

LITTLE HORWOOD RECREATION GROUND

ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

CHARITY NUMBER 295245

LITTLE HORWOOD RECREATION GROUND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2023

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LITTLE HORWOOD RECREATION GROUND
REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

LEGAL STATUS

The trust was established by a trust deed dated 9 December 1902 and is a registered Charity (No. 295245). The trust is not liable to UK income or corporation tax.

COMMITTEE AND TRUSTEES

The following served during the year and to date:

Adam Howe	Trustee and joint chair
Shirley Spurrell	Trustee and joint chair
Bob Curtis	Trustee.
Nick Derry	Trustee (appointed 8 May 2024)
Steve Simpson	Trustee (resigned 8 May 2024) Parish Council representative
Wayne Wilson	Treasurer (resigned November 2023)
Karen Howe	Treasurer (appointed December 2023)
Dr Alex Stubbings	Secretary (resigned January 2023)
Hilary Kane	Booking secretary
Dan Sherwood	Secretary (appointed June 2023)
Robbie McPhearson	Parish Council representative (appointed May 2023)
Jeremy Church	
Tom Davis	
David Duff	

BANKERS

TSB PLC
 Winslow
 Buckinghamshire

ADMINISTRATION

C/o the treasurer:
 Mrs Karen Howe FCCA
 Greenacres
 13 Mursley Road
 Little Horwood
 Bucks MK17 0PG

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER

Marie Rawlings MAAT
 13 Mallards Way
 Bicester
 OX26 6WU

LITTLE HORWOOD RECREATION GROUND
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The main objectives of the charity are:- To provide and maintain recreational facilities for the village of Little Horwood in the area known as "the recreation ground"

The facilities and assets of the Charity include

- The Recreational hall (formerly know as the old school)
- The Recreational grounds
- The MUGA
- The children's playground adjacent to the Hall
- The Village Marquee

ORGANISATION

The fund is administered by the trustees and the Little Horwood Recreation Ground management committee. All of which are volunteers.

INVESTMENT POWERS

The trust deed states "all sums of cash now or at any time belonging to the charity, and not needed for immediate working purposes, shall (unless otherwise ordered) as soon as possible be invested, under the authority of a further order of the Charity Commissioners, in the name of "The Official Trustees of Charitable Funds"

RELATED PARTIES

There are no related party transactions.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS AND CHAIR'S REPORT

The main event for 2023 was the much anticipated opening of the newly renovated children's play area . With the exception of the swings, all the play equipment was replaced with new and more challenging equipment. Working with specialist Playground installers Kompan, the equipment was selected for its variety and wide range of outcomes for users. New floor surfaces were installed in line with safety standards, but also representative of the village country setting. The car park area was enlarged slightly to create more spaces and safer parking.

To compensate for the loss of play area , a zip wire was installed alongside the MUGA to create more adventurous play for older children. The playground was officially opened with a free Easter egg hunt for the local children and children from the wider community in order to publicise and celebrate the venue.

All this was possible as a result of a grant from FCC of £70,000 and £10,000 from the Village trust for which the recreational ground committee are extremely grateful.

Sadly, the Parish Council felt unable to reclaim the VAT charged on the playground expense, which led to an unplanned expense of £16,000 which the Rec funds had to absorb and which depleted the cash reserves. A £5,000 grant was award by the village trust to assist with the VAT expense.

New curtains were installed and electrical installations were changed to low voltage fixtures and fitting.

The Auto mowers continued to present a large expense due to damage caused by vandalism. This was both dismaying and expensive but hopefully the problem has now been resolved

Hall bookings were healthy throughout the year and provided a steady stream of income. Thank you to our bookings Secretary Hilary Kane for managing this task so efficiently

Spring and Autumn volunteer clean-ups were well attended and the facilities continue to be well maintained.

The Biannual village Ball took place in October but was less well attended probably due to the ticket cost. The Future of the Village Ball will be reviewed to decide what type of activity best meets the needs of the village.

The camp night continues to be very popular with all ages and is a much-anticipated date in the annual calendar.

The Rec grounds continue to be utilised for the annual Church fete, the pancake race and the village race.

An additional event this year was the village 'street' party' which was held in the Rec marquee to celebrate the coronation of King Charles. This was a free to attend event and was much appreciated by the village residents whose enthusiasm and support made this day into a joyous occasion. Many thanks go to the volunteers who tirelessly erect and dismantle the marquee for both the coronation and the Village Ball

Finally, our long serving treasurer retired after many years of service and the committee and trustees wish to record a thank you to Wayne Wilson for his tireless work for the recreational committee.

The chair would also like to thank the volunteers for their ongoing time and enthusiasm.

Future Plans

Our primary Focus for 2024 is to make the management of the hall more streamlined. Ideally bookings will be made on line and there will be a web site section within the village web site capable of promoting future events and accepting online bookings .

The Parish Council has requested an area of "wilding" between the Rec grounds and the spinney and in principle this has been agreed on the proviso that the Rec committee will not be held responsible for the maintenance and that the boundaries of the Rec remain unchanged and the primary use of the land as a place for recreation is not compromised.

There is a desire to extend the Kitchen area but this will be an ongoing project requiring fundraising so early steps of design and planning are likely to start but construction is probably going to be a few years away.

The village community will be invited to comment on any proposed plans at an appropriate time.

The Italian evening will take place in May, followed by the village campout

The Rec will once again host the village fete and this year there will be an additional Barn dance immediately following the fete.

Constitution and Object of the Trust

The assets of the trust are to be used for the purposes of improving the life for the residents of Little Horwood in Buckinghamshire and the neighboring areas.

Trustees and Committee of Management

The trustees comprise four members elected by the Parish Council to serve for 4 years year. Any competent trustee may be re-appointed.

