Castle in September.



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We held our Christmas Party in December with games and quizzes. A few days later, the party was followed by a wreath-making workshop.



Summer brought extreme heat with record temperatures. We exhausted our water tanks quite quickly and we had to cancel a few sessions in the garden for safety reasons. For the future we need to provide more shade and redesign some of the ornamental beds to become more drought tolerant.

We continue to be supported by donations from grants and organisations. We were the beneficiary of over £3000 from the Co-op in Bobblestock in November and a Rotary gift of £1000 to help with travel costs.



Tutor Reports - Head Tutor, Jo Rigney's report

A new member joined Jo's group at the Demonstration Garden in January and instantly fitted in, helped by volunteer Andy Luff. Winter group activities both at Headway and the outreach programme have been wreath making, bulb planting, making bird feeders, leaf art, cactus collages, tidying up the Headway garden, seed sorting, cleaning and clearing of the greenhouse and polytunnel. Then, in the Spring, making plans and planting with the goal of a successful Autumn Show in mind.

Jo is also responsible for the social media programme and reported that Growing Point's audience and reach continues to grow on both Facebook and Instagram. Tamsin Westhorpe 'tags' us into her posts regularly, Jo then shares them and this helps to expand the charity's reach.

Since the end of last year, HGP's following on Facebook and Instagram has continued to grow. Our Facebook following has grown by 20% and our Instagram following has doubled. Tamsin Westhorpe

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continues to support us by commenting on and sharing our posts with her followers, this is boosting the charity's profile.

Jo is continuing to post videos and photos of HGP's weekly activities. On Facebook there are photos of the fundraising GQT event at Credenhill community hall, a recent upcycling project - a pair of old stepladders to use as a display stand and our on-going work in the garden and polytunnel, as well as sessions from our outreach groups.



In the pipeline, we are planning a summer outing for our gardeners and gathering ideas for some extra growing options around the outdoor dining area at Headway.

Rebecca Sheen - At home projects

Here is a list of the activities that Rebecca sent out between June 2022 and May 2023. From January 2023 we started to charge for the packs and only one home continued to have a pack each month. From October 2023 packs will no longer be sent out, apart from Stretton Nursing Home where Rebecca is starting sessions.

- **June** Pressing flowers was the activity this month.
- **July** Making greeting cards from the flowers that had been pressed the previous month
- **August** Bunting making kits.
- **September** Doors wreath making.
- **October** Narcissus, crocus, and Iris bulbs sent out to plant up pots of bulbs to look forward to in the spring.
- **November** Acorn garland activity.
- **December** Activity to make card/mobile decoration of birds for Christmas.
- **January** Making bird feeders.
- **February** Making flowers from paper.
- **March** Growing cress
- **April** Variety of seeds to start the growing year mainly flowers.
- **May** Second batch of seeds mainly vegetables.

Sessions in settings

Rebecca continued to take sessions in six homes throughout the summer of 2022. These sessions focused on preparing entries for the Autumn Show which were a great success. Since the Show the groups have carried out gardening activities such as planting potatoes in bags for Christmas, sowing lettuce, chard and spring onions for winter use, sowing sweet peas to get a head start in the spring

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and bulbs in pots to enjoy in early spring. In two of the care homes there was a project to build a bug hotel inspired by the one in the Demonstration Garden.

Groups all made wreaths as their final entry to the Autumn Show. Garden-related craft activities have included pressing autumnal leaves to make coasters; paint, and decorate collected fir cones for Christmas decorations and making mobile birds.

Rebecca has also covered some of Jo Rigney's sessions at Growing Point on a Monday afternoon and started to take this session regularly from March 2023.

In January, Rebecca ran a joint session on Mondays with tutor Andrew Keir, using the kitchen at Headway to make soups, breads, and cakes. The group loved the change.

The settings visited during this period were:

Woodside twice a month

Hazlehurst twice a month

Hunters Lodge every week

Charnwood twice a month

Dulas twice a month

The Weir once a month

Lynhales once a month

Change of Status to a CIO

This has at last been formalised. The old unincorporated charity has been closed down and the assets all transferred to the new Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

There were several covid-related delays in the process, but thanks are due to Trustees Shelagh Wynn and Jeanie Falconer for all their hard work and persistence to make this change happen.

