

Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society

Northern Ireland · Charity number 100817

Details

Known as	BNHPS or Belfast Society
Status	Received
Registered	2015-06-23
Register	View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register

Contact

Address	Larch House 160 Ballylesson Road Belfast BT8 8ju BT8 8JU
Phone	02890827030
Website	www.belfastsociety.org

Activities

Purposes: the promotion of learning and research in the Arts and Sciences, and in History and Literature, by the maintenance of a museum in the City of Belfast or its neighbourhood, and by such other means as the Society may from time to time deem it advisable to adopt.

What the charity does: The advancement of education, The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

How the charity works: Arts, Education/training, Heritage/historical, Research/evaluation

Who the charity helps: General public, Voluntary and community sector

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-10-31	£8,244	£7,728	£0	0
2024-10-31	£8,119	£12,342	£0	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anne Davies		
Colin Gowdy		
Dr Briony Widdis		
Dr Gerry Cleary		
Dr William Roulston		
Karen Mcknight		
Mr Marcus Patton		
Mr Trevor Parkhill		
Mrs Carol Bardon		
Mrs Winifred Glover		
Ms Angelique Day		
Ms Rosana Trainor		
Professor Alun Evans		
Professor Brian Walker		

Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100817

Accounts

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Income and endowments from:							
Charitable activities	3	8,066	-	8,066	7,857	-	7,857
Other income	4	178	-	178	262	-	262
Total income		8,244	-	8,244	8,119	-	8,119
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	5	7,728	-	7,728	12,342	-	12,342
Total expenditure		7,728	-	7,728	12,342	-	12,342
Net income/(expenditure) and movement in funds		516	-	516	(4,223)	-	(4,223)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 November 2024		316,860	129	316,989	321,083	129	321,212
Fund balances at 31 October 2025		317,376	129	317,505	316,860	129	316,989

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

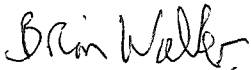
BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		300,000		300,000
Current assets					
Debtors	10	4,528		4,184	
Cash at bank and in hand		14,779		13,720	
		<u>19,307</u>		<u>17,904</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(1,802)</u>		<u>(915)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>17,505</u>		<u>16,989</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>317,505</u>		<u>316,989</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	12		129		129
Unrestricted funds	13		317,376		316,860
			<u>317,505</u>		<u>316,989</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 08/04/26



B Walker
Trustee

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Belfast Natural History & Philosophical Society is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI).

1.1 Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)".

The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Tangible fixed assets include a property which is considered a heritage asset. It is the Charity's policy to maintain the property in a state of good repair, therefore no depreciation is necessary. The Trustees consider that the value stated in the accounts reflects the fair value of the building as at 31st October 2025

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	0%
Computer equipment	25% straight line
Alarm system	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Income 2025 £	Unrestricted Income 2024 £
Members' subscription and donations	2,883	3,510
Rent	5,183	3,727
Book Sales	-	620
	<u>8,066</u>	<u>7,857</u>

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

4 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Bank Interest Received	<u>178</u>	<u>262</u>

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £
Direct costs		
Repairs and maintenance	994	5,846
Insurance	4,812	4,259
Rates and water	334	361
Printing and stationery	385	220
Lecture fees and expenses	359	307
Independent examination fee	820	780
Ground rent	24	24
Membership fees	-	330
Event expenses	-	215
	<u>7,728</u>	<u>12,342</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>7,728</u>	<u>12,342</u>

6 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

7 Employees

There were no employees.

8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Computer equipment £	Alarm system £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 November 2024	300,000	2,350	1,832	304,182
At 31 October 2025	300,000	2,350	1,832	304,182
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 November 2024	-	2,350	1,832	4,182
At 31 October 2025	-	2,350	1,832	4,182
Carrying amount				
At 31 October 2025	<u>300,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300,000</u>
At 31 October 2024	<u>300,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300,000</u>

The valuation of land and buildings with a carrying amount of £300,000 was determined by the Trustees on the basis of rental income.

