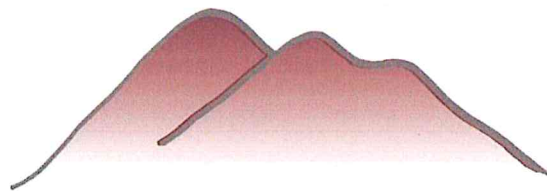


Hope Park Charitable Trust
Report of the Directors and Trustees
and Financial Statements for the year ended
31 March 2025



K e s w i c k
A C C O U N T A N T S

Hope Park Charitable Trust

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for the year ended
31 March 2025**

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Hope Park Charitable Trust

**Charity Information
for the year ended
31 March 2025**

**DIRECTORS
AND
TRUSTEES:**

Cllr A L Dunn
Cllr N Evans
Cllr S Harwood
Cllr C J Houghton
Cllr C M Houghton
Cllr D J T Kemp
Cllr B R Lapthorn
Cllr J Murray
Cllr R Nelson
Cllr C Peat
Cllr R Scott
Cllr L J Taylor

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:

Miss Vivien Little

BUSINESS ADDRESS

50 Main Street
Keswick
Cumbria
CA12 5JS

CHARITY NUMBER:

503465

**ACCOUNTANT AND
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER**

Frances Clark ACA
Keswick Accountants
Appleside
4 Leonard Street
Keswick
Cumbria
CA12 4EJ

Hope Park Charitable Trust

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 31 March 2025

The Trustees present their report together with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, and the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Governing Document

The Hope Park Trust is a charitable Trust governed by a trust Deed dated 10 June 1974.

Objectives

The provision and maintenance of a public park and recreation ground for use of the inhabitants of, and visitors to, the town of Keswick without the distinction of political, religious or other opinions, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants.

Trustees

The Trustees who acted during the period were as follows:

Cllr A L Dunn
Cllr N Evans – co-opted November 2024
Cllr S Harwood
Cllr C J Houghton
Cllr C M Houghton
Cllr D J T Kemp
Cllr S Lansbury – resigned September 2024
Cllr B R Lapthorn
Cllr J Murray
Cllr R Nelson
Cllr T M Parsons – resigned January 2025
Cllr A G Paxon – resigned June 2024
Cllr C Peat – co-opted July 2024
Cllr R Scott – co-opted March 2025
Cllr L J Taylor

Management Structure

In 1974 Keswick Town Council was conveyed the Park on trust for the people of Keswick. It is therefore a given that once democratically elected as a Town Councillor, the duty of Trustee forms part of that role. The recruitment process is therefore according to the Local Government Act 1972; Representation of the People Act 1983 as amended by the Representation of the People Act 1985, and Local Elections (Parishes and Communities) Rules 1986, amended 1999.

Hope Park Charitable Trust

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 March 2025

Review of the Development, Activities and Achievements of the Charity

During the year the Trust carried on with its objectives of running and maintaining the park for the benefit of the people of Keswick. The running of the games and refreshment facilities were provided by a third party contractor.

Visitors to Hope Park can enjoy magnificent floral displays, putting, pitch and putt, obstacle golf and boules, visit the bird viewing station, sundial and have a drink or snack in Café Hope in wonderful surroundings. The Park has plenty seating most of which has been kindly donated in memory of loved ones.

Hope Park is home to the Max the Miracle Dog statue which provides income to the park, so far this fund has been used to make improvements to many footpaths, a new handrail for a bridge and new equipment to keep the park maintained to a high standard. This fund is restricted to expenditure in Hope Park only.

The Trust has made a number of steps to address climate change including declaring a Climate Change Emergency. What the Trust have done so far:-

- Use only peat free compost
- Use glyphosate free weed killer
- Gradually introducing more bee friendly plants
- Led a campaign asking retailers not to stock disposable BBQs and have prohibited use in our Parks
- Worked with partners to coordinate the control of Balsam
- Changed to 100% renewable energy suppliers
- Invested the majority of our reserves in Ethical Banks
- Replaced petrol equipment with electric as and when they need replacing
- Use lower carbon fuel for the remaining petrol equipment
- Have a Climate Change Action Plan in place which is regularly updated
- All staff have been given Climate and Carbon Literacy training

A Woodland Path has been introduced to improve accessibility to the Park via grant funding. The fantastic work undertaken by the Parks and Café staff was acknowledged as they were given well deserved accolades from Cumbria in Bloom obtaining gold and silver awards.

During the year the old workshop was demolished, a new surface water drain installed along with a fence to help demark and secure the working area plus prevent members of the public from entering. New steps were built between the 7th green and 8th tee box to improve access to the tee box.

