Market Harborough Historical Society CIO

Registered Charity No. 1157244

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the period ending 31st December 2025

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Market Harborough Historical Society CIO

Report of the Trustees
For the period ended 31st December 2025

The Trustees present their Report together with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the period ended 31st December 2025

Reference and administrative details:

Name of the Charity:	Market Harborough Historical Society CIO
Working Name:	Market Harborough Historical Society
Charity Registration Number:	1157244
Correspondence Address:	c/o Michael Stroud 7 Orchard Close Desborough Kettering Northamptonshire NN14 2LR
Current Trustees:	David Holmes – Chair Leonard Thomas Holden – Secretary Michael Stroud – Treasurer Rosalind Willatts John Eric Whelan Michael John Hitchcox

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing Document

The Charity is governed by the written constitution, which was adopted 9th October 2013, and was registered as a charity by the Charity Commission for England and Wales on 29th May 2014 (Registered Number 1157244).

Market Harborough Historical Society (Registered Charity no. 515509) transferred all of its assets and liabilities to Market Harborough Historical Society CIO (Registered Charity No. 1157244) on 1 January 2016 and it commenced its objectives from that date.

Market Harborough Historical Society CIO

Report of the Trustees
for the period ended 31st December 2025

Appointment, induction and training of new Trustees

The Body of Trustees shall be at least three in number.

One third of the Trustees are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the charity and all members of the Society are welcome to put their names forward for election. Those who have the appropriate skills, knowledge and experience for the effective administration of the Charity are particularly encouraged to stand. Each new Trustee will be briefed on their legal obligations under charity law, the content of the Constitution, the committee and decision making processes and the most recent financial performance of the charity. In addition, all trustees will be actively encouraged to attend external training courses to enhance understanding of their responsibilities and to improve their effectiveness.

Objectives and Activities

The object of the Charity is to promote public education in the study and research of the archaeology and history of Market Harborough and the surrounding area.

The Trustees aim to achieve this objective through collection, collation and dissemination of information, holding lectures, discussions, and visits, undertaking historical and archaeological studies, maintaining and augmenting collections and promoting the publication of historical information.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Achievements in the Period

During 2025 the Charity achieved its objectives and benefitted the public through education by holding lectures of historical interest, given by members and guest speakers. It arranged a summer outing to Lubenham for members and guests. On the outing we visited All Saints Church and also The Tower House where we were shown around by the owner. Afterwards some members enjoyed a meal at The Coach & Horses, Lubenham. Donations were made to All Saints Church and to Medecins Sans Frontieres, on behalf of The Tower House, to thank them for their participation in our enjoyment and education.

In July the Society participated in the Leicestershire Archaeological Festival, holding a lecture given by Matthew Morris, Archaeologist at the University of Leicester, about Richard III and information learned of his life and death from scientific research on his remains during the previous 12 years since his exhumation. Entry was free of charge and open to all and was very well attended and received.

The Society was unable to plan or to hold its annual History Day event again in October 2025, largely due to the availability of a suitable venue, and too great a commitment to an ageing Committee. The Committee has decided to hold an event in 2026 to celebrate the 95th Anniversary of the Society.

The Society continues to produce and distribute the annual Harborough Historian journal and has been active in its role as advisor and partner in the running of the Market Harborough Museum; the Charity is a one third partner with Market Harborough District Council and Leicestershire County Council, in the museum.

Market Harborough Historical Society CIO

Report of the Trustees
for the period ended 31st December 2025

Membership

At the end of 2025 membership of the Society was 107 (2024: 122 members; 2023: 79 members). The Society is actively recruiting new members and held an Open Evening at The Museum to raise awareness of the Society within the local community and local media. We have been pleased to see so many visitors at our monthly meetings and will try to encourage them to join the Society.

Financial Review

The charity's general unrestricted income has increased again this year and additional transfers have been made to the Society's Business Reserve Account where interest is earned. Banking operations continue to be provided by NatWest with cash/cheque deposits facilitated by The Post Office following the closure of the NatWest branches in both Market Harborough and Kettering.