At 31 October 2025, had the revalued assets been carried at historic cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses.

10 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	571	299
Other debtors	3,957	3,885
	<u>4,528</u>	<u>4,184</u>

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	315	135
Other creditors	667	-
Accruals and deferred income	820	780
	<u>1,802</u>	<u>915</u>

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

12 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

At 1 November 2024	At 31 October 2025
£	£
129	129
<u>129</u>	<u>129</u>

Previous year:

At 1 November 2023	At 31 October 2024
£	£
129	129
<u>129</u>	<u>129</u>

13 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 November 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 October 2025
	£	£	£	£
General funds	316,860	8,244	(7,728)	317,376
	<u>316,860</u>	<u>8,244</u>	<u>(7,728)</u>	<u>317,376</u>

Previous year:

	At 1 November 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 October 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	321,083	8,119	(12,342)	316,860
	<u>321,083</u>	<u>8,119</u>	<u>(12,342)</u>	<u>316,860</u>

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Restricted funds 2025	Total 2025
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 October 2025 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	300,000	-	300,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	17,376	129	17,505
	<u>317,376</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>317,505</u>

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2025

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Fund balances at 31 October 2024 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	300,000	-	300,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	16,860	129	16,989
	<u>316,860</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>316,989</u>

15 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2024 - none).

Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100817

Accounts

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes						
Income and endowments from:							
Charitable activities	3	7,857	-	7,857	8,567	2,306	10,873
Other income	4	262	-	262	278	-	278
Total income		8,119	-	8,119	8,845	2,306	11,151
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities	5	12,342	-	12,342	13,640	8,900	22,540
Total expenditure		12,342	-	12,342	13,640	8,900	22,540
Net expenditure and movement in funds		(4,223)	-	(4,223)	(4,795)	(6,594)	(11,389)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 November 2023		321,083	129	321,212	325,878	6,723	332,601
Fund balances at 31 October 2024		316,860	129	316,989	321,083	129	321,212

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		300,000		300,000
Current assets					
Debtors	10	4,184		7,087	
Cash at bank and in hand		13,720		16,644	
		<u>17,904</u>		<u>23,731</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(915)		(2,519)	
Net current assets			<u>16,989</u>		<u>21,212</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>316,989</u>		<u>321,212</u>
Net assets			<u>316,989</u>		<u>321,212</u>
			=====		=====
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	12		129		129
Unrestricted funds			316,860		321,083
			<u>316,989</u>		<u>321,212</u>
			=====		=====

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on

B. Walker

8/6/25

B Walker
Trustee

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

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1.1 Accounting convention

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The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Tangible fixed assets include a property which is considered a heritage asset. It is the Charity's policy to maintain the property in a state of good repair, therefore no depreciation is necessary. The Trustees consider that the value stated in the accounts reflects the fair value of the building as at 31st October 2023

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	0%
Computer equipment	25% straight line
Alarm system	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Income 2024 £	Unrestricted Income 2023 £	Restricted Income 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Grave restorations	-	-	2,306	2,306
Members' subscription and donations	3,510	3,080	-	3,080
Rent	3,727	4,288	-	4,288
Map sales	-	172	-	172
Book Sales	620	1,027	-	1,027
	<u>7,857</u>	<u>8,567</u>	<u>2,306</u>	<u>10,873</u>
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds	7,857	8,567	-	8,567
Restricted funds	-	-	2,306	2,306
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,306</u>	<u>2,306</u>

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

4 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Bank interest received	262	278

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Direct costs				
Repairs and maintenance	5,846	8,085	-	8,085
Insurance	4,259	3,951	-	3,951
Rates and water	361	320	-	320
Printing and stationery	220	76	-	76
Lecture fees and expenses	307	50	-	50
Independent examination fee	780	780	-	780
Ground rent	24	24	-	24
Membership fees	330	354	-	354
Grave restoration expenses	-	-	5,700	5,700
Book expenses	-	-	3,200	3,200
Event expenses	215	-	-	-
	<u>12,342</u>	<u>13,640</u>	<u>8,900</u>	<u>22,540</u>
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds	12,342	13,640	-	13,640
Restricted funds	-	-	8,900	8,900
	<u>12,342</u>	<u>13,640</u>	<u>8,900</u>	<u>22,540</u>

6 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

7 Employees

There were no employees.

