# Claverton Pumping Station Trust CIO
# Annual Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements

Period from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

Charity Number: 1200080

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# Chair's report

As we look back on our third year as a registered charity, it feels like a return to business as usual. It may, at first, sound strange that a third year of operation could be a return to business as usual, but while we have only been an independent registered charity for three years, our volunteer group in some form has maintained the pumping station since 1969. Our first year as the Trust was dominated by repairing major cracks to the cast iron of the main waterwheel; our second was overwhelmed by multiple floods, including two of the four largest floods the building has seen in over 200 years. This was productive, fun, and a time to recoup.

The pumping station machinery was in operation for all scheduled running days, and the machinery is running smoother than it has in years. The reduction of airflow through a piston snifter (a small tap that draws air into each water stroke) has removed the worrying knocking sound that has persisted for some time. Seeing the machinery running smoothly and calmly on a public open day is the best reward for all the hard work our volunteers have put in over the last couple of difficult years.

On behalf of all the trustees I would like to thank everyone who has volunteered this year, and over the previous two years. We would not have made it to here without your hard work.



Dr Julian Stirling
Chair of Trustees

# Trustees Report

## Reference and Administrative Details

***Charity Name***
Claverton Pumping Station Trust CIO
*The charity also uses the name "Claverton Pumping Station"*

***Trustees***
Julian Stirling (Chair)
Deborah Ann Wray (Secretary)
Heather Linda Higgins (Treasurer)
Anthony Richard Wray
Stephen Richard Teilo Denning

All five trustees are the founding trustees of the charity, appointed on the 16th August 2022. Stephen Denning and Anthony Richard Wray stood down at the first AGM on the 10th February 2024 and were both re-elected without opposition. Deborah Ann Wray and Heather Linda Higgins stood down at the second AGM on the 22 March 2025.

As per our governing document one third of trustees stand down at each AGM. Trustees standing down are free to seek reelection. Trustees are be elected at the AGM by a vote of the charity's members.

***Registered Office and Principal Address***
Claverton Pumping Station
Ferry Lane
Claverton
Bath
BA2 7BH

***Registered Charity Number***
1200080

***Governance***
Claverton Pumping Station Trust CIO was incorporated as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on the 16th August 2022. Its governing document follows the the Charity Commission's model association CIO constitution.

***Relationship with the Canal and River Trust***
The Canal and River Trust (CRT) own Claverton Pumping Station, the charity maintains the grounds and pumping machinery for CRT, opening the site to the public as a museum on open days.

## Objectives, Activities, and Performance

### *Objectives*

The objects of the charity as set out by its governing document are:

1. To promote the heritage, preservation, restoration and maintenance of Claverton Pumping Station for the public benefit.
2. To advance the education of the general public in the history of Claverton Pumping Station.

### *Activities*

The core activities of the charity are:

- maintenance of the pumping station site in line with Objective 1. of the charity.
- maintenance to keep the pumping machinery in full working order in line with Objective 1. of the charity.
- opening the pumping station as a museum on public open days in line with Objective 2. of the charity.
- running the pumping station machinery for the public in line with Objective 2. of the charity
- giving both pre-arranged tours and *ad hoc* tours on maintenance days (when safe to do so) in line with Objective 2. of the charity.

The Trustees confirm that they have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

### *Maintenance Activities*

#### *Flood and Leat Clean-up*

Whilst the flood season was considerably more manageable in 2025, flood clean up still dominated the winter months. In addition to the flood clean up multiple trees were brought down in storms. These piled up on the weir by the entrance to our leat[1]. Trees brought down over previous years, dating back to the pandemic had built up considerable silt making them hard to remove. With the further trees from this year the leat was almost dammed shut.

[1]The leat is the man-made cut from the river used to feed the waterwheel and return water that has been through the wheel to the river.



***Figure 1:*** *Left: Soo-Hwa Kim, Arthur Feltham, and Steve Denning during pit-wheel pit clearance. Top Right: Harry Wood, Steve Denning, and Mike Hobson cleaning up after a flood. Bottom Right: Mike Hobson, Paul Watkins, Tom Carrol, and Soo-Hwa Kim clearing the mouth of the leat.*

Though out the year our volunteers removed tens of trees from the river and multiple tonnes of silt from the neck of the leat by hand. A pond wash was also completed during the year, keeping a sufficient flow of water for the waterwheel despite the main leat being overdue for dredging. The leat was dredged by Canal and River Trust contractors during the year.

