

BRAINTREE & BOCKING RECREATION GROUNDS
TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2023

Registered Charity No: 301262

Principal Address

Braintree & Bocking Recreation Grounds John
Ray Street
Braintree
Essex CM7 9DZ

Names of Trustees and Committee

Mr S Dedman – Trustee (Chair) Mr
S R Thompson – Trustee
Mr A Simpson - Trustee (Resigned 25 April 2022) Mrs
D Farquhar – Trustee (Appointed 25 April 2022)

Professional Advisors Legal

Advisors:

Holmes & Hills Solicitors – Dale Chambers, Bocking End, Braintree, CM7 6AJ

Bankers:

Barclays Bank PLC, Bank Street, Braintree, Essex CM7 1UG

Independent Examiner:

Lisa Greenwood FCCA, Lambert Chapman LLP, Chartered Accountants & Registered
Auditors, 3 Warners Mill, Silks way, Braintree, Essex CM7 3GB

Letting agents:

Joscelyne Chase, 18-20 Bank Street Braintree Essex

Governing Document

The charity is governed by conveyances dated 05 November 1936, 19 December 1921 and a declaration of trust dated 17 December 1937.

Management and governance arrangements

For good governance and accountability, a minimum of three trustees are required. Where there is a requirement for new trustees, these would be identified and appointed by resolution at a meeting of trustees at which there is a majority of the trustees present. The trustees annually review the risks that the charity faces. These remain mainly related to budgetary management and facility maintenance. The main sources of income are rental of houses owned by the trust and fees paid by the public and sports clubs for the use of the various sports pitches and facilities. Budgets are monitored and revised to stay within the available income of the trust and restoration and maintenance prioritised within those constraints.

Aims and Purposes

The aim of the Charity is “to provide public recreation opportunity for the resort and recreation of adults, children and youths through the provision of buildings, facilities and open space”. The trustees of Braintree & Bocking Recreation Grounds seek to follow the Commission’s guidance on public benefit and work with all Local organisations and groups who wish to make use of the facilities. The trustees strive to ensure maximum availability of the facilities and grounds to the widest possible section of general public in the Braintree area. In our activities we aim to promote the advancement of amateur sport and that of community and general health through the provision of recreational space and facilities. The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Summary of the main activities during the year

General recreation ground access

The Grounds remain open to the public all year round (365 days) for general recreational use, and are regularly used for casual sports, jogging, walking, etc. Though many things have returned to “normal” post the COVID lock downs, the casual use of the grounds has remained at a high level, as people continue to seek open external places for leisure and recreation.

Sports

The Braintree Boxing Club, Braintree Martial Arts Center (Aikido & Karate), and Braintree Youth Football, all based in the ground's facilities, have continued and all remain resilient and well supported.

The trust has secured funding from the football foundation to improve the grass pitches, this funding will run for 5 years and will make a considerable difference to the quality of the playing areas that we provide.

Allotments

All allotments remain fully occupied and in good use. It has been good to see an area that was in need of restoration become a productive and attractive part of the recreation site. It is proving to be a great outdoor communal space, with a growing waiting list for available allotments.

Braintree Town Fountain

Restoration of the Fountain remains on hold, however it remains a popular area for people to sit and relax. We have changed the formal planted flower beds to wild flower zones which appear to work well.

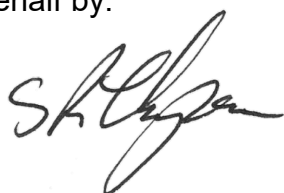
Financial Review

The total funds of the Charity at the year end is £68,289. There are no restricted or designated funds and therefore the available reserves of the Charity is £68,289.

Statement on the Charity's policy on reserves

The Trustees' reviewed the policy on reserves and, in the current financial year, the aim is to maintain a balance of unrestricted funds of no less than 2 months gross payments. Based on 2021-22 payments the minimum reserve for 2022-23 has been set at £13,317. We believe that this will ensure adequate provision for unforeseen circumstances. To date the Charity's reserves have remained well in excess of the desired level of funds but this will always remain under continued scrutiny.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the Charity on 05Feb 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Thompson', written over a horizontal line.

Mr Robert Thompson – Trustee



Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date 06th April 2022	To	Period end date 05th April 2023
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Rents	67,340	-	-	67,340	58,285
Rental Income from Braintree District Council	15,500	-	-	15,500	31,000
Annual Allotment Fee	480	-	-	480	170
Wayleaves	150	-	-	150	150
Interest Income	78	-	-	78	5
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	83,548	-	-	83,548	89,610
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	83,548	-	-	83,548	89,610
A3 Payments					
Accountancy Fees	1,110	-	-	1,110	1,050
Bank Fees	111	-	-	111	106
Equipment Maintenance	2,325	-	-	2,325	3,571
General Expenses	3,268	-	-	3,268	1,479
Insurance	6,645	-	-	6,645	7,092
IT Software and Consumables	516	-	-	516	475
Legal and Professional Fees	2,809	-	-	2,809	3,332
Letting Fees	7,300	-	-	7,300	5,584
Electricity and Gas	2,346	-	-	2,346	1,564
Property Repairs & Maintenance	44,538	-	-	44,538	52,787
Rates	2,059	-	-	2,059	2,861
Sub total	73,027	-	-	73,027	79,901
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Plant and Machinery	550	-	-	550	-
Sub total	550	-	-	550	-
Total payments	73,577	-	-	73,577	79,901
Net of receipts/(payments)	9,971	-	-	9,971	9,709
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	58,318	-	-	58,318	48,609
Cash funds this year end	68,289	-	-	68,289	58,318

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current Account	32,824	-	-
	Base Rate Tracker	35,353	-	-
	Petty Cash	112	-	-
	Total cash funds	68,289	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	N/A	-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Recreation Grounds & Squash Courts		-	-
	Braintree Fountain (St Michaels Road)		-	-
	The Lodge John Ray Street			
	1 & 2 Fountain Cottages, St Michaels Road			
	Leahurst, St Michaels Road			
	2 John Ray Street			
	8 John Ray Street		-	-
	93 Coggeshall Road		-	-
	99 Coggeshall Road		-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Tractor - John Deere		-	-
	Trimax Mower		-	-
	Pitch roller		-	-
	SISIS Tractor Mounted Mega Slit		-	-
	Brushcutter		-	-
	Ride On Mower		-	-
	Laptop		-	-
	Supaturf Line Marking Machine		-	-
	SISIS Sweeper		-	-
	2500 Litre Water Tank		-	-
	JFC Fuel Storage Tank		-	-
	Mower - P Tuckwell		-	-
	Brushcutter - P Tuckwell		-	-
	Hedgetrimmer - P Tuckwell		-	-
	Kombi Head		-	-
	Blower Attachment		-	-
	Pressure Washer		-	-
	Walk Behind Mower - P Tuckwell		-	-
	Fleming TR4 Tipping Trailer		-	-
	MT-01 Tractor Loaded		-	-
	Rotavator & Stone Burier		-	-
	Line Markers		-	-
	John Deere Garden Trailer		-	-
	B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
N/A			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	S R Thompson	05 Feb 24



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Braintree & Bocking Recreation Grounds

**On accounts for the year
ended**

5th April 2023

**Charity no
(if any)**

301262

Set out on pages

1-3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **05/04/2023**.

**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.

Signed:

Date:

05-Feb-24

Name:

Lisa Greenwood

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

FCCA

Address:

Lambert Chapman LLP

3 Warners Mill, Silks Way

Braintree, Essex, CM7 3GB