After increased meeting room costs in 2024 the Society opted to hold lectures in the cheaper and smaller church youth wing but it was considered too uncomfortable and crowded by members and too onerous a physical task for the Committee and any additional willing helpers to set out all the chairs and tables in time to start the meetings and to clear them all away again afterwards, and it was decided to resume meetings in the main church hall in future. The decision was also made to not hire multimedia equipment from the Church but to use our own and members' equipment in order to reduce room hire costs. Much of the remaining expenditure represents the publication of the Harborough Historian and maintaining regular contact with members. Regular costs such as insurance and accountancy fees still apply.

The charity considers that a general reserve in the region of £5,000 is required together with specific funds. Although the general reserves shown in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities is in excess of this requirement, some of this may be required to fund reprints of existing publications and future projects, including a high profile 95th Anniversary conference planned for Autumn 2026.

Declaration

I declare, in my capacity of Charity Trustee and Treasurer, that the Trustees:

- Have approved the report above; and
- Have authorised me to sign it on their behalf



Michael Stroud MA
Treasurer
20th September 2026

Market Harborough Historical Society CIO
Receipts & Payments Account for the Year Ended 31 December 2025

	2025				2024
	General Fund £	Davies & Perkins Fund £	Museum Purchase Fund £	All Funds £	All Funds £
RECEIPTS					
Operating Receipts					
Members' subscriptions	1,448.80	-	-	1,448.80	1,458.00
Members' Door Fees	406.00	-	-	406.00	462.00
Visitors' contributions	380.00	-	-	380.00	445.00
Sale of Publications					
Historian	55.83	-	-	55.83	5.00
History of Market Harborough Vol 1	159.00	-	-	159.00	1,014.00
History of Market Harborough Vol 2	479.00	-	-	479.00	5,344.00
Sundry publications	191.50	-	-	191.50	730.00
Sundry Income	2.10	-	-	2.10	155.32
Summer Outing					
Trip to Lubenham/Cotesbach	550.00	-	-	550.00	482.00
Grants re History of Market Harborough Volume 2					
Howard Watson Symington Memorial Charity	-	-	-	-	2,000.00
Donations					
General	27.00	-	-	27.00	10.00
In Memory of the late Pat Perkins	-	25.00	-	25.00	553.40
Investment Receipts					
Sumup charges (re Members' card payments)	(2.72)	-	-	(2.72)	(4.54)
Bank/Building Society Interest	153.25	11.27	64.45	228.97	258.07
TOTAL RECEIPTS	**3,849.76**	**36.27**	**64.45**	**3,950.48**	**12,912.25**
PAYMENTS					
Operating Payments					
Historian & Other Publications					
Production costs					
Historian	455.00	-	-	455.00	572.00
History of Market Harborough Vol 2	-	-	-	-	5,001.00
	455.00	**-**	**-**	**455.00**	**5,573.00**
Meeting Costs					
Speakers' fees	315.00	-	-	315.00	351.70
Room Hire	402.80	-	-	402.80	328.25
Book Launch Event	-	-	-	-	202.33
	717.80	**-**	**-**	**717.80**	**882.28**
Summer Outing					
Trip to Lubenham/Cotesbach	412.20	-	-	412.20	440.00
Donation to All Saints Church	50.00			50.00	-
Donation to MSF' on bahalf of The Tower House	50.00			50.00	-
	512.20	**-**	**-**	**512.20**	**440.00**
Administration Costs					
Postage, stationery, leaflets, posters & website	165.56	-	-	165.56	157.29
Display Banners	-	-	-	-	43.48
BALH Insurance	90.00	-	-	90.00	90.00
Accountancy	222.00	-	-	222.00	216.00
Purchase of Head Mic/Adapter/Microphone	-	-	-	-	341.87
	477.56	**-**	**-**	**477.56**	**848.64**
Gratuities, gifts & donations					
Recognition Book re the late Pat Perkins	-	-	-	-	300.00
Recognition Book re Rosalind Willatts	-	-	-	-	149.97
	-	-	-	-	**449.97**
TOTAL PAYMENTS	**2,162.56**	**-**	**-**	**2,162.56**	**8,193.89**
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)	**1,687.20**	**36.27**	**64.45**	**1,787.92**	**4,718.36**
NET TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS	**(553.40)**	**553.40**	**-**	**-**	**-**
NET MOVEMENT IN CASH BALANCES	**1,133.80**	**589.67**	**64.45**	**1,787.92**	**4,718.36**
CASH AT BANK & IN HAND					
Brought Forward	**16,050.83**	**635.00**	**5,772.76**	**22,458.59**	**17,740.23**
Carried Forward	**17,184.63**	**1,224.67**	**5,837.21**	**24,246.51**	**22,458.59**

