

BERKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST
(a company limited by guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

REGISTERED OFFICE

Chilton Lodge, Speen Lane, Newbury RG14 1RN

Registered in England and Wales – Company number 6905541

Registered Charity in England and Wales number 1201501

BERKSHIRE GARDENS TRUST
(a company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
including Directors' Report

The trustees have pleasure in submitting their annual report together with the accounts for the year to 31 March 2024.

Objects of the Trust

The Trust was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 14 May 2009 and was registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 5 January 2023. The company's principal activity is to act as an educational charity by promoting the understanding, conservation and enhancement of the parks and gardens of Berkshire.

The directors of the company are the trustees, who decide on all matters of policy through the committee of the trustees.

Accumulated Fund

The net movement in the fund for this accounting year of the company is shown on page 7 of the following accounts. The trustees propose to utilise the fund for further activities in the continuation of the company's objects. The company does not incur any commitments that cannot be satisfied from the fund.

Directors

The directors who were in office during the period covered by this report were:

† Kim Hacker

†† Fiona Hope

††† Deborah James

Bettina Kirkham (Chair)

* Michelle Leek

Alison Mihail

** Siân Sefton (aka Siân Thomas)

*** Hugh Simon (Secretary and Treasurer)

† Resigned 13 February 2024

†† Resigned as Secretary 14 July 2023, remained a Director

††† Resigned 4 September 2023

* Co-opted 19 May 2022, elected 11 October 2023

** Co-opted 6 March 2023, elected 11 October 2023

*** Appointed Secretary 15 July 2023, remained a Director

As the company is limited by guarantee, no directors have any interest in shares of the company.

By Order of the Directors

H A Simon

Hugh Simon

Secretary and Treasurer

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the income and expenditure for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the directors are required

- to select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- to make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- to prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the company and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024**

INCOME & EXPENDITURE

	<i>Note</i>	£ 2024	£ 2023
<u>Incoming Resources</u>			
Donations, bequests and Gift Aid	<i>1c</i>	834.35	3,517.94
Membership subscriptions	<i>1c</i>	1,136.00	1,164.00
Events		3,772.00	3,493.00
Total Incoming Resources		5,742.35	8,174.94
<u>Resources Expended</u>			
Promotion and website		778.42	1,122.68
Publications and research		54.00	52.50
Insurance and memberships		589.40	586.40
Administration and travel		113.90	55.90
Charity Commission application (support and advice)		-	900.00
Events		3,980.90	2,969.58
Depreciation	<i>1d</i>	178.08	178.08
Total Resources Expended		5,694.70	5,865.14
Interest received	<i>3</i>	165.57	27.43
Net incoming resources for year	<i>2</i>	213.22	2,337.23

The notes on pages 6 and 7 form part of these accounts.

There were no gains or losses in the year other than those disclosed above in the income and expenditure account.

The financial statements for the year are prepared on an unmodified historical cost basis.

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BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	Note	£ 2024	£ 2023
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	5	44.88	222.96
<u>Current Assets</u>			
Debtors		593.66	818.55
Stock		46.27	43.96
Prepaid expenditure		-	75.00
Deposit account	3	10,000.00	10,000.00
Cash at bank	4	12,100.45	11,591.46
Total Current Assets		22,740.38	22,528.97
<u>Creditors</u>			
Amounts falling due within one year:			
Deferred income		780.66	960.55
Total Creditors		780.66	960.55
NET CURRENT ASSETS		21,959.72	21,568.42
NET ASSETS		22,004.60	21,791.38
FUNDS			
At start of year		21,791.38	19,454.15
Net incoming resources for year		213.22	2,337.23
ACCUMULATED FUND	6	22,004.60	21,791.38

The notes on pages 6 and 7 form part of these accounts.

For the year to 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the board of directors on 5 July 2024 and signed on their behalf by

B M Kirkham Bettina Kirkham, Chair

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024
(forming part of the financial statements)**

1. Accounting Policies

a) Accounting basis

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

b) Cash flow statement

The company has elected not to prepare a Cash Flow Statement under the exemption granted to small and medium sized companies.

c) Subscriptions and donations received

Subscriptions are receivable for the right to be a member of the Trust; accordingly they are accounted for over the year to which they relate. Donations, bequests and Gift Aid are recognised when received by the Trust.

d) Depreciation

Fixed assets are depreciated at the rate of 20% of cost per annum.

2. Net Income for the Period

This represents the net amount of receipts after provision for all outgoings during the year.

The directors receive no remuneration for their services to the company. Directors are reimbursed for some expenses necessarily incurred in furtherance of the company's objects. There are no employees and consequently there are no staff costs.

3. Deposit Account

	£ 2024	£ 2023
Nationwide Business 95 Day Saver	10,000.00	10,000.00
	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>10,000.00</u>

The deposit account is a variable interest rate account on 95 days' notice at the Nationwide Building Society. During the year interest rate averaged 1.66% (2023 0.03%). Interest is recognised in the year received.

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NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024 (continued)

4. Cash Balances at Bank

	£ 2024	£ 2023
National Westminster Bank current account	12,100.45	11,591.46
	12,100.45	11,591.46

5. Tangible Fixed Assets

	£ Projector and Cable Guards	£ Display Stands, Pull- Up Banner and Sail Flags	£ Total
<i>COST</i>			
At beginning of year	393.00	1,011.72	1,404.72
Purchases	-	-	-
At end of year	393.00	1,011.72	1,404.72
<i>DEPRECIATION</i>			
At beginning of year	314.40	867.36	1,181.76
Charge for year	78.60	99.48	178.08
At end of year	393.00	966.84	1,359.84
NET BOOK VALUE:			
At 31 March 2024	-	44.88	44.88
At 31 March 2023	78.60	144.36	222.96

6. Accumulated Fund

	£ 2024	£ 2023
Opening balance	21,791.38	19,454.15
Net movement in the fund for the year	213.22	2,337.23
	22,004.60	21,791.38