

THE WILTSHIRE VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY TRUST
Registered charity no. 1102882

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2020

Introduction

Each year, the trustees of the charity are required to approve an annual report and accounts prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charity Commission. This document, which must be made available to the public, covers the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Its purpose is to review the charity's activities against the charity's aims and objectives. Specifically, it contains information regarding the charity's trustees and their appointment, constitution, and financial affairs. It also includes a statement of the charity's public benefit.

Charity name

The Wiltshire Victoria County History Trust

Charity registered no.

1102882

Trustees

The Trust's constitution, powers and the way it operates are set out in the Deed dated 29 November 2002, as amended on 16 October 2013, 23 October 2017, 23 July 2018 and 10 June 2019. The Deed stipulates a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 20 trustees, two of whom are nominated by Wiltshire Council (WC), and one by the Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Society (WANHS).

Those trustees appointed upon nomination from other organisations serve until the latter nominate replacements. The remaining trustees serve for a four-year term at the end of which they are eligible to be re-appointed.

During the period to which this report relates, the following trustees held office. Except where otherwise stated below, the trustees served throughout the whole of the period.

Mrs R Addington
Mrs G Alder
Mr J d'Arcy
Mrs M Barnett
Mr C Caswill
Mrs T Dallaway (from 28 October 2019)
Prof M Hicks (until 28 October 2019)
Mr M Hodges
Mr J Holden
Mrs V Landell-Mills (until 28 October 2019)
Mr D Moss
Mr C Newbury (until 10 June 2019)
Mr W A Perry (nominee of WANHS)
Mr M Stone
Cllr I Thorn (nominee of Wiltshire Council)
Cllr S Wheeler (nominee of Wiltshire Council)
Mr H Wright (from 10 June 2019)

Mr D Moss held the position of Chairman and Mr M Hodges held that of Vice-Chairman for the whole of the period.

Hon. officers

The Treasurer and Secretary of the Trust were Mrs T Dallaway and Mr H Wright respectively (Mr Wright from 10 June 2019). Both are trustees. Both Treasurer and Secretary are honorary positions.

Offices

As it neither owns nor leases any premises, the Trust has no office of its own. During the year, Trustees' meetings were held at the Wiltshire Museum by courtesy of WANHS, and at The Old Vicarage, Edington by courtesy of Mr John d'Arcy. Correspondence may be addressed to the Secretary, whose postal address is 5 The Paddock, Bradford on Avon, BA15 1FN.

The Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre at Chippenham kindly provides facilities for researchers and others engaged on Trust business, and as a depository for the Trust's official records.

Objectives, public benefit and review of activity

As set out in the Deed previously referred to, the purpose ("object") of the Trust is "to apply such monies, investments and property as the Trustees receive in their capacity as Trustees ... for the research, preparation and writing of the Victoria County History of Wiltshire".

The Victoria County History (VCH) was established in 1899 to publish a history of every community in England. Working from original documents and extensive fieldwork, professional historians produce a comprehensive history of each parish, including its physical features, ways of life, economic activity, transport, local government, key institutions and buildings, courts and leisure activities. The production of the histories is under the aegis and technical supervision of the Institute of Historical Research at the University of London.

Wiltshire is among the leading counties with 18 completed volumes to date. Work commenced in 1947 with financial support from local authorities (and for nine years, the University of the West of England). Following restrictions on spending by local and public authorities, the Trust undertook from 2013 to raise funds for future research and publications.

The Trust has responsibility for commissioning the historical research for future volumes. During the year it has been able to let research contracts on the volume covering the Chippenham area (volume 20) and a first contract on a volume covering the Alderbury area (volume 21).

In addition, the Trust has been keen to support the work being undertaken by the Institute of Historical Research to complete Vol. 19 (Mere and neighbouring parishes) and has made a financial commitment to it.

Completed volumes of the VCH form a definitive record of Wiltshire's history. They are a resource for current and future generations of historians, both professional and amateur, and the public at

large. As such, it is the trustees' belief that the work of the Trust is for the "public benefit", the criterion used by the Charity Commission to assess charitable status.

