

WINCHESTER DRAMATIC SOCIETY
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Principal address and Registered Office	Chesil Theatre, Chesil Street, Winchester SO23 0HU
Charity number	285043
Company number	01621492 (England and Wales)

WINCHESTER DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Trustees' Report for the year ended 31 March 2024

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year.

Structure, governance and management

Winchester Dramatic Society is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The charity's main objects are "to promote, maintain, improve and advance public education particularly by the production of educational plays and the encouragement of the arts."

The trustees who served during the year are:

Joanne	Ashwell	
Peter	Bateson	
Stephanie	Danby	
Martin	Humphrey	
Tom	Humphreys	Retired 27 October 2023
Sarah	Jacobs	
David	James	
Peter	Liddiard	
Terrance	Lohr	Appointed 27 October 2023
David	Small	
Alec	Walters	

The charity structure is a Board of Trustees (also known as the Executive Committee) who are also directors for the purpose of company law.

The charity is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

There are no specific restrictions imposed by any governing document concerning the way in which the charity operates.

Objectives and activities

The charity seeks to attain these objectives by presenting a varied programme of in-house and visiting drama productions, by running a youth theatre with youth and children's workshops, providing active social and community outreach programmes and by maintaining and improving the historic Chesil Theatre building. There has been no change in the policies adopted in furtherance of the objects during the year.

During the year the charity has presented a varied programme of drama, run youth and children's workshops and productions, welcomed several visiting productions to the Chesil Theatre, provided active social and outreach programmes and continued to carry out maintenance and improvement of the Grade II* Chesil Theatre building (the former church of St Peter Chesil).

The charity's main dependency is upon the services of unpaid volunteers, and it also receives donations throughout the year.

Financial Review

The accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 show a net surplus for the year of £91,514 (2023 £81,492) which has been taken to reserves.

At the balance sheet date the charity had net reserves of £1,087,458 (2023 £995,944), the majority of which is held in the charity's bank accounts. Accordingly there appears to be no difficulty in fulfilling the charity's financial obligations.

The trustees continue to aim to enhance the charity's reserves, having regard to the nature of the medieval building it occupies and the continuing plans to enhance the facilities provided.

Following the purchase of 14 Chesil Street, the "Stables" building was brought into use for storage purposes. Plans for the Society's proposed new annexe were submitted to the Local Planning Authority in summer 2023. Discussions have subsequently continued with the planners, with a slightly revised scheme presented in September 2024. Other investigations and surveys have continued whilst awaiting planning consent.

In addition to the net reserves mentioned above, a further £90,000 has been promised by the Winchester City Council and Town Forum towards the cost of the development, payable as a proportion of expenditure as it is incurred.

In September 2024 the trustees completed the acquisition of the freehold of the existing theatre from the Church Commissioners at a price of £1 plus legal costs. This purchase improves the charity's security of tenure, strengthens its asset base, and enhances the charity's ability to raise loans if that were judged appropriate.

Asset cover for funds

Note 9 sets out an analysis of the assets attributable to the various funds and a description of the trusts. These assets are sufficient to meet the charity's obligations on a fund by fund basis.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees



Date: 17.10.2024

WINCHESTER DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Winchester Dramatic Society

I report on the accounts for the charity for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on Pages 5 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees and directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- (1) examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011;
- (2) follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011; and
- (3) 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 the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present 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:
 - (a) to keep accounting records in accordance with the Companies Act 2006; and
 - (b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities 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.



Sarah Whatton ACA CTA
Chartered Accountant (ICAEW)
Marble Accounting
4 Charlecote Mews
Staple Gardens
Winchester
SO23 8SR

Date: 17.10.2024

WINCHESTER DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted general fund	Designated fund	Restricted fund	Total 2024	Total 2023
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources						
Fund raising & donations		31,341		28,811	60,152	43,502
Interest receivable		14,742			14,742	5,290
Productions		52,096			52,096	51,104
Bar		13,468			13,468	15,512
Adult/Student Subscriptions		7,005			7,005	6,434
Youth Theatre		3,740			3,740	5,028
Hire of theatre, props, costumes		464			464	650
Government Grants		-			-	-
Other Income		9			9	12
Total incoming resources		122,865	-	28,811	151,676	127,531
Resources expended						
Direct charitable expenditure						
Productions		22,940			22,940	12,018
Bar		5,011			5,011	4,721
Cost of fund raising		548			548	272
Youth Theatre		722			722	810
Cost of hirings		-			-	62
Support costs	5	8,628			8,628	8,845
Other expenditure	5					
Management and administration		12,361			12,361	10,881
Depreciation		9,952			9,952	8,431
Total resources expended		60,162			60,162	46,040
Net incoming resources		62,703	-	28,811	91,514	81,492
Transfer between funds	4	(70,652)	80,000	(9,348)	-	-
Net movement in funds		(7,949)	80,000	19,463	91,514	81,492
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		28,672	888,000	79,272	995,944	914,452
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		20,723	968,000	98,735	1,087,458	995,944

WINCHESTER DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	6		351,217		308,817
Current assets					
Stocks		1,077		643	
Debtors	7	20,367		30,455	
Cash at bank and in hand		718,064		659,178	
		<u>739,508</u>		<u>690,276</u>	
Creditors:	8	3,267		3,149	
(amounts falling due within one year)		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net current assets			<u>736,241</u>		<u>687,127</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>1,087,458</u>		<u>995,944</u>
Income funds					
Restricted fund	9		98,735		79,272
Designated fund	9		968,000		888,000
Unrestricted general fund	9		<u>20,723</u>		<u>28,672</u>
			<u>1,087,458</u>		<u>995,944</u>

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2024. No member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts under the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees/directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

The accounts were approved by the Board on 17.10.2024

Trustees




Company registration number 1621498

WINCHESTER DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (16 July 2014).

