

BRAZIER TRUST
ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 2023

Brazier Trust

Trustees Annual Report for the Year Ending 31st March 2023

Reference and Administration Details

Charity Name Brazier Trust (Registered as 'Land at the Causeway')

Charity Number 302336

Charity Address The Old Monastery, Windhill, Bishop's Stortford, Herts, CM23 2ND

The Trustee serving during the year and since the year end was as follows:

Bishop's Stortford Town Council

Structure, Governance and Management

Brazier Trust is governed by Conveyance and Deed of Exchange.

The Trustee administers the charity and meets quarterly.

Objects and Activities

The gift of a piece of land to the Urban District Council in 1928 by Joe Brazier forms what is now the Link Road Car Park (leased to East Herts Council) and part of the Town Meads in Bishop's Stortford. The gift created a charitable trust, which is administered by the Town Council. The object of the trust is to apply the income of the Charity in the maintenance and upkeep of the property of the Charity and apply any excess as seen fit for the general benefit of the inhabitants of Bishop's Stortford.

Achievements and Performance

This is detailed in the attached report by the Chief Executive Officer of Bishop's Stortford Town Council, the sole Corporate Trustee.

Financial Review

Brazier Trust maintains reserves in an instant access savings account in order to fund its day to day operation, with the balance held in a 90 day notice account achieving a higher rate of interest. No funds are in deficit.

Independent Examiners Report to the Trustees of Brazier Trust

I report on the accounts of the Trust (Charity No. 302336) for the year ending 31st March 2023, which are set out on pages 4 and 5.

Respective responsibilities of Trustee and Examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiners 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 present 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 Examiners Statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

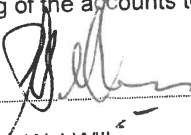
- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I 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

Print Name

Address


Stuart W J Wilbur

10 Downland Road
Calne
Wiltshire
SN11 0ET

Dated 29.06.2023

Brazier Trust

Receipts and Payments For the Year Ending 31st March 2023

			2023	2022
	Restricted Fund	Unrestricted Fund	Total Funds	Total Funds
Receipts				
Rent Received		42,495	42,495	38,986
Interest Received		2,533	2,533	829
Donation	10,500		10,500	10,500
VAT Receipts		8,499	8,499	7,797
Total Receipts	10,500	53,527	64,027	58,112
Payments				
Allocated Staff Costs		13,581	13,581	13,081
Maintenance of Grounds		3,979	3,979	5,429
Play Area Maintenance		2,123	2,123	6,744
Tree Works		1,500	1,500	
Professional Fees		60	60	60
Grants	10,500	68,345	78,845	16,573
VAT Payments		8,324	8,324	7,769
Total Payments	10,500	97,912	108,412	49,656
Net Receipts/(Payments)		(44,385)	(44,385)	8,456
Cash Funds from Last Year End		126,899	126,899	118,443
Cash Funds this Year End		82,514	82,514	126,899

Brazier Trust

Statement of Assets and Liabilities For the Year Ending 31st March 2023

		2023	2022
	Restricted Fund	Total Funds	Total Funds
Cash Funds			
Lloyds Bank		8,751	54,776
Saffron Building Society		73,763	72,123
		82,514	126,899

Other Monetary Assets

Monies Due to Charity at 31/03

Liabilities

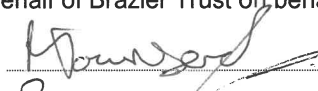
Monies Owed by Charity at 31/03 8,688 7,342

Investment Assets

None

Approved for and on Behalf of Brazier Trust on behalf of the Trustee

Signed



Dated

09/10/2023

Print Name

Richard Townsend

Signed



Dated

06/11/2023

Print Name

MIRIAM SWAINSTON

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 2023

BRAZIER TRUST

REPORT BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The gift of a piece of land to the Urban District Council in 1928 by Joe Brazier forms what is now the Link Road car park and part of the Town Meads. The gift created a Charitable Trust, which is administered by the Town Council. The object of the Trust is to maintain the open space for the benefit of the public; any surplus income is distributed for the general benefit of the inhabitants of Bishop's Stortford. Neither the expenditure nor income of the Trust forms part of the Town Council's overall finances.