Hope Park Charitable Trust

Report of the Trustees, contd. for the year ended 31 March 2025

Finances

During the year the Trust had net outgoing resources of £82,405 (incoming resources 2024 - £65,610). The main reason for the significant difference in comparison with the previous year is the grant of £110,000 to Fitz Park Trust. When added to brought forward reserves of £846,610, the closing reserves were £764,205. Of this, £525,214 are fixed assets, including the value of the cafe and new staff accommodation and equipment. The year end revenue fund balance is £238,991 of which £84,899 are designated funds and £1,888 are restricted funds.

Trustees and officers are currently working on short, medium and long-term plans.

Reserves Policy

The Trust has £152,204 of unrestricted revenue reserves. Ideally the level of reserves would represent 3 months of the previous years running costs which is in the region of £40,000. The total of unrestricted reserves is £677,418 (this includes fixed assets of £525,214). Further reserves are held in designated funds, the Building Fund £9,449 and Development & Equipment Fund £31,068. These funds are held due to unforeseen circumstances, such as flooding or other natural disaster to cover uninsurable losses e.g. open space, as well as provision for ongoing improvements and upgrades of the Trusts equipment and assets (including buildings). The Building Fund is allocated to Hope Park only whereas the Development and Equipment Fund can be used in either Hope or Fitz Park, the funds are 'topped up' annually from the previous years profit, no cap has been set for these funds although this may be addressed during the short, medium and long term planning exercise.

Investment Policy

The building fund and development and equipment fund earn interest during the year, along with any reserves held. As part of addressing climate change the Trust decided to invest some unrestricted reserves into Ethical Banks (CCLA & Unity Bank) earning a higher rate in interest.

Risk Assessment

An annual risk assessment is carried out identifying insurance and other risks, current arrangements for managing these and any other action required. Insurances are put in place where possible to mitigate any financial losses.



ON BEHALF OF THE TRUSTEES

Hope Park Charitable Trust

Independent Examiners Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

I report on the accounts for the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 5 - 13.

Respective responsibilities of trustees 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(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act), and that an independent examiners report is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 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 examiners report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with these 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiners' 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 s130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.

Frances Clark ACA
Keswick Accountants
Appleside
4 Leonard Street
Keswick
Cumbria CA12 4EJ

Hope Park Charitable Trust

**Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended
31 March 2025**

		31 March 2025				31 March 2024
	Notes	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Total £	Total £
INCOME						
Donations and legacies						
Donations and gifts	3	-	266	4,277	4,543	9,140
Legacies receivable	4	-	-	1,040	1,040	1,577
Grants receivable	5	-	-	-	-	1,073
Other Trading Activities	6	-	205,243	-	205,243	197,509
Income from investments	7	-	7,511	-	7,511	3,350
Total income		-	213,020	5,317	218,337	212,649
EXPENDITURE						
Expenditure on charitable activities	8	305	296,317	4,120	300,742	147,039
Total expenditure		305	296,317	4,120	300,742	147,039
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources		(305)	(83,297)	1,197	(82,405)	65,610
Net movement in funds		(305)	(83,297)	1,197	(82,405)	65,610
Total funds brought forward		2,193	726,100	118,317	846,610	781,000
Transfers between funds		-	34,615	(34,615)	-	-
Total funds carried forward	15	1,888	677,418	84,899	764,205	846,610
Funds carried forward as follows:-						
Revenue Funds		1,888	152,204	84,899	238,991	328,343
Fixed Asset Funds		-	525,214	-	525,214	518,267
		1,888	677,418	84,899	764,205	846,610

The notes form part of these financial statements

Hope Park Charitable Trust

**Statement of Financial Activities
Comparative
31 March 2024**

	31 March 2024			
	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Total £
INCOME				
Donations and legacies				
Donations and gifts	-	489	8,651	9,140
Legacies receivable	-	-	1,577	1,577
Grants receivable	1,073	-	-	1,073
Income from charitable activities				
Primary Purpose Trading	-	197,509	-	197,509
Income from investments	-	3,264	86	3,350
Total income	1,073	201,262	10,314	212,649
EXPENDITURE				
Expenditure on charitable activities	1,263	145,728	48	147,039
Total expenditure	1,263	145,728	48	147,039
Net incoming / (outgoing) resources	(190)	55,534	10,266	65,610
Total funds brought forward	5,333	683,526	92,141	781,000
Transfers between funds	(2,950)	(12,960)	15,910	-
Total funds carried forward	2,193	726,100	118,317	846,610
Funds carried forward as follows:-				
Revenue Funds	2,193	207,833	118,317	328,343
Fixed Asset Funds	-	518,267	-	518,267
	2,193	726,100	118,317	846,610

