

Worcestershire Archaeological Society

Charity Number: 517092

**Report of the Trustees
And
Financial Statements**

For the Year Ended 30 September 2024

**Kendall Wadley LLP
Chartered Accountants**

MALVERN WORCESTER HEREFORD

Worcestershire Archaeological Society

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Worcestershire Archaeological Society

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 30 September 2024

Reference and administration details

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Status

The organisation became a registered charity - registration number 517092 on 8 January 1986 having been formed on 20 November 1985.

It is governed by a constitution adopted on 20 November 1985 and amended in November 1988, November 2000, September 2001, November 2002 and December 2012.

Charity Name	Worcestershire Archaeological Society
Charity Number	517092
President	The Bishop of Worcester
Chairman	Dr H Loney
Deputy Chairman	Dr M Andrews
Secretary	Dr A Walker
Treasurer	Mrs P Wittenberg
Trustees	M Andrews V Bryant J Dinn V Fletcher (resigned 1 October 2024) H Loney H Merchant-Taylor (appointed 11 March 2024) S Norton R Ruffle V Wagstaff (resigned 11 March 2024) A Walker R Whittaker P Wittenberg
Independent Examiner	Sarah Morley BA (Hons) ACA Kendall Wadley LLP Merevale House 27 Sansome Walk Worcester WR1 1NU
Bankers	Lloyds Plc 4 The Cross Worcester WR1 3PY
Contact Address	Worcestershire Archaeological Society 2 Peacock Close Worcester WR5 3TE

Worcestershire Archaeological Society

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 30 September 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements of the Charity for the year ended 30 September 2024. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 9 and comply with the aims of the Charity and applicable law.

Appointment of Trustees

New Trustees are nominated by the Management Committee and Trustees at the AGM, and are eligible for re-election annually.

The Chairman is only allowed to remain in office for three consecutive years.

Objectives and Activities

To promote for the benefit of the public the study and research of any aspect of archaeology or history relating to the former county of Worcestershire and the surrounding area.

The Chairman's Report gives details of the activities undertaken during the year.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty as required by the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission concerning public benefit requirement.

How the charity has provided public benefit through lectures, excursions etc is outlined in the Chairman's Report.

Financial Review

The net receipts for the year were £1,287. Cash funds at 30 September 2024 were £93,097.

Excursions Account

The excursions account is separate from the Main Account.

The financial target for the Excursions programme is to at least cover all costs. Accumulated surpluses, though remaining within the Society's main accounts, are 'ring fenced' for use in small capital projects improving the services of the Society, e.g. for its Library.

Reserves

The Trustees have agreed that the Society's Reserves should always be sufficient to cover one year's running expenses plus the cost of producing two editions of the Transactions. This is assessed to be £15,000 at the present time.

Worcestershire Archaeological Society

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 30 September 2024

Chairman's Report

The Society continues to fulfil its stated charitable aims through a wide range of activities including winter lectures, summer excursions, publications, the management of its collections, and advocacy for the conservation of and research into the heritage of Worcestershire.

Membership

The Society had 202 members at the end of September 2024. The Society will take opportunities to increase membership as they arise, for example by continuing to support community projects which brings the work of the Society to a wider audience and manning a stand at conferences and other events.

Lectures

The lecture programme took place through a combination of face-to-face meetings at the Hive, Sawmill Walk, The Butts, Worcester WR1 3PD, and via Zoom video-conferencing during the winter months.

The 2023-2024 lecture season was put together by the Programme Secretary, James Dinn, and ranged widely over the archaeology and history of the county and beyond:

'Who was then the gentleman?' The lives and agency of Worcestershire's medieval peasants.

Rob Hedges (University of Leicester)

The Birmingham Jewellery Quarter and its manufactories

Toni Demidowicz

Dorstone Hill and Arthur's Stone: A Neolithic landscape in Herefordshire

Professor Julian Thomas (The University of Manchester)

Local Architects of the southern Black Country, 1890-1939

Andy Foster

Recent discoveries reported to the Portable Antiquities Scheme from Worcestershire

Victoria Allnatt

Civil War archaeology at Hartlebury Castle

Tim Cornah (WAAS)

Roots in time: excavation of Iron Age and Roman settlements near Evesham

Nina O'Hare/Emma Hancox (WAAS)

Medieval stained glass in Herefordshire and its Worcestershire connections

Robert Walker

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, followed by: ***'Hard work – but glorious: Herefordshire and Worcestershire suffrage stories'***

Clare Wichbold

Honour in the eyes of others? Pseudo-heraldic shield motifs in historic church graffiti and medieval personal seals

Vicky Fletcher (WAAS)

THE BERKELEY LECTURE

The contribution of Worcester to Mercian literary production

Dr Christine Rauer (The University of St Andrews)

Excursions

The 2023-2024 excursions were organized by Bob Ruffle.

In the summer of 2024, we ran the following excursions:

- E W Elmslie: Rediscovering a C19 Malvern Architect – led by Mike Pritchard
- A Summer Afternoon at Harvington – guided tour by Harvington Hall
- Georgian Churches in North Worcestershire – led by Tim Bridges
- Architects of the Southern Black Country: A Stourbridge Sample – led by Andy Foster

Publications

Dr Shelagh Norton is currently editor of the Society's *Transactions*. Volume 29, which is the centenary edition, was published and distributed in November 2024. Dr Norton has successfully found a new publisher for the *Transactions*, after the previous publishers retired.

