Supporting cultural developments in Gloucester

Trustees Report for GUST Charity No 1164727
1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026

In 2025 GUST marked a decade of supporting Gloucester's cultural sector. The city's creative, arts and heritage landscape has developed significantly in this time, and we continue to play a role in nurturing emerging organisations and promoting partnership working.

In line with its constitution, GUST welcomed four new Trustees (Marianna Hay, Jonathan Lund, Simon Murray and Toby Smith) in December 2025. Donna Renney, whose vision brought GUST to life, will step down from the Board at the AGM in April 2026 and we thank her for more than a decade of driving the charity's mission. Existing Director Kate Danielson was joined by former Trustee Clair Greenaway as Co-Director in late 2025 and, along with the new Trustees, they have embarked on reviewing GUST's impact and developing future strategy.

The total income for the charity in the year to March 31st 2026 was £54,351 against £128,293 year ended March 31st 2025. We closed the year with cash of £12,822, of which £9,200 is identified as restricted funds allocated to the SPF Gloucester 200 project.

Activity 1 April 2025 – 31 March 2026

Over the past twelve months GUST has worked particularly closely with Gloucester City Council and Gloucester Culture Trust to deliver two development projects whilst also collaborating with Dialect to explore potential for growth in the city's literary ecosystem.

Together Gloucester

GUST continues to support Gloucester Culture Trust in the delivery of Together Gloucester, an Arts Council England Place Partnership project (https://gloucesterculture.org.uk/projects/together-gloucester/).

As one of nine partners delivering the programme, GUST is particularly charged with supporting the incubation of emerging cultural organisations. In Spring 2025 Together Gloucester, with match funding from GUST and The Music Works, commissioned GUST to deliver an organisation development programme for Kings Jam Festival (https://www.kingsjamfestival.com/). With the ambition of establishing the event as a sustainable fixture in the city's calendar, this project brought together stakeholders and, most significantly, young people, to workshop and develop a future path for Kings Jam. It incorporated an opportunity for young people to develop their producing expertise and receive professional mentoring. Collaborating with Yaw Owusu (https://byyawowusu.com/), GUST produced a set of recommendations for Kings Jam and is now supporting the Festival's Founder to explore next steps in setting up a Community Interest Company in 2026.

Stories

GUST is actively contributing to the development of Gloucester's future Cultural Strategy. Participating in collaborative city-wide activity as part of this process, the need to reflect on the city's literary ecosystem was identified. Reflecting our role as a Together Gloucester partner, and drawing on the

expertise of Trustees, GUST identified the opportunity to support local literary organisation Dialect (https://www.dialect.org.uk/) whilst also enriching Cultural Strategy development.

In August - September 2025, GUST supported Dialect in funding and developing a scoping exercise designed to explore the offer for readers and writers in the city. Capturing the insights of local creatives, organisations and communities, Dialect produced a detailed report exploring the literary ecosystem. In particular, Dialect identified areas of success and opportunities for growth and development.

Following on from our collaboration, GUST is continuing to support Dialect in the development of future funding applications to support literary activity in the city of Gloucester.

Gloucester 200

2027 will mark the bicentenary of Gloucester Docks and the anniversary has been identified by Gloucester City Council and a range of partners as an opportunity for creative and heritage celebration on a significant scale. Following initial conversations earlier in the year, in July 2025 GUST was awarded a Shared Prosperity Fund grant to develop a business case for Gloucester 200 – an extended festival celebrating the city, inspired by the anniversary of the Docks.

This six month project to develop the business case focussed on:
- connecting with stakeholders to identify creative opportunities
- working with Gloucester's cultural and heritage organisations to identify alignment opportunities
- developing a fundraising and sponsorship model
- identifying an appropriate management model
- shaping outline creative and heritage programmes to underpin significant funding applications

GUST's report was presented to Gloucester City Council's cabinet in January 2026 (Briefing Note). Outlining a focus on partnership working, community led co-creation and citywide fundraising, Gloucester 200 has the potential to amplify the city's cultural and heritage offer and put Gloucester on the national stage.