A full clearing of the pitwheel pit was also completed. A difficult task where silt that builds up during floods is removed from a narrow 3-metre deep pit. The entire operation is completed from the surface to prevent the need for activity within the combined space using hoses, long tools, and pumps.

***Machinery Maintenance***

The main pumping station machinery underwent its usual inspections, preparations for the running season, and winterisation at the end of the season. The only job non-routine job required this year was the replacement of a waterwheel “start”. The starts support the waterwheel float boards.

All starts were replaced less than 15 years ago, they have an estimated lifetime of 30-40 years. However, one had rotted through, and then cracked. The starts are wooden with a double taper that must be hand fitted to the tapered hole in the water wheel’s cast iron. This is completed by repeatedly test fitting the starts and removing the high spots until it fits soundly.

***Lister Engine***

The waterwheel at Claverton Pumping Station ran from 1813 until 1952. Damage to the main pit-wheel gear took the wheel out of operation until restoration in the 1970s. During this time water was pumped from the river to the canal using a 1953 Lister FR3 engine that remains on site. The engine had not been run for almost 10 years.

This year the some light maintenance to the engine, a new battery, and some liberal oiling saw the pump running.

***Other Site Maintenance***

Grounds maintenance is a major undertaking for our volunteers. Primarily this involved gardening in the paddock area by the pumping station, and maintaining the staff car park and walk area the other side of the train line.

***2025 Opening Season***

The pumping station ran on all eight advertised open days, and for a special visit. The total number of paying visitors (under 16s enter for free, and are not counted by our ticketing system) was steady at 410 (408 in 2024). However, these numbers are still down from 511 in 2023.

***Volunteer contribution***

Volunteer hours reduce this year from 4713 in 2024 to only 3,995 in 2025, with active volunteer numbers falling from 22 to 19. As always, numbers alone cannot tell the whole story. Our volunteer days are still well attended, and volunteer morale remains high. Volunteer numbers exceeded 2024 in both November and December.



***Figure 2:*** *Left: Phil Hammond removing the rotten waterwheel start. Top Right: Steve Denning helping to test fit the new start. Bottom Right: The waterwheel after repairs.*

An an entirely voluntary organisation, we must keep an eye on these numbers to check that this apparent downward trend does not continue. We also need to focus on advertising volunteer opportunities.

***The Future***

In the coming year we must continue the progress of the previous year. The pumping station machinery is running smoothly, our volunteer morale is high, and the major repair projects to our winter storage and to the machinery are complete. Years of heavy floods still leave a number of smaller woodwork repairs needed.

During the year we will continue to focus on diligent maintenance and inspection of the building and machinery, and on providing an excellent experience for visitors. We must also try to attract new volunteers to ensure that we have the required members to keep the machinery running.

## Financial Review

The trust had no major grants this year. In the past few years Canal and River Trust, who own the Grade I listed building and machinery, have given us a £7,500 grant to help enable us to perform the upkeep and maintenance. This year that grant was removed entirely, with no indication that it will be reinstated. We are very disappointed by this decision as we believe the work we do maintaining the pumping station is exceptional value for this small grant.

Due to the lack of grant income we have been careful to restrict spending where possible. With our major spending being on tools paid for by a Headly Trust grant from the previous year, and a £1,354 deposit on repairs and restoration of the range used to heat the mess room paid for by funds donated by the Medlock Charitable Trust. The range was originally located in the engineman's house, it has been used to heat the mess room for many years, but it has deteriorated due to excess water ingress down the chimney in recent storms. The rest rest of the funds from the Medlock Charitable Trust donation are designated to that restoration.

Due to diligent spending only £507 from our unrestricted funds were spent this year. Increasing our unrestricted fund at the end of the year to £19,144 (2024: £12,523). We also only spent half of the £8,592 of the restricted funds from Canal and River Trust annual grant that was last paid at the end of 2024; we have kept £4,473 for 2026. We will need to find a future source of income to replace this lost funding, we are just lucky that it has fallen in a quiet year. Our restricted funds now sit at £10,610 (2024: £19,552)

***Reserves***

The trustees have agreed to hold reserves to ensure that we are able to continue our charitable activities in the event of an unexpected loss of income. As an all-volunteer organisation our fixed costs contain no management or staff costs. Our fixed costs are primarily the ongoing maintenance and inspection of the pumping machinery and maintenance of the grounds.