Funding Report – 1st June 2022 to 31st May 2023

Following the departure of Kate Bishop last December to start a new job in Pembrokeshire, Herefordshire Growing Point has been without a fundraiser. However, the charity has still had the support of the following organisations and we are grateful for this support:

The Co-op - £3000.
 The Ludlow Trust - £6720
 The Street Foundation - £1000

In addition to those listed above, the following charitable trusts, individuals and organisations have supported Herefordshire Growing Point over the past year with unrestricted donations and we are most grateful to them:

- The William A Cadbury Charitable Trust;
- Igence Radar
- The Jordan Foundation;
- The Sam Morley Charitable Trust.
- The High Sheriff's Fund

There was also support from a generous anonymous donor.

In addition, we are grateful to the Co-op who continue to host a plant stall in two of their outlets.

Herefordshire Growing Point's Policies

The following policies are in place and updated on a regular basis.

- Complaints;
- Conflict of Interest;
- Covid Safer Practice;
- Equal Opportunities;
- Financial Management;
- Grievance;
- Health & Safety;
- Membership;
- Recruitment;
- Reimbursement of trustees;
- Remuneration;
- Risk Management;
- Safeguarding;
- Standing orders for Charity Meetings - and
- Volunteers.

Thanks are due to the Trustees for making sure Herefordshire Growing Point is fully compliant and up to date with all necessary policies.

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Financial report for year ending 31 May 2023

Financial report for the period 13/01/2022 to 31/05/2023

Treasurer's report

This financial report covers an extended 16 month period. The reason is that Herefordshire Growing Point became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 13 January 2022 with a new legal status and new Charity Commission registration number: 1197491. Because this is a 'one off' accounts record, my financial report is based on the 12-month period 01/06/2022 to 31/05/2023. Figures in (brackets) refer to the previous accounts' year ending 31.05.2022, unless indicated for a different accounts' year.

Total monetary assets held on 31 May 2023 were £70,498.82 (£80,273.72). The income from 'charitable activities' from 01/06/2022 - 31/05/2023 was £50,646.89 (£55,236.36). Expenditure for the 12-month period was £60,421.79 (£55,707.63). For the period, 13/01/2022 – 31/05/2023, there was a deficit of £6928.50.

Analysis of the financial record as follows:

1. Income from charitable activities.

- Courses income. Course fee income from 01/06/2022 – 31/05/2023 was £8231 compared with £8524 in 2019-2020. This reflects the pre Covid income flow.
- Donations. These were £9119.59 (£5765). As a charity, we are so grateful for the support of businesses as well as individuals who have supported us this year and in previous years with regular giving.
- Fundraising and sales. There were two events: the Bosbury Woodland Walk in October and the Gardeners' Question Time in the Credenhill Community Hall in March 2023, which raised £1760 (£0.00). Plant sales were £160 (£340).
- Charitable Trusts (recorded as 'Trust Grants'). The total amount received from 01/06/2022 – 31/05/2023 was £30,569 (£44,490). £25,220 was classed as 'unrestricted' and £5349 was classed as 'restricted' for specific projects. We are so grateful to these Trusts as it would not be possible to provide our service without this financial support

2. Expenses

- Courses expenditure. The total courses expenditure for all costs associated with the gardening therapy courses was £27,426.48 (£21,221.37) for the 12 month period. This covers tuition, travel costs, materials, as well as DBS checks, minibus costs & activity packs.

The costs for the two salaried tutors were £10,351.84 (£8347) and £12,290.54 (£4275.37). These costs included expenses which were £581.84 (£428) and £2852.63 (£0). The reasons for the increased costs are 1) a 'one off' total payment £1620 to the two tutors in June 2022 for a miscalculation of

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their payment for the previous year. This was based on 48 weeks rather than 52 weeks; 2) the fact that one of the salaried staff works in Residential Homes as well as at the Growing Point garden at Headway with the need to pay for course materials.

The costs of the five self-employed tutors were £2796.31 (£2737). Two tutors were paid pro rata for hours worked plus travel and materials costs while three were paid for the costs of travel and materials only. From 1st November 2022, the hourly payment rate for the self-employed tutors was increased from £24 to £27.50 per hour.

The activity pack costs were £543.54 (£3552.43). The need for these packs supplied to Residential Homes, ended with the relaxation of the Covic rules.

