

LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES
Registered Charity Number: 254299

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Dains Audit Ltd
Chartered Accountants
St Johns Court
Wiltell Road
Lichfield
Staffordshire
WS14 9DS

**LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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**LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

Reference and administrative information

Trustees:

The Charity trustees who served during the year and their appointing bodies are:

W M Henwood	Chairman	Co-optative
C P Earnshaw	Vice chairman	Co-optative
H Ashton	appointed October 2024	Lichfield City Council
C Ball	appointed November 2024	Lichfield City Council
J M Eagland	expired June 2024	Co-optative
M Field	expired September 2024	Lichfield City Council
J H Fox	appointed November 2024	Lichfield City Council
J A Greaves	expired November 2024	Lichfield City Council
D Greatorex	expired November 2024	Lichfield City Council
Dr A Hughes	expired May 2024	Ex- officio
K R Lomas	appointed June 2024	Co-optative
C J McNeill	resigned April 2024	Co-optative
E Newbould	appointed September 2024	Co-optative
T J Roach		Co-optative
J Russell		Co-optative
S Schafer	appointed May 2024	Ex-officio
N G Sedgwick		Co-optative
C R Stokes		Co-optative

Principal Address: S R James
The Clerk Lichfield Municipal Charities
Bank House Farm
Woodhouses
Yoxall
Staffs
DE13 8NR

Website: www.lichfieldmunicipal.org.uk

Registered Charity No: 254299

Principal Bankers: CAF Bank Ltd
25 Kings Hills Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
ME19 4JQ

Independent Examiner: M Gurney FCCA, DChA
of Dains Audit Ltd
Chartered Accountants
St Johns Court
Wiltell Road
Lichfield
Staffs
WS14 9DS

Investment Advisers: RBC Brewin Dolphin
6th floor, The Chatwin Building
81, Colmore Row
Birmingham
B3 2BA

**LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (CONTINUED)
Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024**

The trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 7 and comply with the Charity Commission Scheme, the Charities Act 2011 and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland effective 1 January 2019.

Structure, Governance and Management

History, Objectives and Activities for the Public Benefit

Lichfield Municipal Charities was established in 1654 and is now regulated by a Charity Commission Scheme which was sealed on 24 September 1982. The Charity is an unincorporated association. The Charity does not actively fundraise and seeks to continue its philanthropic work through the careful stewardship of its existing resources.

Following the remodelling project, which was completed during 2022, Lichfield Municipal Charities now comprises twelve Almshouses known as William Lunn Homes, which are situated in Lichfield. All are suitable for couples. The Almshouses are available for occupation by poor inhabitants of the City of Lichfield.

After paying the costs of maintaining the property and expenses incidental to the administration of the Charity, any surplus is available for the relief of need, either generally or individually of persons resident in the area of the former City of Lichfield as constituted on 31 March 1974.

Management and Governance

Following an amendment during 2013, the Scheme provides for the appointment of 14 trustees, 1 ex-officio, 3 nominative and 10 co-optative. The ex-officio trustee is the Mayor of the City of Lichfield. The three nominative trustees are appointed by Lichfield City Council. Nominative trustees serve for a period of four years. Co-optative trustees serve for a period of five years. New co-optative trustees are identified from people within the local community who have the necessary skills and interest and are appointed by the remaining trustees.

The induction process for any newly appointed trustee comprises an initial meeting with the board of trustees at which an information pack is provided. This includes a copy of the governing document, a copy of the most recent annual report and accounts, copy minutes of previous trustees' meetings and a copy of the Charity Commission Guidance 'The Essential Trustee' and 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

The trustees normally meet four times a year to consider the Charity's affairs and as and when appropriate the broad strategy and area of activity for the Charity, including consideration of grant making, investments, reserves and risk management policies and performance.

The day to day administration of the Charity is delegated to the Clerk.

Risk Review

The trustees have examined the major internal and external risks which the Charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to minimise these risks.

Grant making policy and procedures

The Charity is well known in the City and invites applications from individuals and organisations. Each application is considered on its own merits.

Grant application forms are available from the Clerk whose address is shown on page 1 or from the website, www.lichfieldmunicipal.org.uk

**LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES
ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024 (CONTINUED)**

Achievements and Performance

Following the refurbishment project, the Almshouses are fully occupied.

Other charitable expenditure during the year totalled £11,796. A detailed breakdown of this figure is given in note 4 to the accounts.