Dr Murray Andrews continues to edit the *Recorder* newsletter. He is also editor of the *Festschrift* volume in honour of Robin Whittaker, due out shortly.

Other Matters

The revamped Society website became available in 2023, and the expenses of the website were finalised.

A WAS library subcommittee was formed as a liaison with the HIVE library, and are in the process of developing a plan to make the current WAS collection more available to members.

Money was contributed to WAAS to support an Archaeology Careers insight weekend.

Promotional materials were purchased to accompany committee members to events as possible recruitment tools.

The digitisation of the *Transactions* has been delayed until this year, where costings and a proposal will be developed.

Funding was provided for radiocarbon dates for 'The Body on the Bromyard Line' project, led by Aidan Smythe, Wychavon District Council.

Conclusion

All the Officers and the Committee of the Society continue to undertake their responsibilities with willingness, and to go out of their way to help with promoting and supporting archaeology and local history in Worcestershire. I am very grateful for their support and that of the many members who play an active part in undertaking essential tasks in support of the Society.



Dr H Loney
Chairman

Date 21 January 2025

Worcestershire Archaeological Society

Report of the Trustees for the year ended 30 September 2024

Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Law applicable to Charities in England & Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing these 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 UK accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements,
- . prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable law and regulations. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Worcestershire Archaeological Society

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Worcestershire Archaeological Society on the accounts for the year ended 30 September 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the 2011 Act and that an independent examination is needed.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity'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.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with 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 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

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.



Sarah Morley ACA

Date 21 January 2025

**Kendall Wadley LLP
Merevale House
27 Sansome Walk
Worcester
WR1 1NU**

Worcestershire Archaeological Society

Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ended 30 September 2024

Receipts	Unrestricted Funds 2024	Designated Funds 2024	Restricted Funds 2024	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Subscriptions	4,250	-	-	4,250	4,646
Grant: Test Pitting Project	-	-	-	-	30,716
General donations	250	-	-	250	-
Gift Aid	642	-	-	642	641
Interest	2,954	-	-	2,954	1,619
Contribution to Storage Costs	382	-	-	382	382
Excursion Income	947	-	-	947	892
Transactions Income	643	-	-	643	1,788
Legacy E Kay	-	-	-	-	170
	10,068	-	-	10,068	40,854
Payments					
Room Hire	879	-	-	879	727
Speakers	380	-	-	380	-
Donation (St John's School, Bromsgrove)	-	-	-	-	880
Archaeology Careers Insight	750	-	-	750	-
Weekend contribution	-	-	-	-	-
Grants awarded	-	-	-	-	243
Stationery Postage & Printing	549	-	-	549	882
Recorder Printing	301	-	-	301	672
Transactions Printing	716	-	-	716	6,369
Storage Costs	835	-	-	835	763
Subscriptions	352	-	-	352	353
Test Pitting Expenditure	-	-	-	-	31,093
New Website	-	-	2,036	2,036	-
Independent Examiner's Fee	360	-	-	360	360
Excursions : Expenditure	878	-	-	878	849
Sundries	745	-	-	745	300
	6,745	-	2,036	8,781	43,491
Net Receipts/(Payments)	3,323	-	(2,036)	1,287	(2,637)
Cash funds last year end	34,340	4,307	53,163	91,810	94,447
Cash funds this year end	37,663	4,307	51,127	93,097	91,810

Worcestershire Archaeological Society

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

For the year ended 30 September 2024

Assets	2024 £	2023 £
<u>Cash at Bank</u>		
Lloyds Business Account	7,747	8,065
Lloyds Instant Access Account	17,519	16,020
Lloyds Treasurers Account	9,199	9,129
Lloyds Fixed Term Deposit Accounts	30,000	30,000
COIF Treasurers Account	28,500	28,500
Petty Cash	132	96
	<u>93,097</u>	<u>91,810</u>

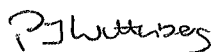
We approve the Receipts and Payments Account:

Signed on behalf of the Trustees



Dr H Loney
Chairman

Date 21 January 2025



Mrs P Wittenberg
Treasurer

Date 21 January 2025

Worcestershire Archaeological Society

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ended 30 September 2024

1 Accounting Policies

General

The accounts have been prepared on the receipts and payments basis in accordance with the Charity Commission guide (CC16).

2 Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

No remuneration or expenses were paid or payable for the year to any trustee or any person or persons known to be connected with any of them.

3 Donated Services

The value of the volunteers' time is too difficult to estimate with any degree of accuracy, and has therefore been excluded.

4 Movement in Cash Funds

	At 1 Oct 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Outgoing Resources £	Transfers £	At 30 Sept 2024 £
Unrestricted Funds					
General	34,340	10,068	(6,745)	-	37,663
	34,340	10,068	(6,745)	-	37,663
Designated Funds					
Raymer Research Fund	4,307	-	-	-	4,307
Restricted Funds					
Kay Trust	3,374	-	(2,036)	-	1,338
Greyfriars Dendrochronology	300	-	-	-	300
E Kay Legacy	49,489	-	-	-	49,489
	53,163	-	(2,036)	-	51,127
Total	91,810	10,068	(8,781)	-	93,097

5 Related Party Transactions

There were no related party transactions during the year.