- Headway site rent. For the 12 month period to 31 May 2023, Growing Point paid £4800 (£2400) @£400 per month. As well as the garden area, rent included office space, electricity, heating & water. The equipment costs included a new shed, gardening equipment and a PA system. Site work costs at Headway included dismantling the old shed and the work involved in the construction of the new shed.
- The Charity Manager. The total cost of employment (salary, pension & PAYE/NIC) for the 12-month period was £22,303.69 (£21,676.25). There was no increase in the Manager's salary during this period.
- Office expenses were £1976.26 (£2552). The reduction in office expenses was because of a lower insurance premium and lower charges for Facebook and the website.
- Appeal costs were £400 (£1700). Kate Bush who worked as a consultant fundraiser for researching and submitting applications, stopped working for Growing Point in November 2022. Her charge was £200 per day.

3. Financial Reserves.

On 31 May 2023, the cash reserves are held in three separate bank accounts. These are NatWest current account £49,122.77; COIF charity deposit account £11,112.95; Redwood Bank £10,234.00. In addition, a small amount of cash (£29.10) is held in hand. The charity has no liabilities.

The independent examination of the accounts was carried out by Mr Huw Foxall FCMA. Mr Foxall has acted as the independent examiner for several years. The trustees appreciate the time taken and the advice given by him in carrying out this important function without charge.

Andrew Huntley, hon. treasurer for Herefordshire Growing Point.

Hon. Patron: Tamsin Westhorpe

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Conclusion

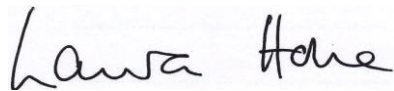
The 2022/23 year has been a busy one and particularly so since all Covid-related restrictions were lifted, though one consequence has remained which has been the change in balance between gardeners coming to the Demonstration Garden and tutors visiting the care homes and organisations round the country as part of the outreach programme. Recruitment for the care homes remains challenging, as a result, they aren't always able to provide enough staff to bring gardeners to the Demonstration Garden. Accordingly, Growing Point's outreach programme has expanded, while the numbers coming to the site at Credenhill haven't returned to pre-covid numbers. Due to the hard work by the Manager and the tutor-led social media programme, numbers are slowly increasing, but this is taking time.

Jo Rigney has been steadily raising Herefordshire Growing Point's profile on Facebook and Instagram and this has produced results in the new contacts made, especially in the response to the Gardeners' Question Time evening.

Sadley Herefordshire Growing Point had to say goodbye to Trustee Fiona Paterson. Fiona has been a trustee for many years, but felt she couldn't give enough time to the charity as her job at Malvern College was increasingly demanding. Fiona was hugely influential in helping to draw up the revised Constitution of 2014 and has also helped to monitor the necessary policies Herefordshire Growing now has in place. Her wise counsel will be missed and we wish her well.

Herefordshire Growing Point continues to thrive as a charity, but this wouldn't be possible without the hard work of Julian Reeves, the Manager; Tamsin Westhorpe, the Hon President; Andrew Huntley, the Treasurer; the tutors, the trustees and the volunteers, so grateful thanks are due to them all.

On behalf of the Trustees



Laura Hone –
Chairman, Hereford Growing Point.

Date: 2nd November 2023

APPENDIX ONE

Summary of HGP Remuneration Policy for period 13.01.2022-31.05.2023

- There are four employees who were each paid a monthly salary based on an agreed number of hours worked per month. These employees have contracts of employment.
- In addition in this period, there were two tutors who were classed as self-employed workers and paid per course session. Tutors were also paid a mileage allowance (45p per mile) and with an expenses allowance of up to £2 per client for each session. There was no charge made for minibus driving.
- Trustees were reimbursed for expenses relating to fund raising, administration and 'At Home' activity packs.
- There were no reimbursements for volunteers.
- Tutors must support their claim for remuneration with a written record of hours worked as well as mileage and material costs – 'the worksheet'. This must be approved by the Charity Manager. The worksheets are then forwarded to the Treasurer for payment. Payment is then made subject to authorisation by the Chairman.
- Trustees are responsible for agreeing remuneration rates for the Manager and the Tutors , which are reviewed regularly as appropriate. The Manager's salary and benefits are reviewed annually in April by the Chairman and the Trustee responsible for financial matters.