Financial Review

Investment Policy and Performance

The Charity derives its income from its portfolio of investments and a small holding of land. The investment portfolio is managed by external fund managers on a discretionary basis to achieve a balanced return from income and capital growth by accepting a moderate level of risk. The investment portfolio generated a total return of 7.95% net of fees over the course of the year.

This compares with a return of 13.13% for the RBC Brewin Dolphin Category 6 index and 8.23% for the ARC Steady Growth index over the same period.

The trustees monitor the performance of the fund on a quarterly basis.

Reserves Policy

Charity funds at 31 December 2024 totalled £3,110,409 and comprised permanent endowment £2,074,533, extraordinary repairs fund £112,763 and unrestricted reserves £923,113.

The trustees aim to maintain such reserves as are necessary for the future repair, improvement and refurbishment of the Almshouses and to finance working capital requirements.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning and setting their grant making policy for the year and have complied with their duties under the Charities Act 2011.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

Law applicable to charities in England Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Trustees on 4 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by: W Henwood

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024 which are set out on pages 5-9.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees 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 charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a "true and fair view" which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

M Gurney FCCA, DCha
of Dains Audit Ltd
St John's Court
Wiltell Road
Lichfield
Staffordshire
WS14 9DS

Date: March 4, 2025

**LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	Income Fund £	Extraordinary Repairs Fund £	Endowment Fund £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and endowments from:						
Charitable activities						
Maintenance contributions receivable		62,246			62,246	52,857
Investments						
Income from listed investments	2	53,792	4,958		58,750	53,329
Deposit interest and similar income		679			679	2,312
Rental income		365			365	365
Donations and Legacies						
Legacy - R S Owen						85,918
Roger Hinton's Charity						900
Other donation						200
Total		117,082	4,958		122,040	195,881
Expenditure on:						
Almshouse running costs	3	47,933			47,933	34,302
Other charitable expenditure	4	11,796			11,796	10,011
Investment management charges	5	3,053	616	7,618	11,287	10,293
Insurance etc re land at Darnford		346			346	326
Clerk's salary		16,750			16,750	15,882
Independent examiner's fees		2,940			2,940	2,874
Sundry expenses		1,803			1,803	1,591
Impairment review						2,934
Depreciation - Solar panels		4,003			4,003	2,691
Total		88,624	616	7,618	96,858	80,904
Gains/(losses) on investments	10	14,705	(2,683)	95,350	107,372	69,109
Net income/(expenditure)		43,163	1,659	87,732	132,554	184,086
Net movement in funds		43,163	1,659	87,732	132,554	184,086
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		879,950	111,104	1,986,801	2,977,855	2,793,769
Total funds carried forward		923,113	112,763	2,074,533	3,110,409	2,977,855

**LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES
BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	Income Fund £	Extraordinary Repairs Fund £	Endowment Fund £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fixed Assets						
Freehold Land and Buildings	7	284,565		680,000	964,565	964,565
Solar Panels	8	33,342			33,342	24,220
Investment Property	9			7,500	7,500	7,500
Listed Investments	10	552,612	111,995	1,395,480	2,060,087	1,958,639
		870,519	111,995	2,082,980	3,065,494	2,954,924
Current Assets						
Debtors	11	7,424	493		7,917	6,350
Balances at Bank:						
Deposit		44,771			44,771	18,081
Current		8,691	432	(6,495)	2,628	11,233
Total current assets		60,886	925	(6,495)	55,316	35,664
Liabilities						
	12					
Creditors: Amounts due within 1 year		8,292	157	1,952	10,401	12,733
Net Current Assets		52,594	768	(8,447)	44,915	22,931
Net Assets		923,113	112,763	2,074,533	3,110,409	2,977,855
The funds of the charity:						
Permanent endowment				2,074,533	2,074,533	1,986,801
Extraordinary repairs fund			112,763		112,763	111,104
Unrestricted income funds		923,113			923,113	879,950
		923,113	112,763	2,074,533	3,110,409	2,977,855

These financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 4 March 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

W M Henwood

C P Earnshaw

**LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

1 Accounting Policies

a Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) effective 01/01/2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (FRS102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements comply with FRS 102.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated.

b Freehold Land and Buildings

Freehold Land and Buildings are included at their reinstatement value for insurance purposes as at July 2004 with remodelling and refurbishment costs incurred since that date included at cost.

c Investment Property

Investment property has been valued by the trustees at open market value subject to existing use.

d Listed Investments

Listed investments are stated at market value.

e Funds

The income fund comprises those funds which the trustees are free to use in accordance with the charitable objects.

