

Victoria Park, Buckfastleigh

AGM 12 June 2025

Chair's Report 1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025

2024 marked the 10th year of our team running Victoria Park and Buckfastleigh Open Air Pool on behalf of our community.

We are very lucky to have a long standing, professional and highly experienced team of lifeguards to start the season, joined by a few new recruits and we started the 2024 season with a positive mentality and ready to drive the pool forward.

This year didn't start with a bang, with a wet May and June suppressing the amount of customers we would normally expect to receive.

However, the following months' proved to be more successful, and by the end of the Summer Season, we had made up what we had lost, and ticket sales were on a par with 2023 season.

What has become apparent is that the general economic situation is still very far from being stable. This has been reflected in reduced bookings from local schools, who are feeling the pinch of reduced budgets.

The promised reduction in gas and electricity prices has not been realised and we are still paying nearly two-and-a-half times what we were paying during the 2022-2023 season.

Due to the lack of grants we were unable to offer as many free swims as in previous years. However, this season saw the opening of the little children's play area which was fully refurbished in 2024 with grateful thanks to the Valencia Communities Fund. It has a wheelchair accessible roundabout, adventure tower with a slide, a swing for toddlers, a basket swing, an in-ground trampoline, climbing equipment, and sound flowers.

For local children and their families, Victoria Park remains the centre of the town's Hello Summer! activities and events which will continue into 2025.

Our cold-water swimming ran from October to the end of February and brought 650 swimmers from across the southwest. This also provided revenue for local businesses.

Buckfastleigh is a registered charity established in 1887 for "The use and enjoyment by the inhabitants of Buckfastleigh and neighbourhood and the public generally of the trust premises for the purpose of recreation and health." It comprises of a heated open air swimming pool, skate park, children's playground and the "Bungalow" community building.

The charity's trustee is "Victoria Park Buckfastleigh" which is a company limited by guarantee. Directors of the company are all volunteers and are appointed according to the relevant charity and company law in accordance with our articles of association.

Victoria Park, Suite 7 The Business Centre, 33 Chapel Street, Buckfastleigh, TQ11 0AB Registered Charity No: 200624, Ltd Co No: 09490008

Overall, we provided around 7,500 swims during the year, and we were still able to offer the local and concession rates.

In October we ran our very popular Halloween Changing Rooms of Doom free spooky experience. Over 250 children and their families from all over the local area came to have their wits scared out of them. Many thanks to Ian and Gemima, and all the volunteers for their hard work and creativity, it was a great success.

We also continued our very successful Night Swims with Bat Walk, and Starry Nights evenings, with the help and support of 'Dartmoor Skies'

As ever, we are incredibly grateful to all our supporters, donors, volunteers, and staff that help keep this vital and much loved facility open for the community. We are especially grateful for the financial support from Buckfastleigh Town Council which means we can keep the charity solvent through these particularly challenging times.

Signed: Philip Northcott



Chair of Victoria Park, Buckfastleigh

Date: 12th June 2025

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Balance Sheet

Victoria Park, Buckfastleigh

As at 31 March 2025

Account	31-Mar-25	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds
Current Assets			
Cash at bank and in hand			
Victoria Park - Sinking Fund	20,133.06	20,133.06	0.00
Victoria Park - Trading	12,157.83	12,157.83	0.00
Total Cash at bank and in hand	32,290.89	32,290.89	0.00
Petty Cash/Till Float	550.00	550.00	0.00
Total Current Assets	32,840.89	32,840.89	0.00

Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Accounts Payable	352.26	352.26	
PAYE	216.66	216.66	
Pensions Payable	58.35	58.35	
Rounding	(0.11)	(0.11)	
Total Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	627.16	627.16	0.00
Net Current Assets (Liabilities)	32,213.73	32,213.73	0.00
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	32,213.73	32,213.73	0.00
Net Assets	32,213.73	32,213.73	0.00

Capital and Reserves

Current Year Earnings	(8,110.80)	(8,110.80)	
Retained Earnings	40,324.53	40,324.53	
Total Capital and Reserves	32,213.73	32,213.73	0.00

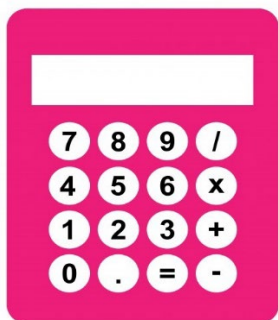
CHAIRPERSON: PHILIP NORTHCOTT

SIGNED:



DATE:

12/06/2025



Lee Accounting (SW) Limited

**19b Golvers Hill Road, Kingsteignton
Newton Abbot, Devon, TQ12 3BP**

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Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Victoria Park, Buckfastleigh

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2025, which are set out on pages...

Respective responsibilities of trustees and 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 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 from you as trustees concerning such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required by an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts represent 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 130 of the 2011 Act; and

- 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.

Hania Lee

Signed.....*Hania Lee*.....

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

19b Golvers Hill Road
Kingsteignton
Newton Abbot
Devon
TQ12 3BP

Date.....19 May 2025.....

Profit and Loss

Victoria Park, Buckfastleigh

For the year ended 31 March 2025

Account	2025	2024
Turnover		
Bungalow Rent	1,662.00	1,662.00
Fixed Grants and Funding	24,500.00	24,025.00
Interest Income	447.10	528.36
Ticket Sales & Pool Rental	39,504.13	40,391.94
Training Income	2,619.00	2,405.04
Tuck & Shop Merchandise Sales	3,399.91	2,719.53
Total Turnover	72,132.14	71,731.87
Cost of Sales		
Cost of Goods Sold (Tuck)	1,447.85	918.35
Direct Wages	45,677.43	54,441.91
Lifeguard Training Costs	1,261.95	875.00
Pensions Costs	364.08	586.31
Pool Equipment	366.98	289.29
Pool Service & Chemicals	2,563.58	3,729.60
Water Rates	901.26	1,017.32
Total Cost of Sales	52,583.13	61,857.78
Gross Profit	19,549.01	9,874.09
Administrative Costs		
Advertising & Marketing	0.00	251.50
Audit & Accountancy fees	4,059.10	3,699.40
Bank Fees	700.81	678.88
Consulting	3,380.00	2,282.45
General Expenses	769.73	749.33
Insurance	2,553.05	2,217.80
IT Software and Consumables	586.39	742.90
Legal Expenses	1,179.12	2,467.98
Light, Power, Heating	21,792.41	31,884.90
Park Maintenance	5,007.91	812.80
Postage, Freight & Courier	0.00	24.90
Printing & Stationery	176.47	109.38
Repairs & Maintenance	1,946.80	654.88
Staff Training	220.00	425.20
Subscriptions	160.00	154.00
Telephone & Internet	411.28	396.85
Waste Disposal	1,331.40	861.16
Total Administrative Costs	44,274.47	48,414.31
Operating Profit	(24,725.46)	(38,540.22)
Other Income		
Ad-hoc Grants	5,000.00	21,955.00
Buckfastleigh Town Council - Energy Grant	7,475.00	15,000.00
Donations and sponsorships	4,139.66	8,999.47
Total Other Income	16,614.66	45,954.47
Profit on Ordinary Activities	(8,110.80)	7,414.25

CHAIRPERSON: PHILIP NORTHCOTT

SIGNED:



DATE:

12/06/2025