Herefordshire Growing Point - Appendix 2

Herefordshire Growing Point year end accounts 31.05.2023

Payment to HGP tutors and salaried tutors (before tax) 13.01.22 – 31.05.2023

Name	Development Day	Courses and 'At Home' packs
Jo Rigney 01/06/22-31/05/23 (salaried)		10,020.00
Jo Rigney 13/01/22-31/05/22 (salaried)		3600.00
R Sheen 01/06/22 - 31/05/23 (salaried)		9473.02
R Sheen 13/01/22 - 31/05/22 (tutor)		390.00
R Sheen 13/01/22 - 31/05/22 (salaried)		3060.00
Ursula Ashworth 01/06/22-31/05/23 (tutor)		775.50
Ursula Ashworth 13/01/22-31/05/22 (tutor)	75.00	24.00
Sian Murcott 01/06/22 - 31/05/23 (tutor)		547.50
Sian Murcott 13/01/22 - 31/05/22 (tutor)		0.00
Andrew Keir 01/06/22-31/05/23 (tutor)		237.60
Andrew Keir 13/01/22-31/05/22 (tutor)		690.00
Total	£ 75.00	£ 28,817.62

Payments to Treasurer (before tax)

James Tookey 01/06/22 - 31/05/23	693.00
James Tookey 13/01/22 - 31/05/22	63.00
Total	£ - £ 756.00

Payment of expenses to Trustees

Date / expense	Name	£ sum
18.08.2022 / Dropbox subscription	Laura Hone	95.88
17.05.2023 / Garden equipment	Laura Hone	506.31
25.08.2022 / Tutor expenses	Janet Parry	13.08
12.05.2023 / potato planters	Janet Parry	41.10
28.02.2022 / Moneysoft payroll	Andrew Huntley	90.00
08.03.2023 / Moneysoft payroll	Andrew Huntley	93.60
30.05.2022 / 'At Home' packs.	Shelagh Wynn	27.88
Total	£	867.85

Hon. Patron: Tamsin Westthorpe

c/o Herefordshire Headway, Headway House, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX

Telephone: 01432 805705 Web: www.growingpoint.org.uk Email: hgrowingpoint@yahoo.co.uk

Manager's salary and other benefits for the period 13.01.22 – 31.05.2023

	date	Salary (before tax)	Workplace pension (Employer contribution)
Julian Reeves	Jan-22	1696.00	35.28
Julian Reeves	Feb-22	1696.00	35.28
Julian Reeves	Mar-22	1696.00	35.28
Julian Reeves	Apr-22	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	May-22	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	Jun-22	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	Jul-22	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	Aug-22	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	Sep-22	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	Oct-22	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	Nov-22	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	Dec-22	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	Jan-23	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	Feb-23	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	Mar-23	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	Apr-23	1780.80	37.82
Julian Reeves	May-23	1780.80	37.82
Total		£ 30,019.20	£ 635.32

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Herefordshire Growing Point financial summary 13.01.2022 - 31.05.2023

Statement of receipts & payments y/end 31.05.203 Charity Commission reg: 1197491

INCOME from Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 31.05.2023
Course fees	11564.84		11564.84
Fundraising	1976.00		1976.00
Donations	11219.59		11219.59
Sales	160.00		160.00
Repayments	257.52		257.52
Trust Grants	33720.00	20349.00	54069.00
Total Receipts	58897.95	20349.00	79246.95

EXPENDITURE on Charitable activities

Courses

Lecturing	2664.60		2664.60
Materials & Tutor Travel	1973.64		1973.64
Home Activity Packs	1491.92		1491.92
Client Travel	131.20		131.20
Minibus	2775.48		2775.48
Costs for Covid-19 protection	27.54		27.54
Tutor training & DBS checks	140.88		140.88
Development Day	350.00		350.00
Client events : Autumn Show	219.54		219.54

Headway site

Relocation			
Headway site works	1161.12		1161.12
Rent	7200.00		7200.00
Equipment & plant sundries	1160.33	1000.00	2160.33

Fundraising & Appeal costs

822.50	822.50
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Salaries & Office expenses

Salaries	31253.15	19349.00	50602.15
Expenses	3734.86		3734.86
Nest Workplace Pension	1394.21		1394.21
PAYE/NIC	4966.15		4966.15
Payroll costs	183.60		183.6
Treasurer	774.00		774
Insurance	1477.89		1477.89
Office expenses inc telecom & publicity	1923.84		1923.84
Total Expenditure	65826.45	20349.00	86175.45

surplus (deficit) for the year	-6928.50	0.00	-6928.50
Cash in Bank on 13/01/2022	76880.91		76880.91
Deposit Funds: COIF/Redwood interest	517.31		517.31
Total surplus/(deficit) to 31.05.2023	£ 70,469.72	£ -	£ 70,469.72