8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

9 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Computer equipment	Alarm system	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 November 2023	300,000	2,350	1,832	304,182
At 31 October 2024	300,000	2,350	1,832	304,182
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 November 2023	-	2,350	1,832	4,182
At 31 October 2024	-	2,350	1,832	4,182
Carrying amount				
At 31 October 2024	300,000	-	-	300,000
At 31 October 2023	300,000	-	-	300,000

10 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	299	3,143
Other debtors	3,885	3,944
	4,184	7,087

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	135	1,739
Accruals and deferred income	780	780
	915	2,519

12 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

At 1 November 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 October 2024
£	£	£	£
129	-	-	129

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

12 Restricted funds (Continued)

Previous year:	At 1 November 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 October 2023
	£	£	£	£
	6,723	2,306	(8,900)	129
	<u>6,723</u>	<u>2,306</u>	<u>(8,900)</u>	<u>129</u>

13 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 November 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 October 2024
	£	£	£	£
General funds	321,083	8,119	(12,342)	316,860
	<u>321,083</u>	<u>8,119</u>	<u>(12,342)</u>	<u>316,860</u>

Previous year:	At 1 November 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 October 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	325,878	8,845	(13,640)	321,083
	<u>325,878</u>	<u>8,845</u>	<u>(13,640)</u>	<u>321,083</u>

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Restricted funds 2024	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 October 2024 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	300,000	-	300,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	16,860	129	16,989
	<u>316,860</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>316,989</u>
	<u>316,860</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>316,989</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 October 2023 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	300,000	-	300,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	21,083	129	21,212
	<u>321,083</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>321,212</u>
	<u>321,083</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>321,212</u>

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2024

15 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2023 - none).

Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100817

Accounts

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Income and endowments from:							
Charitable activities	3	8,567	2,306	10,873	14,470	720	15,190
Other income	4	278	-	278	32	-	32
Total income		8,845	2,306	11,151	14,502	720	15,222
Charitable activities	5	13,640	8,900	22,540	16,822	-	16,822
Net expenditure and movement in funds		(4,795)	(6,594)	(11,389)	(2,320)	720	(1,600)
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 November 2022		325,878	6,723	332,601	328,198	6,003	334,201
Fund balances at 31 October 2023		321,083	129	321,212	325,878	6,723	332,601

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

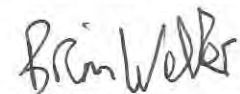
BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9		300,000		300,000
Current assets					
Debtors	10	7,087		4,881	
Cash at bank and in hand		16,644		28,626	
		<u>23,731</u>		<u>33,507</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>2,519</u>		<u>906</u>	
Net current assets			<u>21,212</u>		<u>32,601</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u><u>321,212</u></u>		<u><u>332,601</u></u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	12		129		6,723
Unrestricted funds			<u>321,083</u>		<u>325,878</u>
			<u><u>321,212</u></u>		<u><u>332,601</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 4 June 2024



B Walker
Trustee

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Belfast Natural History & Philosophical Society is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI)..

1.1 Accounting convention

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)".