Fund-raising

There continue to be two principal strands to the Trust's fund-raising. First, a "Friends of the Wiltshire VCH", open to all on payment of an annual subscription. Second and very much linked to the first, a programme of one-off events most of which are open to the public at large. Mrs G Alder (a trustee) assisted with the administration of the Friends, associated activities and newsletter during the year to which this report relates.

Fund-raising is crucial to the ability of the Trust to progress work on the VCH volumes. A small group of trustees meets regularly to consider ways of raising funds and to review the outcomes. A special effort was made this year, led by the President, Mr Michael Wade, to raise sufficient funds to start work on Volume 21 (Alderbury and neighbouring parishes) and, as already mentioned, a first contract for research for this volume has now been let and work is underway.

Commissioning

As demonstrated in the accounts which follow, the funds available to the Trust have enabled work on volume 20 to be progressed and for work on volume 21 to be started, marks of the Trust's success in meeting its aims and objectives. Subject to strategic approval by the trustees as a whole, this aspect of the Trust's work is overseen by a Project Group with advice from consultant editors and an academic adviser.

It is important that the Trust has funds to meet known commitments. Trustees have an approved policy of maintaining sufficient funds to meet the full costs of all known commitments plus a working reserve of £2000.

This report was approved by the trustees on 19 October 2020]

[signed] David Moss
Chairman

Wiltshire Victoria County History Trust
Accounts for year ending 31 March 2020

Income and Expenditure account

	2019/20	2018/19
	£	£
Income		
Membership fees	1,609	1,445
Other Donations	47,659	11,717
Interest on COIF account	183	86
Tax relief (gift aid)	961	1,240
Income from events	4,233	3,500
Total	54,645	17,988
Expenditure		
Administration & miscellaneous	526	1,320
Volume 19 production	0	0
Volume 20 production	16,675	10,825
Volume 21 production	3,000	500
Bremhill project	6,520	
Funds generation costs	0	64
Events costs	1,535	728
Total	28,256	13,437
Excess of income over expenditure	26,390	4,551

Balance sheet as at:

	31/03/2020	31/03/2019
	£	£
Current assets		
NatWest current account	20,031	15,109
COIF Charities Deposit Fund	33,179	22,995
CAF	11,285	0
Total	64,494	38,104
Current Liabilities		
Volume 20 contracts awarded and outstanding	8,400	20,975
Volume 19 contribution promised to VCH central	2,000	2,000
Kingtons Fund	2,769	2,769
Volume 21 contracts limited by 1-year break clause	12,000	0
Reserved for Bremhill project	19,915	5,778
Total (excluding basic reserves)	45,084	31,522
Net unallocated assets	19,410	6,582



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Wiltshire Victoria County History Trust 1102882

Receipts and payments accounts

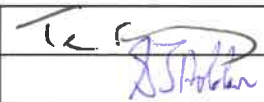
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For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2019	To	Period end date 31/03/2020
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership fees	1,609	-	-	1,609	1,445
Other Donations	47,659	-	-	47,659	11,717
Interest on COIF account	183	-	-	183	86
Tax relief (gift aid)	961	-	-	961	1,240
Income from events	4,233	-	-	4,233	3,500
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	54,645	-	-	54,645	17,988
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	54,645	-	-	54,645	17,988
A3 Payments					
Administration & miscellaneous	526	-	-	526	1,320
Volume 19 production	-	-	-	-	-
Volume 20 production	16,915	-	-	16,915	10,825
Volume 21 production	3,000	-	-	3,000	500
Bremhill project	6,280	-	-	6,280	-
Funds generation costs	-	-	-	-	64
Events costs	1,535	-	-	1,535	728
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	28,256	-	-	28,256	13,437
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	28,256	-	-	28,256	13,437
Net of receipts/(payments)	26,390	-	-	26,390	4,551
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	38,104	-	-	38,104	-
Cash funds this year end	64,494	-	-	64,494	4,551

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Nat West current account	20,031	-	-
	COIF Charities deposit fund	33,179	-	-
	CAF	11,285	-	-
	Total cash funds	64,494	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees				
	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		T.E. DALLAWAY	25/1/21	
		S.J. HOLDEN	25/1/21	

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Wiltshire Victoria County History Trust

I report on the receipts and payments account of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2020, which are set out on pages 1 and 2

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

1. examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
2. to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
3. to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

1. to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and
 2. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



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26 January 2021