In March 2026 GUST was awarded a further Shared Prosperity Fund grant to support activation of key elements of the business case. In particular, our focus will be on securing the partnerships that will ensure ambitious and consistent delivery of Gloucester 200.

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name THE GUST		
On accounts for the year ended	31st March 2026	**Charity no (if any)**	1164727
Set out on pages	1-2 (remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)		

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023.

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 (other than that disclosed below *) 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.

* *Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:	SM Greaves	**Date:**	12/10/2026
Name:	Samuel Martin Greaves		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	AICB		
Address:	Fretherne Court Cottage Saul Gloucester, GL2 7JF		

Section B	Disclosure
	Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).
Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.	

CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

The Gust	No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	01-Apr-25	To	31-Mar-26

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					
Donations	770		-	770	870
Special Projects Management Contribution	1,000		-	1,000	2,000
Bank Account Interest	28		-	28	20
Gift Aid	181		-	181	181
Unrestricted Grant	-		-	-	1,000
City Voices Grants	-		-	-	7,950
City Vouces Restricted Grants	-		-	-	104,312
City Voices Individual Donations	-		-	-	4,879
City Voices Donations	-		-	-	2,000
City Voices Big Give	-		-	-	5,000
City Voices Bank Account Interest	-		-	-	81
Voices Gloucester Gift Aid	-	2,510	-	2,510	-
Voices Gloucester Big Give	-	9,862	-	9,862	-
Restricted Grant - Shared Prosperity Fund	-	30,000	-	30,000	-
Restricted Grant - Together Gloucester (KJF Development)	-	10,000	-	10,000	-
***Sub total** (Gross income for AR)*	1,979	52,372	-	54,351	128,293
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,979	52,372	-	54351	128,293
A3 Payments					
GUST Bank Charges	60	60	-	120	70
GUST Administration and Marketing	1,272	117	-	1,389	303
GUST New Project Development	-	-	-	-	39
SPF Gloucester 200 Project	1,105	20,800		21,905	-
GUST Kings Jam Festival Grassroots Development	600	-		600	-
TG Kings Jam Festival Project	-	9,823		9,823	-
GUST Stories Project	2,000	-		2,000	-
Voices Gloucester Big Give Transfer	-	9,862		9,862	-
Voices Gloucester Gift Aid Transfer	-	2,510		2,510	-
City Voices Young Producer	-		-	-	1,000
City Voices Marketing	-		-	-	2,000
City Voices Website	-		-	-	3,739
City Voices Administration	-		-	-	2,821
City Voices Staffing	-		-	-	46,411
City Voices Steering Group	-		-	-	547
City Voices Bank Charges	-		-	-	50
City Voices Insurance and Set Up Costsw	-		-	-	1,286
City Voices Filming and Archiving Content	-		-	-	10,600
City Voices Evaluation	-		-	-	1,000
City Voices Community Grant	-		-	-	6,723
City Voices Project Fund	-		-	-	13,413
City Voices Experiential Commissioning Fund	-		-	-	22,766
City Voices Sustainable Environment Support	-		-	-	-
City Voices Professional Support Contributors	-		-	-	2,000
City Voices NHLF Contingency	-		-	-	18,509
City Voices Transfer of Funds to Voices Gloucester	-		-	-	50,362
Sub total	5037	43172	0	48209	183638
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	5,037	43,172	-	48,209	183,638
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 3,058	9,200	-	6,142	- 55,346
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	6,680		-	6,680	62,025
Cash funds this year end	3,622	9,200	-	12,822	6,680

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

B1 Cash funds

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	CAF Account (GUST)	1,904	9,200	-
	CAF Account (Special Projects)	1,717	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	**3,622**	**9,200**	**-**
	(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
[signature]	JONATHAN LUND	08/10/26
[signature]	TOSIN S SMITH	08/10/26