Easingwold Town Band CIO (Charity No 1194820)

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ending July 31st 2026

Structure, Governance & Management

As of July 31st 2026 the Band Trustees were as follows:- playing members William Cleghorn (Chair), Geoffrey Nield and Amanda Prosser; and independent trustee Helen Sykes. Lorna Savage stepped down at the 2025 AGM, recommending that the Band seeks a replacement with fundraising experience and contacts that will benefit the New Bandroom Project. Rev. Lottie Cranfield stepped down in January 2026: with her appointment to a new parish, she is no longer able to attend Trustees' meetings. We are seeking to find and appoint 2 new independent Trustees. The Band is currently without an Honorary President.

Trustee rotation schedule: William Cleghorn & Amanda Prosser retired at the 2025 AGM, were eligible for re-election and were duly re-elected. Helen Sykes will retire at the 2026 AGM and is eligible for re-election.

Election of Officers & Committee Members:

The Executive Committee of the Band consisted of Geoffrey Nield (chair) Victoria McAvoy (treasurer), Lynsey Willis (minutes secretary), William Cleghorn (chair of trustees) and eight other Band members. Their responsibilities covered Musical Direction, Safeguarding, Health & Safety, Bookings, Music Library, Recruitment & Training, and our Bandroom Upgrade Project. Duncan Law remains on the Committee but has stepped down as vice-chair.

Administration

The Trustees met four times during the year to review the work of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee met seven times during the year.

The Band's policies and procedures are kept under review. The Executive Committee received no reports of incidents, or expressions of concern, in relation to Health & Safety or Safeguarding issues. Our musical director Peter Woodrow, our Beginners & Development Band tutor Kyle Sherwin, and Band members in regular contact with our young players, hold

up-to-date enhanced DBS clearances. Chaperoning at concerts, when required, is undertaken by parents/carers or persons nominated by them. Safety checks were carried out on portable electrical equipment. The gas heater received an annual service; the fire extinguisher was checked and serviced; a new First Aid kit has been purchased. Fire evacuation drills were held. Insurance cover was maintained on the Band's building, instruments & other property; and for public liability and Band members' and Trustees' indemnity.

Finance

At the Annual General Meeting held on 19 October 2026, the Treasurer's annual financial statement and the Independent Examiner's report for the year ended 31 July 2026 were received and approved by the membership.

The accounts showed a surplus for the year of £154,986.29, comprising total income of £170,076.17 and total expenditure of £15,089.88.

Included within the income for the year was a single restricted donation of £160,000.00, received specifically towards the extension and refurbishment of the Band's 76-year-old rehearsal headquarters (the "Bandroom"), which the Band owns freehold. This was the only donation received during the year that was subject to a specific restriction.

During the year, £3,371.74 was spent from the restricted fund on the Bandroom project. With no opening balance on restricted funds, the restricted fund carried forward at the year-end was therefore £156,628.26. These funds remain restricted for the continuation of the Bandroom extension and refurbishment project and for the future upkeep of the Bandroom.

At the year end, the Band's total assets were £186,600.75, including £179,515.88 held in an interest-bearing CAF Bank Gold Savings Account. The funds held include the balance of the restricted fund.

Musical Director

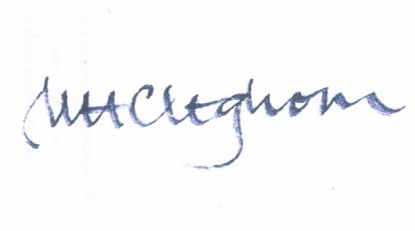
Our Musical Director Peter Woodrow continues to focus on raising the Band's playing standard as an ensemble, with the aim of attracting new players. The Band took part in the 2026 Regional Contest of the National Brass Band Championships, held in Durham on 21 March, and plans to take part in the 2027 contest.

Musical activities

During the year the Band gave 2 themed concerts and played at 3 other local musical events, in addition to a remembrance service in November and carols at 6 pre-Christmas events. A small group from the Band visited 3 local primary schools, from which the Beginners' Group gained new recruits. Membership of the Development Band has grown during the year, with 12 players currently attending regularly. 2 players have stepped up into the Town Band.

Bandroom Upgrade Project

We abandoned the original plan for a joint development with a local housing association when they withdrew following lengthy delays. We have commissioned architects to draw up and cost plans to extend and upgrade our 75-year-old HQ and rehearsal hall, to create a more versatile, energy-efficient, disability-friendly building. We already have funds to pay for construction and fitting out. As soon as receipt of planning consent is confirmed, and we have an accurate total project cost estimate to hand, we will undertake any further fundraising that proves to be necessary.



William Cleghorn

Chair of Trustees 14 September 2026