The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Tangible fixed assets include a property which is considered a heritage asset. It is the Charity's policy to maintain the property in a state of good repair, therefore no depreciation is necessary. The Trustees consider that the value stated in the accounts reflects the fair value of the building as at 31st October 2023

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	0%
Computer equipment	25% straight line
Alarm system	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

3 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Income 2023 £	Restricted Income 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Unrestricted Income 2022 £	Restricted Income 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Grave restorations	-	2,306	2,306	-	720	720
Bicentenary dinner	-	-	-	4,540	-	4,540
Members' subscription and donations	3,080	-	3,080	2,680	-	2,680
Rent	4,288	-	4,288	7,200	-	7,200
Map sales	172	-	172	50	-	50
Book Sales	1,027	-	1,027	-	-	-
	<u>8,567</u>	<u>2,306</u>	<u>10,873</u>	<u>14,470</u>	<u>720</u>	<u>15,190</u>
Analysis by fund						
Unrestricted funds	8,567	-	8,567	14,470	-	14,470
Restricted funds	-	2,306	2,306	-	720	720
	<u>8,567</u>	<u>2,306</u>	<u>10,873</u>	<u>14,470</u>	<u>720</u>	<u>15,190</u>

Note - See page 12 note 12 restricted funds. This shows restricted funds accumulated in previous years totalling £6,723. The breakdown of this is £3,200 for book publication and £3,523 for grave restoration. Together with £2,306 received this year for grave restoration, this provided enough funds to cover the expenditure required.

4 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £
Bank interest received	<u>278</u>	<u>32</u>

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

5 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Direct costs				
Repairs and maintenance				
Insurance	8,085		8,085	6,459
Rates and water	3,951		3,951	3,437
Printing and stationery	320	-	320	473
Lecture fees and expenses	76	-	76	401
Independent examination fee	50	-	50	350
Ground rent	780	-	780	780
Membership fees	24	-	24	24
General expenses	354	-	354	2
Event expenses	-	-	-	(122)
Grave restoration expenses	-	-	-	5,018
Book expenses	-	5,700	5,700	-
		3,200	3,200	-
	<u>13,640</u>	<u>8,900</u>	<u>22,540</u>	<u>16,822</u>
Analysis by fund				
Unrestricted funds	13,640	-	13,640	16,822
Restricted funds	-	8,900	8,900	-
	<u>13,640</u>	<u>8,900</u>	<u>22,540</u>	<u>16,822</u>

Note - See page 12 note 12 restricted funds. This shows restricted funds accumulated in previous years totalling £6,723. The breakdown of this is £3,200 for book publication and £3,523 for grave restoration. Together with the £2,306 received this year for grave restoration, this provided enough funds to cover the expenditure required.

6 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

7 Employees

There were no employees.

8 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

9 Tangible fixed assets	Freehold land and buildings £	Computer equipment £	Alarm system £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 November 2022	300,000	2,350	1,832	304,182
At 31 October 2023	300,000	2,350	1,832	304,182
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 November 2022	-	2,350	1,832	4,182
At 31 October 2023	-	2,350	1,832	4,182
Carrying amount				
At 31 October 2023	<u>300,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300,000</u>
At 31 October 2022	<u>300,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300,000</u>

10 Debtors	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	3,143	1,217
Other debtors	3,944	3,664
	<u>7,087</u>	<u>4,881</u>

11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	1,739	126
Accruals and deferred income	780	780
	<u>2,519</u>	<u>906</u>

12 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

At 1 November 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	At 31 October 2023 £
6,723	2,306	(8,900)	129
<u>6,723</u>	<u>2,306</u>	<u>(8,900)</u>	<u>129</u>

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

12 Restricted funds

(Continued)

Previous year:

At 1 November 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 October 2022
£	£	£	£
6,003	720	-	6,723

13 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 November 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 October 2023
	£	£	£	£
General funds	325,878	8,845	(13,640)	321,083

Previous year:

	At 1 November 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	At 31 October 2022
	£	£	£	£
General funds	328,198	14,502	(16,822)	325,878

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 October 2023 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	300,000	-	300,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	21,083	129	21,212
	<u>321,083</u>	<u>129</u>	<u>321,212</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2022	Restricted funds 2022	Total 2022
	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 October 2022 are represented by:			
Tangible assets	300,000	-	300,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	25,878	6,723	32,601
	<u>325,878</u>	<u>6,723</u>	<u>332,601</u>

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

15 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).

Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100817

Annual report

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 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 2019).

Objectives and activities

Our prime objective has continued to be 'the promotion of learning and research in the arts and sciences, and in history and literature'.

Public benefit

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

Activities

The society organises lectures and events to promote interest in the arts, sciences, history and literature in Belfast and surrounding region. We own the important grade A listed Old Museum Building in College Square North, Belfast, which is let out to a tenant and which we use for our activities.

The work of the society brings various important educational and heritage benefits to the citizens of Belfast and region. The main emphasis recently has been on our lectures which are open to members and the general public. We continue to work to make our grade A listed building accessible to the public. Publications produced by the society and with the Ulster Historical Foundation are still available. We co-operate with other heritage organisations such as the Belfast Naturalist Field Club and Ulster Architectural Heritage.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

Our bicentennial celebrations concluded in the autumn of 2023 with the publication of a history of the BNHPS. This 80 page full colour volume was edited by Angelique Day and William Roulston. The book was launched at a well-attended gathering in the Old Museum Building on 23 November when guest of honour Michael Longley spoke. The grave of our founding president, Dr James Drummond & his third wife, Eliza O'Rourke, has been successfully refurbished following a fund raising effort. A pamphlet on James Drummond written by Alun Evans and William Roulston was published by Mid and East Antrim Council.

Financial review

Membership of the society stands at approximately 100 paid up subscribers, excluding 14 life members and 3 honorary members. We welcomed 13 new paid-up members to the society. The annual 2023/24 subscription was reluctantly raised to £30 in light of the increased running costs for all aspects of the society activities. We had increased expenditure due to essential work which had to be carried out in our building. The costs for our book publication and grave restoration were met with income this year, plus money in restricted funds for this purpose from earlier years. There was a fall in rental income due to the loss of one of our tenants, Kids in Control, at the end of 2022. Income from subscriptions and gifts increased by around 15 per cent.

Plans for future periods

A council sub-committee, chaired by our president, has been active in developing plans for our building's future. It is investigating other potential partners and sources of funding. We are also seeking a tenant to replace Kids in Control.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2023

Structure, governance and management

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

G Cleary

B Collins

(Resigned 5 April 2023)

A Davies

A Day

A Evans

R Froggatt

W Glover

C Harper

R Heslip

(Resigned 5 April 2023)

T Parkhill

M Patton

W Roulston

R Trainor

B Walker

B Widdis

C Gowdy

(Appointed 5 April 2023)

C Bardon

(Appointed 5 April 2023)

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

Our council of 15 elected members met on 4 occasions in person. These 15 elected members serve as trustees for the society. Our executive committee, consisting of the president, secretary, treasurer and programme organizer and vice president, met on various occasions. The annual general meeting of society members was held on 3 April 2024. In April 2023 Brenda Collins and Robert Heslip stood down as council members and trustees. Colin Gowdy and Carol Bardon were elected as the new council members and trustees.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



B Walker

Trustee

4 June 2024

Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100817

Annual return

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Belfast Natural History & Philosophical Society (the charity) for the year ended 31 October 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

In accordance with the terms of my engagement, and to assist you to fulfil your duties under the relevant charity laws and regulations, I have compiled the financial statements of Belfast Natural History & Philosophical Society for the year ended 31 October 2023, set out on pages 5 to 14, from the accounting records and information and explanations you have given to us.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Independent examiner's statement

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Dr R.I. Peters Gallagher OBE
For and on behalf of Moore (N.I.) LLP

4th Floor Donegall House
7 Donegall Square North
Belfast
BT1 5GB

Dated: 4 June 2024

Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100817

Accounts

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
<u>Income and endowments from:</u>						
Charitable activities	3	14,470	720	15,190	11,229	17,232
Other income	4	32	-	32	6	6
Total income		14,502	720	15,222	11,235	17,238
<u>Expenditure on:</u>						
Charitable activities	5	16,822	-	16,822	-	8,716
Net (expenditure)/income for the year/						
Net movement in funds		(2,320)	720	(1,600)	2,519	8,522
Fund balances at 1 November 2021		328,198	6,003	334,201	-	325,679
Fund balances at 31 October 2022		325,878	6,723	332,601	6,003	334,201

