WEYMOUTH MUSEUM TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT
AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ending 31 March 2026

Company registration number: 07435561

Charity number: 1143692

WEYMOUTH MUSEUM TRUST

Unaudited Financial Statements

Year ended 31 March 2026

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WEYMOUTH MUSEUM TRUST

Trustees and Professional Advisers

Year ended 31 March 2026

Trustees	Mr Frederick William Allott Ms Emma Childs Mr Anthony Hadyn Beazer Mr Robert William Chedzoy Mrs Diane Mary Day Ms Stacey Marie Frier Mr David Best Harris Mrs Marcia Lorraine Pritchard (Chair) Ms Tashi Maria Warr
Registered office	16 Ullswater Crescent Weymouth Dorset DT3 5HE
Independent Examiner	Graham Perry 2 Portwey Close Weymouth Dorset DT4 8RF
Bank	CAF Bank Limited 25 Kings Hill Avenue Kings Hill West Malling Kent ME19 4JQ

Trustees' Report

Year ended 31 March 2026

The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 March 2026.

The accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis and comply with the Charity's governing document and

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives

To provide a museum and heritage centre beneficial to the community of Weymouth and the remainder of the County of Dorset and for the advancement of education and all purposes ancillary thereto.

Aims, Strategies and Activities for the year

The Charity is aiming to maintain meaningful engagement with the Weymouth Museum while it remains without a permanent home. It also aims to continue to preserve the historic collection in good order, whilst rationalising it, and ensuring it is correctly catalogued. The Charity also tries to answer queries raised by the public about historical issues in the wider Weymouth area, as quickly as possible.

CHAIR'S REPORT

This year has been a very busy one for the Museum. In May 2025 the Trustees took a 2-year lease on 39b St Thomas Street to create another pop-up museum. This has given us the ability to put on small exhibitions and reawaken the Museum's public presence Our intention is to keep the Museum alive while we have no permanent site. We made the decision to have a series of exhibitions on particular themes which will change relatively frequently. This has proved very successful and in the first five months we had over 5,000 visitors.

As a result of this, and by participating in town events, the Museum has raised its profile in the community. This is vital in the run up to the NLHF Development Phase (should the museum be successful in its bid). The new Pop-Up Museum launched at the end of June 2025.

Exhibitions held in 2025-26

• Weymouth's seaside history – focusing on the Georgian development of seaside tourism (and linking with the 'King's Dip' event run by the Museum on 20 July 2025, as part of the Dorset Town of Culture year). We welcomed the Seaside Heritage Network to the opening of the Pop-Up and the exhibition on 27 June 2025, and were grateful to Dr Allan Brodie for giving a talk on Weymouth's seaside heritage. We were also delighted to display photographs from Weymouth Camera Club as part of the exhibition and were grateful to the many volunteers, especially Brian Squibb, for their help in setting up the Pop-Up Museum.

• Railways – we ran an exhibition on Weymouth's railway history in September/October as part of the national Railway 200 anniversary events. Volunteer Mark Griffiths contributed greatly to the exhibition and developed a smaller version for display in Weymouth Library afterwards.

• Eric Ricketts – this exhibition focused on the paintings and drawings of the architectural historian. It was held at Holy Trinity Church for a week over the Heritage Open Days (Dorset Architectural Heritage Week) events in September 2025. We received a small Dorset Town of Culture grant for the exhibition and were very grateful for Maureen Attwooll's extensive work in creating it.

• From Beer to Eternity – this exhibition, which ran from November 2025 to the end of February 2026, commemorated the last brew at Devenish Brewery held on 12 November 1985. We invited former brewers and Devenish employees to take part in creating the exhibition and a series of events, and took the opportunity to record them talking about their working lives. We are grateful to them all, to volunteer Nigel Smith, and to Julian Herrington of the Brewing History Society for coming from Faversham on three occasions to give talks and demonstrations. Sarah Butterworth worked with volunteers and members of the public to create window decorations on the brewery theme; the windows won the BID's 'Christmas Sparkle' competition.