The Trust benefits from the rent derived from the lease of the Link Road Car Park to the District Council. The fee is index linked and for the 2022-2023 year stood at £42,495 (excluding VAT).

Following the disruption caused by the Covid pandemic, activities on the field have returned to normal. The summer 2022 Carnival/Fun day was very popular, and several other events took place.

FUNDS

The Trust commenced the year with a fund balance of £126,899. During the year it reimbursed the Town Council for the maintenance of the land carried out on its behalf, which included grass cutting, adventure playground and skate park maintenance and litter picking. At the time of writing the year end bank balance is projected to be approximately £87,115, of which £50,000 is committed to a contribution to the improvements at Sworders Field which form part of the 'Castle Park' project.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

The Trust awards grants to voluntary and charitable organisations and set aside £41,500 for this in 2022-2023. In addition, it received a donation of £10,500 from the Town Council to top up the 'grants budget' for a total of £52,000. This donation from the Town Council substitutes for a grant allocation of the same size which, in former years, was distributed directly by the Town Council and the effect is to bring together the two allocations into a single fund which can therefore award larger grants and deal with applications more effectively. The grants policy and an application form are available from the Council website: www.bishopsstortfordtc.gov.uk/grants.

A number of applications were received during the year and a total of £39,865 was awarded, since the previous report in 2022, to:

Bishop's Stortford Arts Society
Bishop's Stortford District Scouts
Bishop's Stortford Youth Project
Bishop's Wellbeing
East Herts Community Safety Partnership
Isabel Hospice

Bishop's Stortford Social Club
Clock Cricket
Company at Christmas
Grange Paddocks Junior Parkrun
Herts and Soul Choir
Stortford Archery Club
1st St Michaels Scout Troop
Aspects
Herts Musical Memories
SOSA
St Michael's Society of Change Ringers

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The Brazier Trust land is immediately adjacent to Sworders Field and to Castle Gardens (the latter owned by East Herts District Council). Since 2016 the Town Council has been working with East Herts District Council and the Countryside Management Service (CMS) on an ambitious plan to improve the facilities on these linked pieces of land. The application for lottery support was successful and a grant of approximately £M2.54 has been secured for the implementation phase. The estimated total project cost is £M3.8, the balance is made up by contributions from the project partners, S106 funds and a contribution of £50,000 from Brazier Trust.

The project will provide a major enhancement to the park, and to the Brazier Trust land, whilst retaining its character and use. The works on site commenced late in 2022 with the rebuild of the skatepark. Unfortunately, the appointed contractors went into liquidation part way through the work, causing a delay. New contractors have been selected, the works are progressing at speed, and it is hoped that they will be complete around the end of March 2023. Throughout the build the skating community has been involved; the Trust and Council thank them for their valuable contribution.

In addition, work has commenced on the path around the field, which includes the Brazier Trust land, and the construction of the new tennis courts, a corner of which is on Brazier Trust land, has been completed. Other parts of the project, not affecting the Brazier Trust land, are also progressing well; landscaping around the war memorial has largely been completed and the conversion of the Toilet Block on the Causeway into a community centre is underway. The works overall will continue into the early part of 2024.

Preparations for the planned BMX track, to be sited adjacent to the tennis courts, have continued. The drainage design (which is key and which links to the drainage for the skate park) has been completed as has the detailed design of the profiling required to create the track. Because the design has changed to accommodate the drainage requirements and the consultation responses, a revised planning consent will be required. The application will be submitted early in 2023. Until this has been considered by the District Council it is not possible to give a date for the commencement of the build.

James Parker
Chief Executive Officer