The management committee is selected from suitable and willing volunteers who have demonstrated a commitment to helping maintain this village facility

No remuneration or expense allowances are paid for acting in the capacity of trustee or committee member

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 future activities for the year.

Reserves

The Trustees hold the majority of funds as reserves until such time as suitable projects or expenditure are identified to fulfil the charitable objectives.

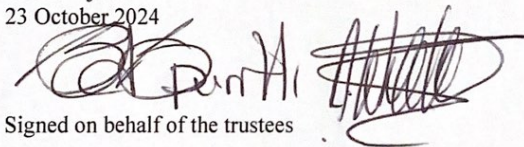
Risk assessment

The Trustees actively review the major risks the Trust faces on a regular basis. As well as considering internal controls, the Trustees have also examined other operational risks and confirm that systems and initiatives are in place which are regularly reviewed in order to mitigate those risks.

Shirley Spurrell & Adam Howe

Chairs – joint

23 October 2024



Signed on behalf of the trustees

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
TO THE TRUSTEES OF LITTLE HORWOOD RECREATION GROUND

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustee and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2012 (the 2022 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2012 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 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 to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2022 Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of the 2022 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.

Marie Rawlings MAAT

Signed



Dated

23 October 2024

LITTLE HORWOOD RECREATION GROUND
STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 DECEMBER 2023

Charity law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and its financial activities for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- 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 operational existence.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the fund and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2022. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the fund and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

LITTLE HORWOOD RECREATION GROUND
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Note	2023	2022
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Activities and donations	3	27,174	24,607
Grants	4	3,552	5,250
Investment income		215	11
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		30,941	29,868
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Direct charitable expenditure		-	-
Fund raising expenses		8,240	586
Improvements to facilities	5	-	-
Repairs and maintenance		9,276	16,681
Electricity and water		-2,106	2,747
Insurance		1,355	1,214
Other operating expenses		1,594	1,429
Sundry expenses		534	465
Depreciation		3,778	1,704
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		22,671	25,826
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net incoming resources		8,270	4,042
		<hr/>	<hr/>
FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		103,863	99,821
		<hr/>	<hr/>
FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		112,133	103,863
		<hr/>	<hr/>

LITTLE HORWOOD RECREATION GROUND**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	2023	2022
FIXED ASSETS	5	88,442	76,479
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors and prepayments	6	1,223	1
Cash at bank		24,418	31,919
		<u>25,641</u>	<u>31,920</u>
CREDITORS (Amounts falling due within one year)			
Accruals		-	2,806
Other		1,950	1,730
		<u>1,950</u>	<u>1,730</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>23,691</u>	<u>27,384</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>112,133</u>	<u>103,863</u>
FUNDS			
TRUST CAPITAL	7		
At 1 January 2023		103,863	99,821
Surplus for the year		<u>8,270</u>	<u>4,042</u>
At 31 December 2023		<u>112,133</u>	<u>103,863</u>

The financial statements on pages 9 to 13 were approved by the trustees on 23 October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Shirley Spurrell & Adam Howe
Chairs - Joint



LITTLE HORWOOD RECREATION GROUND
NOTE TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- a) The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the revised Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) – Accounting and Reporting by Charities.
- b) Donations and investment income are recorded when received.
- c) Activity income and expenditure is included on an accruals basis.
- d) Grants received and receivable are credited to incoming resources and matched with designated expenditure
- e) Other expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

2. TAXATION

The Trust is a registered charity and accordingly is exempt from taxation on its income when applied for charitable purposes.

3 ACTIVITIES AND DONATIONS	2023	2022
	£	£
Hire	15,248	19,414
Ball	9,301	-
Feed In Tarrif electricity	1,558	1,147
Activities	1,067	961
Sundry Donations	-	3,085
	<u>27,174</u>	<u>24,607</u>

LITTLE HORWOOD RECREATION GROUND
NOTE TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

4	GRANTS	2023	2022
		£	£
	Little Horwood Parish Council	3,553	1,250
	Little Horwood Trust	-	-
	Bucks County Council	-	4,000
		3,553	5,250
		3,553	5,250

5. FIXED ASSETS

	Building & Ground Improvements	Playground Improvements	MUGA	Storage Shed	Marquee	Grass Mowers	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost							
Balance at 1 January							
Cost	119,906	26,801	23,440	31,537	20,605	8,738	231,027
Less grants	-	73,075	111,801	-23,440	-14,495	-	-230,611
Additions	-	100,740	-	-	-	-	100,740
Net cost 31 December	46,831	15,740	-	17,042	12,805	8,738	101,156
Depreciation							
Balance at 1 January	-	-	-	1,686	2,882	4,369	8,937
Net charge for year		1,049		341	640	1,748	3,778
Balance at 31 December	-	1,049	-	2,027	3,522	6,117	12,715
Net Book Value							
31 December 2023	46,831	14,691	-	15,015	9,283	2,622	88,442
31 December 2022	46,831	-	-	15,356	9,923	4,369	76,479

LITTLE HORWOOD RECREATION GROUND
NOTE TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

6	DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENT		2023	2022
			£	£
	Prepayments		-	-
	Other Debtors		1,223	1
			<u>1,223</u>	<u>1</u>
7	TRUST CAPITAL			
		General	Tennis	Total
		2023	2023	2022
		£	£	£
	Balance at 1 January	103,863	-	103,863
	Transfer	-	-	-
	Surplus / (deficit) for year	8,270	-	8,270
		<u>112,133</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>112,133</u>
				<u>99,821</u>

8 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND TRUSTEE REMUNERTION

The trustees neither received nor waived any emoluments during the year (2022: Nil)