The notes form part of these financial statements

Hope Park Charitable Trust

Balance Sheet
as at
31 March 2025

	Notes	31 March 2025		31 March 2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible fixed assets	12		525,214		518,267
			<hr/>		<hr/>
			525,214		518,267
Current Assets					
Debtors	13	145		53	
Cash at bank and in hand		290,693		369,358	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
		290,838		369,411	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year					
Creditors and accruals	14	51,847		41,068	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
Net Current Assets			238,991		328,343
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			764,205		846,610
			<hr/>		<hr/>
NET ASSETS			764,205		846,610
			<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>
Funds					
Restricted funds	15	1,888		2,193	
Unrestricted funds		677,418		726,100	
Designated funds		84,899		118,317	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
	16		764,205		846,610
			<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

As Approved on: 10TH JULY 2025

By: 

Hope Park Charitable Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

1 Accounting Policies

General

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). The charity meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note (s).

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

All tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Freehold land and buildings are maintained in a good state of repair and in the opinion of the Trustees the realisable value of the land and buildings is not less than the book value. Consequently no depreciation has been provided on freehold land and buildings. All other assets are depreciated at the following rates:-

Vehicles, plant and machinery - 20% reducing balance

Income

Income is accounted for on a receivable basis. Where income is received for a specific purpose, as defined by the donor, this income is classed as restricted. Income received towards the general objects of the charity is classed as unrestricted.

Expenditure

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. Where it relates to a specific project it is allocated to that project as restricted expenditure. Expenditure that relates to the objects of the charity is classified as charitable activities. Any legal or professional costs are classified as governance costs. The costs of generating funds are separately identified.

Funds

General funds are those where no restrictions have been placed upon the specific spending of the funds by the donor. Designated funds are those funds where the directors have chosen to earmark general funds for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are those funds where the donation is received for a specific purpose as set out by the donor.

2 Payment to Accountants

The payment to the accounts included in the expenditure is split as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Payment for preparation of accounts	590	575
Payment for Independent Examination	340	325
	<u>930</u>	<u>900</u>

Hope Park Charitable Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

	31 March 2025				31 March 2024
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £	£
3 Donations and gifts					
Donations	-	266	4,277	4,543	9,140
	-	266	4,277	4,543	9,140
4 Legacies receivable					
Memorial Seats	-	-	1,040	1,040	1,577
	-	-	1,040	1,040	1,577
5 Grants receivable					
Cumbria County Council	-	-	-	-	1,073
	-	-	-	-	1,073
6 Other trading activities					
License fee and rent	-	204,068	-	204,068	196,030
Squirrel / bird feeding station income	-	312	-	312	397
Sale of assets / scrap	-	113	-	113	135
Hire of park	-	750	-	750	947
	-	205,243	-	205,243	197,509
7 Investment income					
Bank interest received	-	7,511	-	7,511	3,350
	-	7,511	-	7,511	3,350
8 Charitable activities					
Grant to Fitz Park	-	110,000	-	110,000	-
Staff costs and uniforms	-	88,045	-	88,045	61,642
KTC recharge of admin costs (see note 9)	-	29,831	-	29,831	28,239
Health and safety costs	-	351	-	351	441
Telephone	-	488	-	488	463
Web, internet and computer	-	898	-	898	1,379
Golf equipment and tools	-	779	-	779	439
Motor vehicle expenses	-	3,812	-	3,812	3,807
Contingency	-	2,436	-	2,436	-
Water rates and trade refuse	-	1,770	-	1,770	1,237
Insurance	-	3,761	-	3,761	3,419
Repairs and maintenance	-	12,563	-	12,563	13,867
Climate change costs	-	361	-	361	628
Light and heat	-	842	-	842	3,718
Plant production, trees and bird feed	-	7,476	-	7,476	6,856
Memorial seats and plaques	-	-	120	120	48
Materials	-	1,185	-	1,185	1,309
Equipment costs	-	-	-	-	1,073
Max statue expenditure	-	-	3,000	3,000	-
Woodland walk expenditure	305	-	-	305	190
Signs expense	-	20	-	20	400
Development costs	-	-	1,000	1,000	1,000
Building fund expenditure	-	18,070	-	18,070	-
<i>Depreciation</i>					
Plant and machinery	-	9,646	-	9,646	5,809
Fixtures and Fittings	-	1,148	-	1,148	1,283
Motor Vehicles	-	7,731	-	7,731	9,664
Office Equipment	-	131	-	131	164
Loss / (Profit) on disposal of fixed assets	-	(5,957)	-	(5,957)	(936)
Independent Examiners Fee	-	930	-	930	900
	305	296,317	4,120	300,742	147,039

