

**BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**Registered Charlty Number**  
**1164497**

**BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
**TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021**

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**BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
**TRUSTEES REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021**

**LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

<b>CHARITY COMMISSION NUMBER</b>	1164497
<b>CHAIRMAN AND TRUSTEE</b>	David Cobham
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	Margaret Brown (Treasurer) Sandra Cain (Resigned 26 Aug 21) Ann Cobham Sally Crowther John Dodd Alan Foxall Joan Huyton Gary Mawdsley (Resigned 26 Aug 21) Clive Pickup Gail Settle Susan Regan (Appointed 26 Aug 21) Maria Morris (Appointed 26 Aug 21)

<b>ADDRESS</b>	Botanic Gardens Botanic Road Churchtown Southport PR9 7NB
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<b>INDEPENDENT EXAMINER</b>	Oliver Grills FCA J A Fell & Co 40 Hoghton Street Southport PR9 0PQ
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# **BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2021**

The Botanic Gardens Community Association Trust (incorporated) is registered with the Charity Commission (No 1164497) and constituted by Deed of Trust.

### **The Trustees who served during the year are as follows:-**

David Cobham. (d.cobham@sky.com)  
John Dodd. (mail@johndodd.co.uk)  
Margaret Brown. (Margaret.brown@rocketmail.com)  
Ann Cobham. (anncobham@hotmail.com)  
Sally Crowther. (sally@cleverwebseo.com)  
Clive Pickup. (clive.pickup2@btinternet.com)  
Gail Settle. (botanic@madasafish.com) \*  
Alan Foxall. (simplyflowersandfoliage@gmail.com)\*  
Joan Huyton (joanhuyton2@gmail.com)\*  
Maria Morris. (johnandmaria2013@outlook.com)  
Susan Regan. (susanmregan55@gmail.com)

Trustees serve on a 3 year rotation basis and may stand for re-election.

### **Objectives**

1. To further or benefit the residents of Churchtown and surrounding areas, without distinction of age, sex, sexual orientation, race, or of political, religious or other opinions.
2. To provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation, with the objective of improving the conditions of life for the residents and visitors. To have power to establish a Community Centre and to Co-operate with any statutory authority in the management of such a centre for activities promoted by the Charity in furtherance of the above objectives. This we have achieved.
3. To promote for the benefit of the public at large the protection, preservation, care and maintenance of the Botanic Gardens Southport in co-operation with the local authority for recreational purposes to improve the health and well-being of mind and body.

### **Review of Activities and Achievements**

The Botanic Gardens Community Association of volunteers was formed in 2012 to help the gardens to continue providing beautiful floral displays and other attractions which were in the process of being reduced, ended or closed by severe funding cuts.

This has been achieved via donations and a sponsorship scheme. Funding is obtained from local associations, business and individuals which enable us to source quality local plants which are designed, planted and maintained by our volunteers for dedicated spring and summer displays in the 5 large beds, over 40 hanging baskets and ornamental containers at the formal part of the park. The Botanic Nursery has now closed despite our great efforts to retain it, but the Volunteers have been allocated some greenhouse facilities to enable plants to be saved or nurtured out of season and, we also have an onsite plant shop involvement to bring in funds to be spent on the gardens.

We carry out general tidying jobs and minor infrastructure work such as painting and bench restoration and have a team of litter pickers with a zero litter and dog fouling policy. We hold meetings with the Bat Society and Lancashire Trust Squirrel officer.

Because of our previous success in carrying out all the above projects the Council has decided we take over on Lease the running of the parks nationally important 1875 Victorian Fernery voted number two in the UK about 8 years ago but suffering due to finance and labour cuts and seldom open. We are now connected with the British Pteridological Society who provide Ferns advice and work with us on a regular basis.

Non desirable plants etc. are being removed and we are expertly planting many new species which have been gifted to us by the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh.

# **BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2021**

A large van was hired and our project manager Sandra and Allison from the Fern Society did the 400 mile round trip to pick up the Ferns in a day, the aim is to be No1 Fernery attraction in the UK. The Fernery is now managed by BGCA on a rolling Lease.

We have renovated and taken over the running of the formally dank public toilet block, this has encouraged the return of many visitors and coach parties, especially school and special needs groups, a small entry charge funds these improvements and management.

We hold many fund raising events, and offer an historical and educational walk and talk to visiting parties. Over 5000 volunteer hours are recorded each year.