Trustees' Report

Year ended 31 March 2026

• Look What I Found – this exhibition, starting in March 2026, was one of two funded through a Dorset Council Culture & Community Grant (the other is in the next financial year). A local fossil collector, Heather Middleton, assembled a small group of local fossilists and the exhibition celebrates them and their collections, all of which come from the Weymouth area. It gave an opportunity to contribute to the 25th anniversary of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site and drew attention to a less studied section of the coast. We are particularly grateful to Heather Middleton for her hard work, and to all the fossil group for running identification days for the public.

We have plans for later this year for a football exhibition and one on the harbour and the streets of Old Weymouth.

Our volunteers continue to be our mainstay, and we have been very fortunate in recruiting a number of new people to join the team. One, Kris Hallett has brought a tremendous amount of experience in community engagement and in late Summer we took the decision to employ her to manage the pop up on a short-term part-time contract. This has been very successful. Kris has a great eye for making the windows interesting and is tireless in promoting the museum among other groups she works with.

This year we took over organising and running the Teas and Talks programme from the Friends of Weymouth Museum. We moved venues and it has proved to be a highly successful event. We have had a series of excellent speakers and it is generating us a useful income.

In June last year we became involved in the inaugural ‘King’s Dipping’ event on the Esplanade with a display of Georgian artefacts. It raised the profile of the museum and was an entertaining day. This year the event has been organised by a new specially formed community group and we will once again attend with a display on the seafront.

Our presence on social media continues. We have a considerable following for our historical photos and would like to thank Geoff Pritchard for providing the scripts. We would also like to thank all who post on it.

	Year ended 31 March 2026	Year ended 31 March 2025
• Number of posts:	199	64
• Interactions:	17,500	6,500
• Views:	1,600,000	398,900
• Visits:	29,200	10,200
• New Followers:	510 net	338 net

A realistic estimate of the actually number of individual users who see posts over 12 months would be 60,000.

The superb work of the local history centre has continued under the expert leadership of Richard Samways, ably aided by Maureen Attwooll who has been busy cataloguing the map collection.

During the year 58 enquiries were dealt, a reduction of 12 on last year. Our new local history email address is now being used and enquiries will I am sure increase. The enquiries were as ever infinitely varied including: Weymouth elections 1820s; refugees from the Channel Islands in the 2nd World War; memorial stones from Derby Street Methodist Church 1895-1919; history of houses such as 25 Belle Vue Road, 9 Victoria Terrace, and 41 Rodwell Road. We gave considerable assistance to Mick Davis whose book ‘Booze, Brawls and Bawds – A Social History of Weymouth Inns’ was published in late 2025.

Additions to the Local History Collection have included: deeds of No 1 Royal Crescent from 1797; research papers and books of Brian Jackson, transport historian; papers and photographs of Francis Powell Ayles of Weymouth 1897-1918, skilled amateur photographer, killed in 1st World War.

Trustees' Report

Year ended 31 March 2026

Richard continued to catalogue material into Modes. Maureen continued her work on the contents of various map drawers and sorting the local history reference books, and Jan Montgomery worked on the boxes of copy illustrations, originally in Weymouth Library. Liz Bartlett, former secretary to Jack West, is a new volunteer and has started work on sorting post 1970s electoral registers.

At the Granby our collections remain in safe storage, and work has continued on thanks to Dorset Council the museum collections continue to be housed securely at an industrial unit on the Granby estate. Fifteen volunteers work on the collections there, and have made huge strides in recording these collections on the Modes database, photographing each item, condition checking, using the collections to answer enquiries, and sorting material for exhibitions. Thanks are due to all the volunteers for their work, especially in the bleak winter conditions in the store. Volunteers also took part in developing the interpretation plan for the new museum.

During the year 2025 we accessioned 1,131 items – some of which were newly acquired and met select criteria for collecting, but the majority of which were items that had been accepted in previous years and have only now been formally accessioned into the collections. Newly acquired objects included a nurse's badge from Weymouth hospital (a surprising absence from our collections until now), deeds from No.1 Royal Crescent, and a substantial collection of drawings, paintings and copy for Eric Ricketts' books on the buildings of old Weymouth given by his daughters, Margaret Horton and Barbara Walton.