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 OCTOBER 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	8		300,000		300,000
Current assets					
Debtors	9	4,881		4,362	
Cash at bank and in hand		28,626		30,769	
		<u>33,507</u>		<u>35,131</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	<u>(906)</u>		<u>(930)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>32,601</u>		<u>34,201</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u><u>332,601</u></u>		<u><u>334,201</u></u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds			6,723		6,003
Unrestricted funds			<u>325,878</u>		<u>328,198</u>
			<u><u>332,601</u></u>		<u><u>334,201</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on

6 June 2023

.....
Brian M. Walker

Trustee

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

Belfast Natural History & Philosophical Society is a charity registered with the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland (CCNI)..

1.1 Accounting convention

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)".

The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Tangible fixed assets include a property which is considered a heritage asset. It is the Charity's policy to maintain the property in a state of good repair, therefore no depreciation is necessary. The Trustees consider that the value stated in the accounts reflects the fair value of the building as at 31st October 2021.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	0%
Computer equipment	25% straight line
Alarm system	25% straight line

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.9 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

3 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Income 2022 £	Restricted Income 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted Income 2021 £	Restricted Income 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Book funding	-	-	-	-	3,203	3,203
Grave restorations	-	720	720	-	2,800	2,800
Bicentenary dinner	4,540	-	4,540	-	-	-
Members' subscription and donations	2,680	-	2,680	2,374	-	2,374
Rent	7,200	-	7,200	7,950	-	7,950
Map sales	50	-	50	905	-	905
	<u>14,470</u>	<u>720</u>	<u>15,190</u>	<u>11,229</u>	<u>6,003</u>	<u>17,232</u>
Analysis by fund						
Unrestricted funds	14,470	-	14,470	11,229	-	11,229
Restricted funds	-	720	720	-	6,003	6,003
	<u>14,470</u>	<u>720</u>	<u>15,190</u>	<u>11,229</u>	<u>6,003</u>	<u>17,232</u>

4 Other income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £
Bank interest received	<u>32</u>	<u>6</u>

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

5 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted expenditure 2022 £	Unrestricted expenditure 2021 £
Repairs and maintenance	6,459	1,727
Insurance	3,437	2,558
Rates and water	473	1,388
Printing and stationery	401	602
Lecture fees and expenses	350	634
Independent examination fee	780	900
Ground rent	24	24
Membership fees	2	681
General expenses	(122)	202
Event expenses	5,018	-
	<u>16,822</u>	<u>8,716</u>
	<u>16,822</u>	<u>8,716</u>

6 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

7 Employees

There were no employees.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Computer equipment £	Alarm system £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 November 2021	300,000	2,350	1,832	304,182
At 31 October 2022	<u>300,000</u>	<u>2,350</u>	<u>1,832</u>	<u>304,182</u>
Depreciation and impairment				
At 1 November 2021	-	2,350	1,832	4,182
At 31 October 2022	<u>-</u>	<u>2,350</u>	<u>1,832</u>	<u>4,182</u>
Carrying amount				
At 31 October 2022	<u>300,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300,000</u>
At 31 October 2021	<u>300,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>300,000</u>

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

9 Debtors		2022	2021
		£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:			
Trade debtors		1,217	350
Other debtors		3,664	4,012
		<u>4,881</u>	<u>4,362</u>

10 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		2022	2021
		£	£
Trade creditors		126	-
Accruals and deferred income		780	930
		<u>906</u>	<u>930</u>

11 Analysis of net assets between funds						
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	
	2022	2022	2022	2021	2021	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 October 2022 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	300,000	-	300,000	300,000	-	300,000
Current assets/(liabilities)	25,878	6,723	32,601	28,198	6,003	34,201
	<u>325,878</u>	<u>6,723</u>	<u>332,601</u>	<u>328,198</u>	<u>6,003</u>	<u>334,201</u>

12 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).

Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100817

Annual report

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 October 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice 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 2019).

Objectives and activities

Our prime objective has continued to be 'the promotion of learning and research in the arts and sciences, and in history and literature'.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

The society organises lectures and events to promote interest in the arts, sciences, history and literature in Belfast and surrounding region. We own the important grade A listed Old Museum Building in College Square North, Belfast, which is let out to two tenants and which we use for our activities.

The work of the society brings various important educational and heritage benefits to the citizens of Belfast and region. The main emphasis recently has been on our lectures which are open to members and the general public. We continue to work to make our grade A listed building accessible to the public. Publications produced by the society and with the Ulster Historical Foundation are still available. We co-operate with other heritage organisations such as the Belfast Naturalist Field Club and Ulster Architectural Heritage.

Achievements and performance

We ran a number of events to celebrate our bicentenary. On 29 July a group of members toured the ancient Nendrum site, Co. Down, where members had visited in 1922. On 22 September a bicentenary dinner was held in the Harbour Commissioners Offices, Belfast, with over 80 guests attending. Michael and Edna Longley were the guests of honour. Work has continued on the refurbishment of the grave of our founding president, Dr James Drummond, in Old Ahoghill Cemetery, and in the preparation of a history of our society.

Financial review

Membership of the society stands at 80 paid up subscribers, plus 14 life members and 2 honorary members. The fall in subscriptions in the first year of the pandemic has not recovered. However, many members continue to support us with their subscriptions, often with additional donations. We are grateful for their financial support and involvement in our activities. The main cause of our operating loss this year has been the greatly increased electricity bill.

Plans for future periods

It is with regret that we said goodbye to our longstanding tenant, Kids in Control, at the end of October 2022. Last year the National Lottery Heritage Fund informed us that our funding application had not been successful. The Ulster Architectural Heritage who were our partners in this project to restore our building have now withdrawn from the partnership. A subcommittee, chaired by our president, has been formed to develop ideas for the building's future. It is investigating other potential partners and sources of funding. This committee will also investigate options for a tenant to replace Kids in Control.

Structure, governance and management

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 OCTOBER 2022

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

G Cleary

B Collins

(Resigned 5 April 2023)

A Davies

A Day

A Evans

R Froggatt

W Glover

C Harper

R Heslip

(Resigned 5 April 2023)

T Parkhill

M Patton

W Roulston

R Trainor

B Walker

B Widdis

C Gowdy

(Appointed 5 April 2023)

C Bardon

(Appointed 5 April 2023)

Our council of 15 elected members met on 4 occasions by zoom. These 15 elected members serve as trustees for the society. Our executive committee, consisting of the president, secretary, treasurer and programme organizer and vice president, met on various occasions. The annual general meeting of society members was held on 5 April 2023. At this AGM Brenda Collins and Robert Heslip stood down as council members and trustees. Colin Gowdy and Carol Bardon were elected as the new council members and trustees.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.


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Trustee

Date:


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Belfast Natural History and Philosophical Society

Northern Ireland - Charity number 100817

Annual return

BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF BELFAST NATURAL HISTORY & PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Belfast Natural History & Philosophical Society (the charity) for the year ended 31 October 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

In accordance with the terms of my engagement, and to assist you to fulfil your duties under the relevant charity laws and regulations, I have compiled the financial statements of Belfast Natural History & Philosophical Society for the year ended 31 October 2021, set out on pages 5 to 12, from the accounting records and information and explanations you have given to us.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Independent examiner's statement

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Moore (N.I.) LLP

Moore (N.I.) LLP

4th Floor Donegall House
7 Donegall Square North
Belfast
BT1 5GB

Dated: 8 JUNE 2023