We work 52 weeks of the year and stage free events for the community throughout.

The waste, and recycling depot is in the old Nursery area, and greenhouse run off water is saved in wells and tanks for watering use, we have a new composting area adjacent, we also look after the lake tidiness and keep an eye on its wildlife inhabitant's welfare.

The former Nursery area is jointly occupied by an adult needs group for the recreation, and vocational needs of groups with special health and education needs. We get on with them.

As our name suggests we are an inclusive volunteer charitable organisation within the community for the community. The BGCA are proud to say we worked safely throughout the Pandemic years to keep all the floral and Aviary and public toilets open to the public.

There are so many facets to the wonderful Botanic Gardens that suit all sections of the community, and we are always looking for ways to improve the visitor experience year on year, we continue to maintain a small Rose Garden in a former neglected area by the popular Aviary. A Victorian style Stumpery with Hostas and Ferns has been constructed.

We continue restoring Heather rockery areas on the "Mulberry" island and we asked 120 of our neighbouring Churchtown Year 2 Primary School pupils to help us plant 200 Lavenders as part of their Bee attracting project, they planted one each.

The Botanic Gardens acts as a huge Nature classroom for all our local schools.

Our aim is to do our utmost to keep the Botanic Gardens deserving of its "Jewel in the Crown" reputation and most importantly maintain its Gardens, Environmental, and Community spirited elements, so nearly lost for ever due to council funding cuts.

We have a shared Management agreement with the council to ensure the future of the rescue Aviary. We have obtained donations to fund extensive modernisation. And we planted and maintain an Aviary Garden area to enhance the facility.

The BGCA were awarded a coveted RHS National Certificate of Distinction in 2016/19.

RHS North West in Bloom awarded us a 6 years of Outstanding Certificate in 2021.

We also entered in the RHS Parks category and gained a Gold Medal award.

The BGCA were a main feature of the BBC 2 Britain in Bloom show March 28 2019, this full half hour show has been repeated for times.

In 2019 Awarded Silver Trophies for RHS Best in Category and Best Overall entry.

As there was no Britain in Bloom competition in 2020 so we prepared a protracted document and entered as a Volunteer group into the 2020 Green Flag Community Awards and were successful with the highest ranked marks in 2020 and 21.

# BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

## TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DEC 2021

### Activities with other groups

1. Our neighbour Churchtown Primary School carries out many projects with B.G.C.A
2. Prestfield Secondary school and College Duke of Edinburgh students carry out projects on a regular basis.
3. Duke of Edinburgh Bronze award students from Meols Cop School Youth Club work in the Fernery on a regular basis.
4. We enter the RHS North West in Bloom and Community Green Flag awards and attain top outstanding rating year on year.
5. We work closely with the British Pteridological Society in our Leased Nationally acclaimed listed Fernery.
6. We work with the Community Workshop, Props made by people with S.E.N.D.S. (Special Educational Needs and Disability).
7. We have had discussions with Public Health to put Parks as a Prescription for Health and Supporting North West Parks for a National Forum.
8. Princes Trust young people work on projects from time to time in conjunction with B.G.C.A. We work closely with Adult special needs working group Natural Alternatives.
9. The Association is registered with Dementia Friends.
10. We continue to maintain a Defibrillator on site.
11. We are approved by and work closely with Sefton Councils officers and staff.
12. To further our original stated objectives the BGCA has applied for a Licence to assign the former Botanic Gardens Sports and Social Club premises & Lease over to the BGCA.
1. This is an amicable arrangement with our associates which will benefit both the dissolved Charity whose remaining members have joined the BGCA, and will provide a centre to widen and enhance publicise our BGCA volunteering activities.

### Financial review and reserves policy

The financial results for the year are shown on pages 7 to 9. The trustees aim to ensure that the level of reserves held at any time would be sufficient to enable the charity to continue for the short term in the event of any significant fall in income.

### Risk management

The trustees review the major risks which the charity faces on a regular basis, and are also bound by local authority dictate.

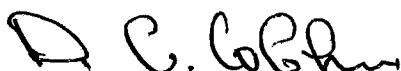
BGCA is fully covered by Public Liability Insurance (£10m).

### Public benefit

The charity trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

We obtain funding via sponsorship, donations and fund raising events to improve the park.

A review of the Association's objectives, activities and achievements since formation is attached, also the Finance Statements and independent examiners report.