A potential acquisition for the future is the San Salvador Oak Screen, which was at Thomas Hardye School from the 1600s. This is in the ownership of the Old Hardyeans, and they have indicated it will be given or loaned to the new museum once the building is ready for it.

Volunteer Conservator Julia Yates took part in the South West Museum Development project on risks in museum collections and compiled a specific collections risk register, with the help of Angela Pavey and Eric Coetzee.

Museum funding and development

We received a Museum Renewal Fund grant of £43,725 from the Arts Council to address the shortfall in funds that we had due to the delays in progress with the National Lottery Heritage Fund project. This enabled us to carry out the programme of exhibitions and community engagement at the Pop-Up Museum and to employ a museum professional on a freelance basis. Additionally, it allowed us to develop the Museum by also employing a freelance volunteer manager at the Pop-Up Museum, use the services of a local social media consultant, upgrade our IT systems, and employ a fundraising consultant to draw up a strategy for us for current and future fundraising.

All of this would not have been possible without the expert guidance from Kate Hebditch, who apart from managing the Granby site has organised the exhibitions and provide professional advice on museum matters.

The Board of Trustees has worked hard to ensure all is running well. Regrettably, Anya Chapman had to retire due to pressure of work and Sarah Downes decided to focus on further professional qualifications. Hazel Crozier also stepped down as a move to Dorset has not worked out. However, we were very fortunate in that Stacey Frier who works at the Natural History Museum has joined the Board and brings considerable expertise on a national scale. Tashi Warr who also works nationally in London has also joined us and consequently our Board remains strong.

Much of its work has been taken up in preparing the new Heritage Lottery submission. In this we have had invaluable assistance from Vicky de Wit, the County Museums Adviser.

We are very grateful to Dorset Council who have funded us in submitting this bid and continue to do so. The bid was submitted in January and we will hear the outcome in June. The developer is making good progress with the redevelopment of the Brewers Quay site and we look forward to returning there in due course.

Trustees' Report

Year ended 31 March 2026

The Friends of Weymouth Museum have continued to support us. They generously gave us £2,000 towards the rent on the pop up. On our behalf they purchased Display Boards costing £154 and a Mabel Wickham painting costing £100 to add to our collection.

Many thanks to all other who also who donated items.

Finances

Our biggest challenge currently is financial. We have been making bids for money from a number of charities and have been successful with some. We were very fortunate in obtaining a large grant from the museums renewal fund but that had to be spent within the financial year. The Town Council have now suggested that they might be prepared to offer us a service level agreement and we are in discussion with them at this time. We need to raise the money to pay the rent and ongoing costs of the pop-up shop including exhibitions. It is too valuable to lose but it places a considerable strain upon our financial situation.

We can be contacted by email: weymouthmuseumchair@btinternet.com or by phone 07971 597860.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total receipts for the year amounted to £109,895 (2025 - £73,533) and expenses were £100,726 (2025 - £77,835). Unrestricted and restricted reserves at 31 March 2026 were £33,829 (2025 - £24,660) and £nil (2025 - £nil) accordingly.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed their policy, considering recommendations by the Charity Commission with regards to maintaining an acceptable level of reserves. The charity has set a reserve of £10,000. This is sufficient to cover Weymouth Museum's very low overheads during a lean fundraising year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Charity was incorporated as a private limited company on 10th November 2010 and registered as a charity on 7th September 2011.

Organisational Structure

The Charity is managed and operated by the Board of Trustees who meet at least twice a year.

Trustees

Trustees are elected and removed by the Board of Trustees. The minimum number of Trustees is 2. The Trust aims to have no more than 12 Trustees.