Market Harborough Historical Society CIO
Statement of Assets & Liabilities As At 31 December 2025

These accounts are presented on a receipts and payments basis, which is a factual record of the money received and paid by the Charity during the financial year. This basis, which was consistently applied from one year to the next by the charity prior to converting to a CIO, is considered to be the most appropriate for non-company charities with an annual income of less than £250,000. A Statement of Assets & Liabilities, listing the significant possessions and outstanding financial commitments of the Charity at the end of the financial year is set out below.

The trustees confirm, in accordance with the Charitable Incorporated Organisations (general) Regulations 2012, that at the year end the CIO did not have any outstanding guarantees to third parties nor any debts secured on assets of the CIO.

NON-MONETARY ASSETS - MUSEUM FUND

HERITAGE ASSETS

The charity owns a collection of historical artefacts and photographs relating to Market Harborough and District which is stored within the precincts of the Harborough Museum. The collection has been acquired over many years by the previous charity as mentioned above by means of purchases and donations and no reliable information as to its cost is readily available. The Trustees consider that the expense that would be involved in obtaining a valuation of this collection would outweigh any benefit that would arise.

Asset description	Purchased	Cost
Contribution to Museum re Hallaton Helmet	Oct-23	£5,000.00

FUNCTIONAL ASSETS

The following assets have been purchased from the Museum Fund to be used in the making of presentations to promote the museum and the Charity generally.

Asset description	Purchased	Cost	
Laptop computer & digital projector	Oct-10	£1,083.38	(Now defunct)
P.A. System	Nov-13	£191.49	(Now defunct)
Omnidirectional Microphone	Oct-23	£72.19	(Now defunct)
Head Mic & adapter	Sep-24	£341.87	

MONETARY ASSETS & LIABILITIES	**2025**				**2024**
	General Fund £	**Davies & Perkins Fund £**	**Museum Purchase Fund £**	**All Funds £**	**All Funds £**
CASH AT BANK & IN HAND					
Nat West Bank PLC Current A/C	3,113.01	0.00	0.00	3,113.01	4,132.46
Nat West Bank PLC Deposit A/C	14,023.20	1,224.67	5,837.21	21,085.08	18,277.71
Cash in hand	48.42	0.00	0.00	48.42	48.42
	17,184.63	**1,224.67**	**5,837.21**	**24,246.51**	**22,458.59**
DEBTORS & PREPAID EXPENSES					
BALH Subscription	90.00	0.00	0.00	90.00	90.00
	90.00	**0.00**	**0.00**	**90.00**	**90.00**
CREDITORS & PREPAID INCOME					
Room/Sound Hire - December 2025	35.20	0.00	0.00	35.20	42.00
Accountancy	228.00	0.00	0.00	228.00	222.00
	263.20	**0.00**	**0.00**	**263.20**	**264.00**

Continued

Market Harborough Historical Society CIO
Statement of Assets & Liabilities As At 31 December 2025

Continued

FUNDS

General Fund - Unrestricted

This represents the fund that the Trustees are free to spend in fulfilling the general obectives of the Charity
This Fund is made up of a Current A/C, an interest bearing Business Reserve (Deposit) A/C and a small cash float.

Davies & Perkins Fund - Designated Unrestricted

This fund was created from a legacy from the estate of the late J.C.Davies and is to be used to finance an annual lecture to the members of the Donations in memory of the late Pat Perkins will be included in this restricted fund to be used for the same purpose.
This Fund is an interest bearing Business Reserve (Deposit) A/C

Harborough Museum Purchase Fund - Restricted

The income from this fund arose from donations made by visitors to the Harborough Museum and this income is to be applied in purchasing appropriate items to promote the museum and to add to the collection of local historical artefacts and photographs. This fund is administered by the Trustees jointly with the Keeper of the Harborough Museum.
This Fund is an interest bearing Business Reserve (Deposit) A/C

The accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf by:



Michael Stroud MA
Treasurer
20th September 2026