David Cobham. (Chairman)  
For and on behalf of the Trustees

Date: 30 JUNE 2022

**BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Botanic Gardens Community Association (The Charity) for the year ended 31 December 2021 as set out on pages 7 to 9.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



**Oliver Grills FCA**  
J A Fell & Co  
40 Hoghton Street  
Southport  
PR9 0PQ

**BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021  
GENERAL & RESTRICTED FUNDS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT**

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2021 Total	2020 Total
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Regular donations and subscriptions	520	-	520	420
Donations for public toilet	-	3,734	3,734	2,134
Lake Fund	-	26,952	26,952	-
Events	971	-	971	-
Aviary	-	33,272	33,272	11,555
Fernery	-	1,388	1,388	907
Flowers & Gardens	13,283	-	13,283	7,564
Botanic Social Club Funds	-	-	-	3,100
Other Income	329	-	329	-
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>15,103</b>	<b>65,345</b>	<b>80,448</b>	<b>25,680</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Toiletries	-	1,594	1,594	1,174
Toilet Maintenance	-	405	405	320
Fernery & Aviary	-	32,181	32,181	2,871
Lake Fund	-	8,536	8,536	-
Gardening expenses	9,863	-	9,863	5,033
Printing	-	-	-	60
Insurance	250	-	250	250
Repairs & Maintenance	2,108	-	2,108	3,522
Miscellaneous Expenses	1,306	-	1,306	311
Events	1,778	-	1,778	350
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>15,305</b>	<b>42,716</b>	<b>58,022</b>	<b>13,891</b>
<b>Excess of Receipts over payments</b>	<b>(202)</b>	<b>22,629</b>	<b>22,427</b>	<b>11,789</b>
Total Funds at 1 January 2021	41,343	20,600	61,943	50,154
<b>Total Funds at 31 December 2021</b>	<b>41,141</b>	<b>43,229</b>	<b>84,370</b>	<b>61,943</b>



**BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021  
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES**

	2021 £	2020 £
<b>CASH FUNDS</b>		
Bank Account: Main	73,773	53,280
Bank Account: Toilet	10,598	8,663
 Total bank current and deposit accounts	84,370	61,943
 This figure is made up by		
Unrestricted fund	41,141	41,343
Restricted fund	43,229	20,600
	84,370	61,943
 <b>ASSETS RETAINED FOR THE USE OF THE CHARITY</b>		
Laptop- 2017	520	520
Gala Tents- 2017	624	624
	1,144	1,144

**NOTES**

1. The financial statements have been prepared using the Receipts and Payments basis.

Approved by the Trustees on 30 JUNE 2022 and signed on their behalf

D. C. Cobham  
David C Cobham  
Chairman

M. V. Brown  
Margaret V Brown  
Treasurer

**BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2021**  
**MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	Flowers & Gardens	Toilets	Aviary	Fernery	Social Club	Lake Fund	General	2021 Total	2020 Total
<b>INCOME</b>									
Botanic Social Club Funds	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,100
Donation - Collection Boxes	-	-	7,882	1,023	-	-	-	8,904	852
Donations - Individuals & Charities	6,678	-	25,040	-	-	28,952	371	59,041	17,110
Flower Sales	6,605	-	-	365	-	-	-	6,970	1,454
Grants	-	-	350	-	-	-	-	350	610
Pay Entry / Events Income	-	3,734	-	-	-	-	930	4,663	2,134
Members Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	-	-	520	520	420
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>13,283</b>	<b>3,734</b>	<b>33,272</b>	<b>1,388</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,952</b>	<b>1,820</b>	<b>80,448</b>	<b>25,680</b>

**INCOME ANALYSIS BY FUND**

Unrestricted Fund	13,283	-	-	-	-	-	1,820	15,103	11,084
Restricted Fund	-	3,734	33,272	1,388	-	28,952	-	65,345	14,596
	<b>13,283</b>	<b>3,734</b>	<b>33,272</b>	<b>1,388</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>28,952</b>	<b>1,820</b>	<b>80,448</b>	<b>25,680</b>