The permanent endowment represents those assets which must be held permanently by the charity. Income arising on the endowment fund can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of that fund. Investment management charges relating to the fund are charged against that fund.

The extraordinary repairs fund is a designated reserve which represents amounts set aside to carry out major repairs on the freehold buildings.

2 Income from Listed Investments

In 2023 income from listed investments totalled £53,329 of which £49,055 represented unrestricted income funds and £4,274 represented the extraordinary repairs fund.

3 Almshouse Running Costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Insurance	1,704	1,672
Garden Maintenance	5,342	7,625
Water, Council Tax and Electric	4,822	7,569
Lifeline and Smoke Alarm System	373	680
Repairs and Renewals	34,201	14,317
Advertising	400	-
Sundry Expenses	1,091	2,439
	<u>47,933</u>	<u>34,302</u>

**LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

4 Other Charitable Expenditure

	2024	2023
	£	£
St Giles Hospice	2,500	-
English Language School	1,260	-
Grants to 15 individuals (2023 - 18)	8,036	10,011
	<u>11,796</u>	<u>10,011</u>

5 Investment management charges

In 2023 the expenditure on investment management charges totalled £10,293 of which £7,365 was from the endowment fund, £614 from the extraordinary repair fund and £2,314 from unrestricted income funds.

6 Trustees Remuneration and Expenses and Related Party Transactions

No remuneration directly or indirectly out of the funds of the Charity was paid or payable for the year to any trustee or to any person or persons known to be connected with any of them.

An Annual Dinner was held for trustees at a cost of £659 (2023-£495).

No expenses were paid to any trustee during the year.(2023- nil)

7 Freehold Land and Buildings

	2024	2023
	£	£
12 Bungalows known as William Lunn's Homes At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	<u>964,565</u>	<u>964,565</u>

8 Solar Panels

	2024	2023
	£	£
At cost 1 January 2024	26,911	9,773
Additions: Battery storage	13,125	26,911
Disposal		(9,773)
Cost 31 December 2024	<u>40,036</u>	<u>26,911</u>
Depreciation at 1 January 2024	2,691	6,839
Depreciation charge for the year	4,003	2,691
Impairment		2,934
Disposal		(9,773)
Depreciation at 31 December 2024	<u>6,694</u>	<u>2,691</u>
Net book value at 31 December 2024	<u>33,342</u>	<u>24,220</u>

The solar panels and associated batteries are being depreciated at 10% on a straight line basis.

9 Investment Property

	2024	2023
	£	£
Land at Darnford-At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	<u>7,500</u>	<u>7,500</u>

LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

10 Listed Investments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Listed UK Investments	2,038,760	1,940,480
Investment Portfolio Cash	21,327	18,159
	<u>2,060,087</u>	<u>1,958,639</u>

	Income Fund	Extraordinary Repairs Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Investments held at 01.01.24	532,825	101,842	1,305,813	1,940,480	1,719,705
Additions at cost	132,688	21,827	221,421	375,936	454,158
Disposals at carrying value	(137,533)	(16,999)	(230,496)	(385,028)	(302,492)
Add net gain/(loss) on revaluation	14,705	(2,683)	95,350	107,372	69,109
Investments held at 31.12.24	<u>542,685</u>	<u>103,987</u>	<u>1,392,088</u>	<u>2,038,760</u>	<u>1,940,480</u>

All investments are quoted on the London Stock Exchange and are carried at their market value.
Asset sales and purchases are recognised at the date of trade at cost (that is their transaction value).
RBC Brewin Dolphin Limited provide a discretionary management service

11 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Maintenance Contributions Receivable	337	685
Other Debtors and Prepayments	1,315	1,373
Investment Income	6,265	4,292
	<u>7,917</u>	<u>6,350</u>

12 Creditors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Creditors and accrued expenses	9,141	12,733
Grants payable	1,260	-
	<u>10,401</u>	
Permanent endowment	1,952	1,836
Extraordinary repairs fund	157	154
Unrestricted income funds	8,292	10,743
	<u>10,401</u>	<u>12,733</u>

LICHFIELD MUNICIPAL CHARITIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

13 Analysis of Net Assets Between Funds

	Accumulated Income Fund	Extraordinary Repairs Fund	Endowment Fund	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	848,982	110,826	1,995,116	2,954,924
Current Assets	41,711	432	(6,479)	35,664
Current Liabilities	(10,743)	(154)	(1,836)	(12,733)
Fund Balance	<u>879,950</u>	<u>111,104</u>	<u>1,986,801</u>	<u>2,977,855</u>