Reconciliation	Current a/c	COIF a/c	Redwood a/c	Total
Cash in Bank year end 31/05/2023	49122.77	11112.95	10234.00	£70,469.72

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HGP Accounts 13/01/2022 - 31/05/2023**Statement of receipts & payments y/end 31.05.203 Charity Commission reg: 1197491**

Monetary Assets	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total
Cash in Bank (13.01.2022)	70468.71	6412.20	76880.91
surplus/(deficit) for the year	-6928.50		-6928.50
cash in hand	29.10		29.10
Charities Deposit Fund (COIF) interest	290.86		290.86
Redwood 35 Day Account	226.45		226.45
Total Monetary Assets - 31/05/2023	64086.62	6412.20	70498.82

Summary of Assets

Year ending 31 May 2023

NatWest current account	49122.77
Charities Deposit Fund (COIF)	11112.95
Redwood 35 Day Account	10234.00
Cash in hand	29.10
	£ 70,498.82

at 31/05/2023

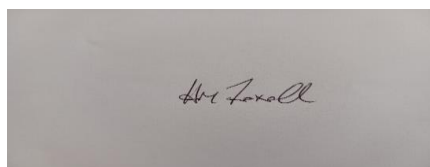
Unrestricted Funds	£ 64,086.62
Restricted Funds	£ 6,412.20
Total Assets	£ 70,498.82

Herefordshire Growing Point

Andrew Hunting

Accounts prepared by: Hon Treasurer

date: 11 November 2023



Accounts examined by: HM Foxall

Independent Examiner

date: 11 November 2023

Restricted Funds	from 13/01/2022	receipts to: 31/05/2023	payments to: 31/05/2023	£ balance at 31/05/2023
EF Bulmer Trust		6000.00	6000.00	0.00
Eveson Trust		8000.00	8000.00	0.00
Herefordshire Community Foundation		1000.00	1000.00	0.00
Herefordshire Community Foundation		5349.00	5349.00	0.00
National Lottery	6412.20			6412.20
	6412.20	20349.00	20349.00	6412.20

HGP Accounts 13/01/2022 - 31/05/2023

Hon. Patron: Tamsin Westthorpe

c/o Herefordshire Headway, Headway House, Trenchard Avenue, Credenhill, Hereford, HR4 7DX

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Herefordshire Growing Point financial summary 13.01.2022 - 31.05.2023

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Cash in hand	29.10
	<u>£</u>
	70,498.82

at 31/05/2023

	<u>£</u>
Unrestricted Funds	64,086.62
	<u>£</u>
Restricted Funds	6,412.20
	<u>£</u>
Total Assets	70,498.82

Herefordshire Growing Point

Accounts prepared by: Hon
Treasurer

Andrew Humbery

date: 11 November 2023

Accounts examined by: HM Foxall

HM Foxall

Independent Examiner

date: 11 November 2023

Restricted Funds

from 13/01/2022

receipts to:
31/05/2023

payments to:
31/05/2023

£ balance
at
31/05/202
3

EF Bulmer Trust		6000.00	6000.00	0.00
Eveson Trust		8000.00	8000.00	0.00
Herefordshire Community Foundation		1000.00	1000.00	0.00
Herefordshire Community Foundation		5349.00	5349.00	0.00
National Lottery	6412.20			6412.20
	6412.20	20349.00	20349.00	6412.20

HGP Accounts 13/01/2022 - 31/05/2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Herefordshire Growing Point Trust

I report on the Report and Accounts of the Trust for year ended 31 May 2023 which are set out in the financial summary for this accounting period 2022-2023

Respective responsibilities of trustees and the examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144 (2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations with you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- To keep accounting records in accordance with section 1300 of the 2011 Act;
- To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act,

Have not been met: Or

(2) To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name: *Huw Morgan Foxall*

Relevant professional qualification or body: *MA, FCMA*

Address: *5 North Hill Gardens*

Date: *Malvern WR14 4AT*

16 April 2024

H. Foxall

*(Fellow of Chartered
Institute of Management
Accountants)*