**EXPENSES**

Animals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	99
Events	-	-	-	-	-	-	100	100	-
Flowers & Gardening	9,863	-	-	401	-	-	-	10,264	5,116
Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	-	250	250	250
Light & Heat	-	-	-	-	342	-	-	342	100
Licence & Lease fees	-	-	-	-	1,336	-	-	1,336	250
Miscellaneous Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	40	1,308	1,346	406
Printing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	60
Repairs & Maintenance	-	-	31,780	-	-	8,496	2,108	42,384	8,435
Toiletries & Cleaning	-	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	1,174
Fernery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>9,863</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>31,780</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>8,536</b>	<b>3,764</b>	<b>58,022</b>	<b>13,891</b>

**EXPENSE ANALYSIS BY FUND**

Unrestricted Fund	9,863	-	-	-	1,678	-	3,764	15,305	7,391
Restricted Fund	-	2,000	31,780	401	-	8,536	-	42,716	6,499
	<b>9,863</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>31,780</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>8,536</b>	<b>3,764</b>	<b>58,022</b>	<b>13,891</b>

**RESTRICTED FUNDS**

	At 1 Jan 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 Dec 2021 £
Toilets	9,670	3,734	2,000	11,404
Lake Fund	-	28,952	8,536	18,416
Aviary	10,930	33,272	31,780	12,421
Fernery	-	1,388	401	987
	<b>20,600</b>	<b>65,345</b>	<b>42,716</b>	<b>43,229</b>

**UNRESTRICTED FUNDS**

Flowers & Gardens	13,283	9,863		
Club House	-	1,678		
General	1,820	3,764		
	<b>41,343</b>	<b>15,103</b>	<b>15,305</b>	<b>41,141</b>

**TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DEC 2020**

	<b>61,943</b>	<b>80,448</b>	<b>58,022</b>	<b>84,370</b>
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**BOTANIC GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 2020  
MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	Flowers & Gardens	Toilets	Aviary	Fernery	Social Club	General	2020 Total	2019 Total
<b>INCOME</b>								
Botanic Social Club Funds	-	-	-	-	3,100	-	3,100	-
Donation - Collection Boxes	-	-	555	297	-	-	852	4,368
Donations - Individuals & Charities	6,110	-	11,000	-	-	-	17,110	380
Flower Sales	1,454	-	-	-	-	-	1,454	23,975
Grants	-	-	-	610	-	-	610	2,988
Pay Entry Income	-	2,134	-	-	-	-	2,134	-
Members Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	-	420	420	2,175
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>7,564</b>	<b>2,134</b>	<b>11,555</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>25,680</b>	<b>33,886</b>
<b>INCOME ANALYSIS BY FUND</b>								
Unrestricted Fund	7,564	-	-	-	3,100	420	11,084	29,518
Restricted Fund	-	2,134	11,555	907	-	-	14,596	4,368
	<b>7,564</b>	<b>2,134</b>	<b>11,555</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>3,100</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>25,680</b>	<b>33,886</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>								
Animals	-	-	99	-	-	-	99	343
Events	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,366
Flowers & Gardening	4,973	-	-	143	-	-	5,116	7,717
Insurance	-	-	-	-	-	250	250	443
Light & Heat	-	-	-	-	100	-	100	-
Miscellaneous Expenses	-	-	-	95	-	311	406	1,088
Printing	-	-	-	-	-	60	60	191
Repairs & Maintenance	80	3,794	526	2,008	-	48	6,435	80
Subscriptions	-	-	-	-	250	-	250	-
Toiletries	-	1,174	-	-	-	-	1,174	447
Fernery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,480
<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>5,033</b>	<b>4,988</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>2,246</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>13,891</b>	<b>16,134</b>
<b>EXPENSE ANALYSIS BY FUND</b>								
Unrestricted Fund	5,033	-	-	1,339	350	669	7,391	12,600
Restricted Fund	-	4,988	625	907	-	-	6,499	3,534
	<b>5,033</b>	<b>4,988</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>2,246</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>13,891</b>	<b>16,134</b>
<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>								
	At 1 Jan 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	At 31 Dec 2020 £				
Toilets	12,504	2,134	4,968	9,670				
Aviary	-	11,555	625	10,930				
Fernery	-	907	907	-				
	<b>12,504</b>	<b>14,596</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>20,600</b>				
<b>UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>								
Flowers & Gardens		7,564	5,033					
Fernery		-	1,339					
Club House		3,100	350					
General		420	669					
	<b>37,650</b>	<b>11,084</b>	<b>7,391</b>	<b>41,343</b>				
<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DEC 2020</b>	<b>50,154</b>	<b>25,680</b>	<b>13,891</b>	<b>61,943</b>				