



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/09/2023 Period start date To 31/08/2024 Period end date

Charity name: Blencogo and District Village Hall

Charity registration number: 1198251

## Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<p>The Old School Blencogo together with such other property as may be acquired by the Organisation shall be held for the purposes of a village hall for the use of the inhabitants of the parish of Bromfield and neighbouring areas, without distinction of political, religious or other opinions, including use for lectures, meetings, classes and for other forms of recreation and leisure time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area (from CIO constitution)</p> <p>Objective 1: To be accessible, welcoming and affordable for individuals and organisations both in and outside the parish</p> <p>Objective 2: To provide attractive, clean, accessible and safe facilities for large and small meetings, social gathering, sporting events, lectures and educational events</p> <p>Objective 3: To generate income to maintain the facilities to a high standard</p> <p>Objective 4: To consult the community to identify and continue to meet its needs.</p>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<p>The Hall Committee put on regular events (quizzes, ceilidh, carnival, food evenings etc) and it has regular weekly user-groups (scouts, art group, garden club, dog training, craft and chat, WI, book Club, Wine Circle etc). Everything is aimed at encouraging and protecting a sense of community.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p>The Trustees have regard to the Charity Commission Guidance on public benefit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. There must be an identifiable benefit; and</li><li>2. The benefit must be to the public or section of the public</li></ol> <p>(see achievements and performance below)</p>

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	Not applicable – the Village Hall does not make grants
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	A group of over 20 local volunteers (from teenagers to retired) help with the running and maintenance of the Village Hall (Cleaning, grounds maintenance, event organisation, minor maintenance etc.). All community events are organised by the volunteer committee
Other		Blencogo & District Village Hall has recently (15/3/22) changed its charitable status to be a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Charity no. 1198251). Previously from 05 January 2001: Standard registration, Charity No. 1084346

**Achievements and Performance**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>A key objective of Blencogo and District Village Hall is to engender community spirit and a sense of communal worth. All the activities provided in the Village Hall aim to improve the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of people of all ages in the Parish and surrounding area by providing a range of activities that will help to improve an individual's overall health and contribute towards a collective feeling of 'being part of the community'.</p> <p>By continuing to widen the range of opportunities that Blencogo and District Village Hall can deliver it is hoped that individuals might try new experiences and take part in the hobbies and social activities that they enjoy; so engendering a sense of belonging, self-worth and improved wellbeing.</p> <p>Activities provided locally reduce the need for car usage (as noted earlier there is little/no public transport serving the area) to</p>

		<p>travel to other local centres 5 miles or more away.</p> <p>Many in the community both young and old and have limited incomes. The activities provided in the hall are priced so as to encourage their participation (hence there is not a 'standard' letting fee). Similar activities at other venues in Wigton or Aspatria are considerably more expensive. It is the ethos of Blencogo and District Village Hall to keep fees low to maximise participation.</p> <p>It is hoped that participation in a wide range of community activities will continue to build a strong community and create better mental and physical health for everyone.</p>
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#### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	<b>Para 1.21</b>	Blencogo and District Village Hall has had a bustling year. With its 25-year lease set to expire in 2025, the landlord offered the charity the opportunity to purchase the building. After consulting with the local committee and stakeholders, a decision was made to develop a business case for funding and seek community support through financial pledges and fundraising activities. Thanks to generous donations and successful fundraising efforts, the purchasing costs incurred in the initial phase were able to be offset.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	A small amount roughly 10% plus interest of the finances is retained in a reserve account which is retained at a higher interest because of its limited access
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£1261
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	If the charity is unable to purchase the village hall, it faces a challenging decision regarding its long-term future. The landlord has confirmed that any new lease will no longer be offered at the previously agreed discounted rate. Instead, it will be a full commercial lease with a significant increase of 400% and a longer-term commitment. To address this, the trustees and committee are working tirelessly to boost cash flow and secure additional donations. However, at current levels, the charity's cash reserves would be quickly depleted, making it unsustainable in the long run.