Hope Park Charitable Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

9 Breakdown of Keswick Town Council Recharges

	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
	£	£
Salaries, National insurance and Pension	24,319	22,484
Pension to Former Employee	337	313
Staff Expenses	41	33
Payroll Outsource Costs	48	44
Rent	1,414	1,414
Building Service Costs	1,280	1,564
Insurance	166	178
Repairs	47	129
Subscriptions	201	214
Stationery and Printing	129	137
Postage	43	67
Photocopier Lease and Charges	365	328
Computer Maintenance	795	671
Website and Internet Costs	250	232
Telephone	146	239
Health and Safety	20	3
Office Equipment and Fittings	16	24
Council Chamber Expenditure	27	6
Conferences / Training	185	159
	<u>29,829</u>	<u>28,239</u>

10 Employee Remuneration

Staff costs and uniforms

	31 March 2025	31 March 2024
Gross salaries	85,623	59,715
Other staff and recruitment costs	204	446
Training and workwear	2,218	1,481
	<u>88,045</u>	<u>61,642</u>

No employee earned £60,000 or more.

The average number of staff employed by the trust during the year was as follows;

	31 March 2025 No.	31 March 2024 No.
Staff numbers		
Gardeners and groundsmen	2.70	2.70
Administration	0.40	0.40
	<u>3.10</u>	<u>3.10</u>

11 Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

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.

No reimbursement of expenses has been made or is due to be made to any of the trustees in respect of the year.

Hope Park Charitable Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended
31 March 2025

12 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Land and Buildings £	Plant and Machinery £	Fixtures and Fittings £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
COST					
At 1 April 2024	450,589	56,795	30,113	64,600	602,097
Additions	-	28,541	605	-	29,146
Disposals	-	12,734	-	0	(12,734)
At 31 March 2025	450,589	72,602	30,718	64,600	618,509
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2024	-	32,905	24,980	25,945	83,830
Charge for year	-	9,777	1,148	7,731	18,656
Eliminated on disposals	-	(9,191)	-	0	(9,191)
At 31 March 2025	-	33,491	26,128	33,676	93,295
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2025	450,589	39,111	4,590	30,924	525,214
At 31 March 2024	450,589	23,890	5,133	38,655	518,267

13 Debtors	31 March 2025 £	31 March 2024 £
Other debtors	145	53
	<u>145</u>	<u>53</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	31 March 2025 £	31 March 2024 £
Trade creditors	6,501	2,358
HP Liability	-	-
Other taxation & social security	60	60
Accruals	15,017	8,311
Owed to KTC	30,269	30,339
	<u>51,847</u>	<u>41,068</u>

Hope Park Charitable Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

15 Funds

	At 1 April 2024 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2025 £
Restricted Funds					
CCC Woodland Walk	2,193	-	(305)	0	1,888
	<u>2,193</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(305)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,888</u>
Designated Funds					
Building Fund	26,519	-	-	(17,070)	9,449
Equipment and Development Fund	42,508	-	(1,000)	(10,440)	31,068
Memorial Seats and Trees	2,118	1,040	(120)	(605)	2,433
Max Statue Fund	47,172	4,277	(3,000)	(6,500)	41,949
	<u>118,317</u>	<u>5,317</u>	<u>(4,120)</u>	<u>(34,615)</u>	<u>84,899</u>

Note: the transfers from Memorial Seats and Trees to the general reserves are to cover the cost of fixed asset purchases to be met by those funds, that have been added to the general reserves.

Funds Comparative Year Ended 31 March 2024

	At 1 April 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 31 March 2024 £
Restricted Funds					
CCC Woodland Walk	5,333	-	(190)	(2,950)	2,193
CCC Bike Rack	-	1,073	(1,073)	-	-
	<u>5,333</u>	<u>1,073</u>	<u>(1,263)</u>	<u>- 2,950</u>	<u>2,193</u>
Designated Funds					
Building Fund	15,519	-	-	11,000	26,519
Equipment and Development Fund	33,722	86	-	8,700	42,508
Memorial Seats and Trees	4,379	1,577	(48)	(3,790)	2,118
Max Statue Fund	38,521	8,651	-	-	47,172
	<u>92,141</u>	<u>10,314</u>	<u>(48)</u>	<u>15,910</u>	<u>118,317</u>

Hope Park Charitable Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2025

16 Net Assets by fund

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	525,214	-	525,214
Current assets	1,888	204,051	84,899	290,838
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	(51,847)	-	(51,847)
Total net assets	1,888	677,418	84,899	764,205

Net Assets by fund Comparative Year Ended 31 March 2024

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Designated £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets	-	518,267	-	518,267
Current assets	2,193	248,901	118,317	369,411
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	-	(41,068)	-	(41,068)
Total net assets	2,193	726,100	118,317	846,610