

Annual Report for the period ended 31st March 2023

Registered Charity No: 1198148

Reference and Administrative Information

Charity Name: The Old Library

Registered Charity Number: 1198148

Principal address: The Old Library
Skircoat Green Road
Halifax
HX3 0LQ

Trustees:

Helen Rosemary Verity Chair Appointed: 07 March 2022

Heather Rigg Trustee Appointed: 9 January 2023

Pamela Casson Trustee Appointed: 07 March 2022

Susan Renate Russell Trustee Appointed: 07 March 2022

Colin Hugh Hutchinson Trustee Appointed: 07 March 2022

Joanne Smith Trustee Appointed: 07 March 2022

Jamie Stuttard Trustee Appointed: 07 March 2022
Resigned: 05 August 2023

Michael James Barnes Trustee Appointed: 07 March 2022

Susan Herbert Treasurer Appointed: 07 March 2022

Objectives and Activities

The objects of the organisation as stated in its articles are:

1. To advance the education of the public by the promotion of the use of a public lending library service for the benefit of the residents of Skircoat Ward.
2. To promote or benefit the residents of Skircoat Ward, without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions by associating together the said residents and the local authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to retain an important local building by generating income from it. The income will be used to develop it into a welcoming space that will serve the community, support learning and encourage neighborhood cohesion.

Strategic Aims

1. To retain a local library service.
2. To create a sustainable, not for profit organisation.
3. To provide a welcoming, well run community space for all generations.
4. To encourage local support and engagement, building a local sense of community.
5. To preserve and develop an historic and culturally valuable local building.
6. To create volunteering opportunities and work experience.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance published by the Charity Commission on public benefit when agreeing the Old Library's mission, aims and our service delivery principles. We have also borne this guidance in mind when setting our objectives to ensure that we correctly identify the intended beneficiaries of our work, make real difference and comply with our charitable objects at all times.

Achievements and Performance

Well, the main achievement, is of course the successful community asset transfer of the library building from Calderdale to our Charitable Incorporated Organisation: The Old Library.

It has taken over 3 years from the initial contact with early meetings on zoom due to covid restrictions, we didn't meet face to face as a group for the first year, but the resolve was there. We wanted to keep our library, for our community for the future, an inclusive space for everyone, one of the few places left where there would be no expectation to spend money.

As part of the transfer, we've been gifted some of the existing stock, but will no longer be a part of the Calderdale Library group, we will be independent and all our new members will be issued with an Old Library Card, in order to borrow books.

We have so many people to thank for their help and expertise so far:

The community, friends and families who have supported us from the beginning, coming to the open days, helping to choose the new name, bought raffle tickets, came along to fundraisers, put their names forward to volunteer, donated books, signed up to be Friends of The Old Library, baked for our events, and continue to be patient throughout the process. We're nearly there!

Here are some of the local trades, businesses and professionals whose help has also been invaluable:

Daniel Cawthorn – Wilkinson Woodward
Liz Kenny - Skircoat Green Directory
Eesome, Coffee on the Bean, Harveys of Halifax, and the Thoughtful Spot
Cassandra Walker - Locality
Lloyds Banking Group, Calderdale, ABS UK, Tesco, Disco Kitchen
Danny Smith- CP Media
Briggs Priestley
Phil Hawdon, Adie Bailey, Andy Gordon, Rob Firth, Mike Hendy, Steve Ambler, Paul Lees, Sue Hanson, Liz Todd, Martin Smith.

Since picking up the keys, we've been busy; measuring up for the new improved counter, the new accessible toilet and the new flooring - all works in progress.

Future works - decorating to be completed before opening.

Sorting through all the books, existing stock and donations ready for cataloguing.

Setting up IT systems.

Work has been completed at the front of the building with the new patio area for outdoor seating, a tree trim and a general tidy up.

We will be continuing to fundraise and apply for grants for the major/capital works, and the day to day running costs of the library.

In the immediate future we will be:

Contacting the cataloguers, and cataloguing!

Contacting potential volunteers, interviewing, recruiting and training

Continuing to improve the building

Applying for funding

Fundraising

We're all volunteers, and have numerous other commitments, (jobs, families, carers, etc) but are all committed to getting our gorgeous library open for good, as soon as possible - lending books, serving sumptuous coffees and cakes to generate funds and being a welcoming, accessible space for all.

Thank you for your patience thus far and support,

Helen Verity, Chair.

Financial Review

Receipts and Payments Account for the period ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £
Receipts			
Grants	-	10,389	10,389
Fundraising events	1,752	-	1,752
Donations	1,661	-	1,661
Members' subscriptions	1,526	-	1,526
Gift Aid	675	-	675
Book sales	725	-	725
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Total receipts	6,339	10,389	16,728

Payments			
Building survey	-	1,966	1,966
Planning application	263	-	263
Equipment	-	793	793
Sundries	12	-	12
Total payments	275	2,759	3,034

Net receipts	6,064	7,630	13,694
Transfers between funds	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	6,064	7,630	13,694

Statement of Assets and liabilities at the end of the period

		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
Cash funds	Bank	5,799	7,630
	Cash	265	-
Total cash funds		6,064	7,630

The above financial statement shows receipts and payments in the period from the charity being established on 7th March 2022 to 31st March 2023. In this period the library was not open as the community asset transfer didn't complete until 6th April this year.

Despite the library not being open the trustees worked to raise funds by applying for grants, holding fund raising events, recruiting Friends of the Old Library and claiming Gift Aid on members' subscriptions and sundry donations.

This means we have an unrestricted funds reserve of £6,064 to carry forward to the next financial year. It is the charity's policy and target to hold funds sufficient to cover one years running expenses. Our budget estimates that the running expenses are in the region of £10,000 per annum. This does not include ad-hoc repairs that may be required or the purchase of books.

However, the trustees expect the annual income of the charity to increase once we are open and can raise money from coffee sales and room hire.

The balance of restricted reserve funds are unspent grant moneys earmarked for the first stage of building repair and refurbishment.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Old Library is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation incorporated on 7th March 2022 with charity number 1198148. In its structure it has both trustees and members with voting rights.

The governing document of the charity is its Constitution.

The appointment of charity trustees is laid down in the Constitution as follows:

- (1) At the first annual general meeting of the members of the CIO all the charity trustees shall retire from office;
- (2) At every [subsequent] annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one-third of the charity trustees shall retire from office. If the number of charity trustees is not three or a multiple of three, then the number nearest to one-third shall retire from office, but if there is only one charity trustee, he or she shall retire;
- (3) The charity trustees to retire by rotation shall be those who have been longest in office since their last appointment or reappointment. If any trustees were last appointed or reappointed on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot;
- (4) The vacancies so arising may be filled by the decision of the members at the annual general meeting; any vacancies not filled at the annual general meeting may be filled as provided in sub-clause (5) of this clause;
- (5) The members or the charity trustees may at any time decide to appoint a new charity trustee, whether in place of a charity trustee who has retired or been removed in accordance with clause [15] (Retirement and removal of charity trustees), or as an additional charity trustee, provided that the limit specified in clause [12(3)] on the number of charity trustees would not as a result be exceeded;

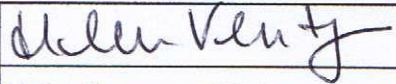
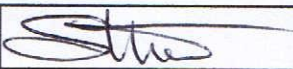
Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

The charity does not hold any funds on behalf of others.

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signatures		
Full names	Helen Rosemary Verity	Susan Herbert
Position	Chair	Treasurer
Date	20.8.23	