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	The dog training classes and scouts continue to be the highest regular revenue income for the hall. Events like the Race night, Harry's Quiz and Ceilidh return the most Non-Charitable Trading Income
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A

Other		N/A

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<p>Eligibility for trusteeship (from constitution):</p> <p>(a) Every charity trustee must be a natural person.</p> <p>(b) No one may be appointed as a charity trustee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• if he or she is under the age of 16 years; or</li> <li>• is disqualified from acting as a charity trustee by virtue of section 178-180 of the Charities Act 2011 (or any statutory re-enactment or modification of that provision)</li> </ul> <p>(c) No one is entitled to act as a charity trustee whether on appointment or on any re-appointment until he or she has expressly acknowledged, in whatever way the charity trustees decide, his or her acceptance of the office of charity trustee.</p>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	N/A
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	N/A
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	N/A
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Blencogo and District Village Hall
Other name the charity uses	BLENCOGO AND DISTRICT VILLAGE HALL: 1084346
Registered charity number	1198251
Charity's principal address	The Old School Blencogo WIGTON CA7 0BZ

### **Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Gary Bickley	Chairman		
2	Paul Benson			
3	Adrian Cozens			
4	Rebecca Blake	Secretary		
5	Melanie Woolfenden	Treasurer		
6	Sarah Chapman			
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13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

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

[illegible]

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

[illegible]

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

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

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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## Other optional information

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## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Gary Bickley	Melanie Woolfenden
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	16/05/2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Blencogo and District Village Hall

1198251

## Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period  
from

01/09/2023

To

31/08/2024

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	5,100	-	-	5,100	977
Hall hire	568	-	-	568	1,633
Bowls	120	-	-	120	-
Craft Club	370	-	-	370	422
WI	310	-	-	310	-
Produce show	78	-	-	78	-
Allerdale Council	18	-	-	18	-
Toddler group	-	-	-	-	178
Art Group	294	-	-	294	378
Polling Station	300	-	-	300	-
Garden Club	70	-	-	70	-
Scouts	1,326	-	-	1,326	-
Canine Understanding	1,538	-	-	1,538	901
Non Charitable Trading Income	2,133	-	-	2,133	1,803
Bank Interest	18	-	-	18	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>12,243</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,243</b>	<b>6,291</b>

**A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).**

	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>12,243</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,243</b>	<b>6,291</b>

**A3 Payments**

Caretaker	600	-	-	600	720
Rent	1,312	-	-	1,312	1,169
Insurance	2,207	-	-	2,207	2,019
Electricity	597	-	-	597	2,113
Water	888	-	-	888	372
Repairs & Maintenance	2,457	-	-	2,457	2,882
Mowers	446	-	-	446	
Sundry Expenses	924	-	-	924	834
Heating Oil	2,957	-	-	2,957	
Surveyor costs	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>13,888</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,888</b>	<b>10,109</b>

**A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)**

		-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>			<b>-</b>		

<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>12,243</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,243</b>	<b>6,291</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>12,243</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,243</b>	<b>6,291</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Current Account	11,171	-	-
	Reserve Account	-	1,243	-
	Cash in Hand	949	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>12,120</b>	<b>1,243</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments)	Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK


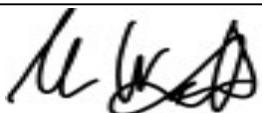
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Purchase Grant	-	3,000	-
	Purchase Donation	-	1,361	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Ride-on Mower	Unrestricted	2,000	-
	Push Lawn Mower	Unrestricted	500	-
	20 Tables and 150 Chairs	Unrestricted	-	1,000
	Kitchen Equipment	Unrestricted	-	5,000
	Misc/ Hall Equipment	Unrestricted	-	1,000
	Scaffold Tower	Unrestricted	-	1,200
	Staging	Unrestricted	-	3,000
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Caretaker Overpayment	Unrestricted	420	
	Oil to take advantage of low oil prices 24/25	Unrestricted	1,503	
	WI Book club	Unrestricted	80	
	Canine Understanding	Unrestricted	149	
		-	-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	G.BICKLEY	14/03/2025
	M.WOOLFENDEN	12/03/2025