The trustees who served the company during the year were as follows:

Mr Frederick William Allott
Ms Emma Childs
Mr Anthony Hadyn Beazer
Dr Anya Lucy Chapman (resigned 31 August 2025)
Mr Robert William Chedzoy
Ms Hazel Victoria Jane Crozier (appointed 7 July 2025, resigned 22 November 2025)
Mrs Diane Mary Day
Ms Sarah Downes (resigned 3 April 2025)
Ms Stacey Marie Frier (appointed 11 August 2025)
Mr David Best Harris
Mrs Marcia Lorraine Pritchard (Chair)
Ms Tashi Maria Warr (appointed 8 February 2026)

Trustees' Report

Year ended 31 March 2026

Major Risks

The Trustees have carried out an assessment of the major risks to which the Charity is exposed. Procedures and systems are in place to mitigate these risks.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are required under Charity law to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the Charity and of the financial activities of the Charity for that year.

In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

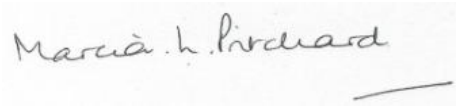
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departure disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable laws and regulations. They are also responsible for ensuring that the Charity maintains an adequate system of internal control designed to provide reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss or unauthorised use and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

SMALL COMPANY PROVISIONS

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 8 June 2026 and signed on behalf of the board by:



Mrs Marcia L Pritchard
Trustee (Chair)



Mr Anthony H Beazer
Trustee (Treasurer)

WEYMOUTH MUSEUM TRUST

Independent Examiner's Report

Year ended 31 March 2026

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES ON THE PREPARATION OF THE UNAUDITED STATUTORY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF WEYMOUTH MUSEUM TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2026

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Weymouth Museum Trust ("The Trust") for the year ended 31 March 2026.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (“the Act”).

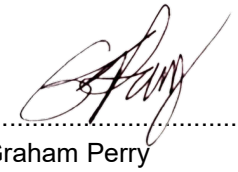
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust’s accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a ‘true and fair’ view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



.....

Graham Perry
2 Portwey Close
Weymouth
Dorset
DT4 8RF

Date: 8 June 2026

WEYMOUTH MUSEUM TRUST

Income Statement

Year ended 31 March 2026

	Year ended 31 March 2026	Year ended 31 March 2025
Income	**£109,895**	£73,533
Expenses		
Property costs	**£47,896**	£38,232
Collection / Shop costs	**£48,351**	£38,648
Administration costs	**£4,479**	£955
	£100,726	£77,835
Surplus / (deficit) in the year	**£9,169**	(£4,302)
Reserves brought forward	**£24,660**	£28,962
Reserves carried forward	**£33,829**	£24,660
	-	-

WEYMOUTH MUSEUM TRUST

Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 March 2026

	31-Mar-26	31-Mar-25
Current assets		
Bank account	**£33,829**	£24,660
Reserves		
Restricted funds	**-**	-
Unrestricted funds	**£33,829**	£24,660
Reserves - carried forward	**£33,829**	£24,660

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 General information

The company is a private company limited by shares and is registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is 16 Ullswater Crescent, Weymouth, Dorset, DT3 5HE.

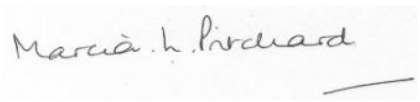
For the year ending 31 March 2026, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Trustees responsibilities:

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476;
- The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions.

These financial statements were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 8 June 2026, and are signed on behalf of the board by:





…….
Mrs Marcia Lorraine Pritchard
Trustee (Chair)

…….
Mr Anthony Hadyn Beazer (FCA)
Trustee (Treasurer)