1.2 Incoming resources

Grants of a revenue nature are credited to income only when the conditions for receipt have been satisfied. Donations are credited to income when they become receivable. All turnover is associated with the objects and activities of the charity and relates wholly to the United Kingdom.

1.3 Tangible assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets other than freehold or long leasehold land are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold & long leasehold land & buildings	Nil
Electrical equipment (excluding stage lighting)	10% straight line
Stage lighting; fixtures, fittings & equipment	10% straight line

1.4 Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

1.5 Fund accounting

The charity's funds consist of a restricted fund, a designated fund and a general fund.

1.6 Allocation of costs

Costs incurred by the charity are allocated to the cost categories for which they were incurred. Overhead costs are allocated between administration, fundraising and publicity and support costs in direct proportion to their usage.

2. Trustees

None of the trustees, or any persons connected with them, received any remuneration during the year. Five of them were reimbursed a total of £11,551 for production, bar, youth theatre, support and administration expenses (2023 - four were reimbursed £8,219).

3. Employees

There were no employees during the year.

4. Transfers

The trustees have approved the transfer of £65,000 from the unrestricted general fund to the designated fund.

5. Total resources expended

	Staff costs	Depreciation	Other costs	Total 2024		Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Direct charitable expenditure						
Production costs			22,940	22,940		12,018
Bar costs			5,011	5,011		4,721
Cost of fund raising			548	548		272
Youth Theatre costs			722	722		810
Cost of hirings			-	-		62
Support costs						
Heat, light, rent, water and rates			6,889	6,889		6,425
Stationery, postage, telephone			1,739	1,739		2,420
Other expenditure						
Repairs and maintenance			6,125	6,125		1,633
Insurance			4,834	4,834		7,938
Professional fees			-	-		-
Sundry			1,402	1,402		1,310
Depreciation		9,952		9,952		8,431
		9,952	50,210	60,162		46,040

6. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Lighting, fixtures fittings and equipment	Total
Cost	£	£	£
At 1 April 2023	282,329	106,535	388,864
Additions	13,679	38,673	52,352
Disposals	- (9,348)	(9,348)
At 31 March 2024	296,008	135,860	431,868
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2023	-	80,047	80,047
Charge for the year	-	9,952	9,952
On disposals	- (9,348)	(9,348)
At 31 March 2024	-	80,651	80,651
Net book value			
At 31 March 2024	296,008	55,209	351,217
As at 31 March 2023	282,329	26,488	308,817

7. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments, accrued income including Gift Aid tax refund	20,367	30,455

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Sundry creditors	3,267	3,149
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9. Funds

Fund balances at 31 March represented by

Tangible fixed assets	351,217	308,817
Current assets	739,508	690,276
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(3,267)	(3,149)
	<u>1,087,458</u>	<u>995,944</u>

The Restricted Improvement and Development Fund contains money that has been donated or granted to the charity specifically for the purpose of the improvement and development of the Theatre which may not be used for other purposes, together with assets bought with such money. In addition to the balance shown below, a further £90,000 has been promised by the Winchester City Council and Town Forum, payable as a proportion of development expenditure as it is incurred.

	£
Restricted Fund balance at 1 April 2023	79,272
Change in year	19,463
Restricted Fund balance at 31 March 2024	<u>98,735</u>

This is made up as follows:

Cash at Bank	-
Development project	57,184
Improvements to theatre	41,551
	<u>98,735</u>

The Designated Improvement and Development Fund contains money that the Trustees have decided to put on one side with the intention that it should be used for the improvement and development of the Theatre, its facilities and equipment, together with assets bought with such money. The funds could however be used for other purposes if the Trustees so decided.

	£
Designated Fund balance at 1 April 2023	888,000
Change in year	-
Transfer from General Fund to Designated Fund	80,000
Designated Fund balance at 31 March 2024	<u>968,000</u>

This is made up as follows:

Cash at Bank	715,518
Development project	238,824
Improvements to theatre	13,658
	<u>968,000</u>

The General Fund contains unrestricted funds and assets, available for any appropriate use by the Trustees, who aim to keep £15-20,000 in this fund.

	£
General Fund balance at 1 April 2023	28,672
Change in year	(7,949)
General Fund balance at 31 March 2024	<u>20,723</u>

This is made up as follows:

Cash in hand and at Bank	2,546
Net balance of stocks, debtors and creditors	18,177
	<u>20,723</u>