



# WILLIAM FOWLER WORKING MEN'S ALLOTMENTS

THE GUILDHALL, CHIPPING NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE OX7 5NJ  
Office Hours: Mon – Fri 9am – 1pm

Charity number: 203329

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 1.4.2023– 31.3.2024

The William Fowler Working Men's Allotments Charity provides allotments and open space in the form of woodland for the residents of Chipping Norton.

Allotment gardening is currently very popular due to a desire by local people to grow their own food, enjoy the outdoors, and take healthy exercise and almost all our 164 plots are let, with a small turnover allowing those on the small waiting list to be accommodated quickly. Trustees regularly visit the site to ensure plots are appropriately tended and the site is well cared for. The committee, which includes representatives of both trustees and allotment holders, organises an annual competition with a variety of categories to encourage a sense of community and has introduced a buddy scheme to support new plot holders. A number of plots are rented by members of the refugee community which not only helps with the cost of living but also improves well-being and integration.

The woodland is well maintained by our Green Gym and some rarer orchids can be found among the trees. The track is used by the local Park Run every Saturday and also by local dog walkers.

The Trust Deed states that these allotments are for ordinary working people, therefore the charity uses available funds to keep rents affordable. The Trust carried out a rent review as costs for maintenance and services have risen, and this resulted in a restructure of charges and a rent increase for many plots for 2024-25. The new pricing structure, whilst increasing income overall, introduced a lower rent for small plots and concessionary rates for those living on a low income so no one is excluded, and ensures the site remains viable in the long term.

The Charity reserves are due to previous land sale. The site is adjacent to a site allocated for new housing and trustees may need to negotiate with developers who want to build a new road. Trustees are keen that funds are reserved to pay any associated costs and to provide better facilities once the future of the site is more certain.

Mrs S. Coleman  
(Trustee)

## **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of William Fowler Working Mens Allotments Charity**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the above charity ('the Trust') for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### ***Responsibilities and basis of report***

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts, in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

### ***Independent examiner's statement***

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that, in any material respect:

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Trevor Gill**

The Thatches  
Avon Dassett  
Southam  
Warwickshire  
CV47 2AT

Date: 25 January 2025

# WILLIAM FOWLER WORKING MENS ALLOTMENTS - RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

Receipts	31/03/2024	31/03/2023	Payments	31/03/2024	31/03/2023
Bank credit	£0.00	£50.00	Administration charges by C.N.T.C. (Pd 20/4	(£8,665.00)	(£5,267.00)
Cash Repayment of Deposits, 2022 & 2023	£0.00	£25.00	Allotments maintenance	£0.00	(£14,644.00)
COIF Deposit Account	£0.00	£2.00	Arboricultural survey & report (WF Wood)	(£3,000.00)	£0.00
Creditors write off 2021-22 (chqs not banked)	£0.00	£25.00	Audit Fee	(£420.00)	(£390.00)
Dividends from investments	£3,871.22	£4,306.00	Bank charges	(£72.00)	(£72.00)
Donations	£25,000.00	£0.00	Competition trophies	£0.00	(£180.00)
Interest from COIF Deposit Account	£71.44	£25.00	Expenses for Allotment Competition (Judge)	£0.00	(£30.00)
Rents and Key deposits	£1,972.00	£2,970.00	Fencing/Wall	£0.00	(£339.00)
Sale of shares	£0.00	£20,000.00	Gardening work	(£2,435.26)	(£866.00)
			Insurance	(£540.49)	(£270.00)
			Key/Rents refunds	(£30.00)	(£35.00)
			Keys, Padlocks	(£220.80)	(£45.00)
			Miscellaneous	(£138.60)	(£5.00)
			NAS Membership	(£66.00)	(£66.00)
			Prizes for Allotment Competition	(£225.00)	(£280.00)
			Skip Hire and Refuse Removal	(£2,205.84)	(£2,041.00)
			Water Rates	(£2,675.31)	(£428.00)
	<u>£30,914.66</u>	<u>£27,403.00</u>		<u>(£20,694.30)</u>	<u>(£24,958.00)</u>

## Cash & Investments

### Cash

	31/03/2024	31/03/2023
Unity Trust Bank	£18,854.17	£7,482.98
COIF Deposit Account	£1,501.74	£1,501.74
Total Cash	<u>£20,355.91</u>	<u>£8,984.72</u>

## COIF Charity Funds

	31/03/2024	31/03/2023
Investment Fund Income 100470001T **	£145,189.36	£133,138.00
Investment Fund Accumulation 100470001R **	£6,889.39	£6,142.00
Total Investments	<u>£152,078.75</u>	<u>£139,280.00</u>
Total Funds	<u>£172,434.66</u>	<u>£148,264.72</u>

We hereby approve these accounts:

Accounts Approved:

Name: SANDRA COLEMAN

Position: Trustee

Accounts Approved:

Name: A.J. PACKER

Position: Financial Officer