Company registration number: 07435561

WEYMOUTH MUSEUM TRUST

Detailed Income Statement

Year ended 31 March 2026

	ACTUAL Year ended 31 March 2026			ACTUAL Year ended 31 March 2025		
FUNDS AVAILABLE BROUGHT FORWARD	**NLHF - Restricted funds**	**Own funds - Unrestricted funds**	**TOTAL**	**NLHF - Restricted funds**	**Own funds - Unrestricted funds**	**TOTAL**
Brought forward reserves	**-**	**£24,660**	**£24,660**	**(£0)**	**£28,962**	**£28,962**
INCOME						
Grants						
- Dorset Council - revenue grant	-	£10,000	**£10,000**	-	£10,000	**£10,000**
- Dorset Council - other grant	-	£5,480	**£5,480**	-	£15,062	**£15,062**
- Dorset Council - funded storage costs	-	£33,696	**£33,696**	-	£38,232	**£38,232**
- Grants - Dorset Council - capital leverage	-	-	**-**	-	-	**-**
- NLHF	-	-	**-**	£9,900	-	**£9,900**
- Other grants (Arts Council England)	-	£39,353	**£39,353**	-	-	**-**
Total grants	-	£88,529	**£88,529**	£9,900	£63,294	**£73,194**
Friends of Weymouth Museum ('FOWM')	-	£2,100	**£2,100**	-	-	**-**
Teas & Talks	-	£2,170	**£2,170**	-	-	**-**
Donations (one-off donations)	-	£11,849	**£11,849**	-	£141	**£141**
Donations (CAF Donate)	-	£297	**£297**	-	-	**-**
Donations (Sum Up)	-	£1,299	**£1,299**	-	-	**-**
Donations (cash - Pop-Up Museum)	-	£3,146	**£3,146**	-	-	**-**
Bank Interest received	-	£486	**£486**	-	-	**-**
Other income	-	£19	**£19**	-	£198	**£198**
TOTAL INCOME	**-**	**£109,895**	**£109,895**	**£9,900**	**£63,633**	**£73,533**
EXPENSES						
Property costs						
Rent - pop up	-	£11,620	**£11,620**	-	-	**-**
Rent - storage	-	£33,696	**£33,696**	-	£38,232	**£38,232**
Utilities	-	£849	**£849**	-	-	**-**
Storage	-	-	**-**	-	-	**-**
Moving Back	-	-	**-**	-	-	**-**
Packing and Moving	-	£684	**£684**	-	-	**-**
Rates	-	£922	**£922**	-	-	**-**
Water	-	£125	**£125**	-	-	**-**
	-	£47,896	**£47,896**	-	£38,232	**£38,232**
Core Museum activity						
Pop Up Museum - other costs	-	£4,563	**£4,563**	-	-	**-**
Outreach	-	-	**-**	£2,775	-	**£2,775**
Management of Collections	-	£22,110	**£22,110**	-	£18,652	**£18,652**
Care and conservation of Collections	-	£241	**£241**	-	£218	**£218**
Events & Family activities	-	£261	**£261**	-	-	**-**
Community Projects	-	£3,300	**£3,300**	-	£1,540	**£1,540**
Consultation advice	-	£3,000	**£3,000**	£6,125	£5,319	**£11,444**
IT licences	-	£444	**£444**	-	£723	**£723**
IT computer equipment	-	-	**-**	-	-	**-**
IT other costs	-	£190	**£190**	-	£140	**£140**
Museum staff	-	£6,168	**£6,168**	-	-	**-**
Staff and volunteer training	-	£300	**£300**	-	-	**-**
Interpretation / exhibition / display	-	£6,574	**£6,574**	-	£924	**£924**
Marketing and Social Media	-	£1,200	**£1,200**	-	£1,232	**£1,232**
	-	£48,351	**£48,351**	£9,900	£28,748	**£38,648**
Administration costs						
Insurance	-	£208	**£208**	-	£279	**£279**
Website	-	-	**-**	-	£60	**£60**
Memberships	-	£210	**£210**	-	£85	**£85**
Broadband / telephone	-	£723	**£723**	-	£441	**£441**
Admin costs	-	£34	**£34**	-	-	**-**
Sundry office items	-	£26	**£26**	-	-	**-**
Consultancy fees	-	£3,168	**£3,168**	-	-	**-**
Legal and accountancy	-	£50	**£50**	-	£50	**£50**
Bank charges	-	£60	**£60**	-	£40	**£40**
	-	£4,479	**£4,479**	-	£955	**£955**
TOTAL EXPENSES	**-**	**£100,726**	**£100,726**	**£9,900**	**£67,935**	**£77,835**
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) IN THE PERIOD / YEAR	**-**	**£9,169**	**£9,169**	**-**	**(£4,302)**	**(£4,302)**
FUNDS AVAILABLE AT THE END OF THE PERIOD / YEAR	**-**	**£33,829**	**£33,829**	**(£0)**	**£24,660**	**£24,660**