The trustees have agreed to endeavour to keep at minimum £5,000 of unrestricted funds in reserve. In addition to our fixed costs we must also prepare as well as possible for the periodical re-timbering of the waterwheel and other major machinery works which can cost tens of thousands of pounds.

## Declaration

This report has been approved by the Board of Trustees on 27th October 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Dr Julian Stirling
Chair of Trustees

# Independent Examiner's Report

## Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Claverton Pumping Station Trust CIO

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the period from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025.

***Responsibilities and basis of report***

As the charity's 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 as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 give me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

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

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.

Signed  Date 27/10/2026

Mrs V Jensen FCCA
The Rectory Coach House
Claverton
Bath
BA2 7BG

# Financial Statements

## Claverton Pumping Station Trust CIO
## Statement of Receipts and Payments
## Period from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

| | Notes | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total Funds | Total Funds |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 2025 £ | 2025 £ | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
| **Receipts** | | | | | |
| Ticket Income | | 3,568 | - | 3,568 | 3,092 |
| Donations | | 3,054 | - | 3054 | 1,408 |
| Grants | | - | - | - | 17,000 |
| Gift Shop | | 456 | - | 456 | 133 |
| Other Receipts | | 50 | - | 50 | 235 |
| **Sub Total** | | **7,128** | **-** | **7,128** | **21,868** |
| | | | | | |
| **Asset and Investment Sales** | | | | | |
| Sale of fixed assets | | - | - | - | - |
| **Sub Total** | | **-** | **-** | **-** | **-** |
| | | | | | |
| **Total Receipts** | | **7,128** | **-** | **7,128** | **21,868** |
| | | | | | |
| **Payments** | | | | | |
| Charitable Activities | 4 | (164) | (8,942) | (9,106) | (5934) |
| Cost of Raising Funds | | (343) | (-) | (343) | (335) |
| **Sub Total** | | **(507)** | **(8,942)** | **(9,449)** | **(6,269)** |
| | | | | | |
| **Asset and Investment Purchases** | | | | | |
| | | - | - | - | - |
| **Sub Total** | | **-** | **-** | **-** | **-** |
| | | | | | |
| **Total Payments** | | **(507)** | **(8,942)** | **(9,449)** | **(6,269)** |
| | | | | | |
| **Net of Receipts/(Payments)** | | **6,621** | **(8,942)** | **(2,321)** | **15,599** |
| | | | | | |
| Cash Funds last Year End | | 12,523 | 19,552 | 32,075 | 16,476 |
| **Cash Funds this Year End** | | **19,144** | **10,610** | **29,754** | **32,075** |

## Claverton Pumping Station Trust CIO
## Statement of Assets and Liabilities
## Period from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

| | Notes | Unrestricted Funds 2025 | Restricted Funds 2025 | Total Funds 2025 | Total Funds 2024 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| **Cash funds** | | 19,144 | 10,610 | 29,754 | 32,075 |

| | Notes | Value 2025 | Value 2024 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | £ | £ |
| **Other Monetary Assets** | | - | - |
| **Investment Assets** | | - | - |
| **Assets retained for the charity's own use** | 5 | - | - |
| **Liabilities** | | - | - |

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 27th October 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Dr Julian Stirling
Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 12–13 form an integral part of these accounts.

# Claverton Pumping Station Trust CIO
# Notes to the Accounts
# Period from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025

## Note 1: Accounting Policies

### Basis of preparation

These accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS102) issued on 16 July 2014 and the Charities Act 2011.

### Income

Income is recorded when it is received.

### Expenditure

Expenses are recorded when they are paid. Expenses on materials, small tools and equipment are written off as incurred and no valuation is included in the Balance Sheet.

### Charitable Activities

***Direct maintenance and site running costs***—represent costs directly attributable to the maintenance and general running of the site. These costs include repairs or maintenance by contractors, the purchase of tools and materials, and fuel costs.

***Governance, Administration, and Compliance costs***—include the direct costs of administration of the charity. These costs include insurance, membership of associated organisation, and training activities.

### Fund Accounting

***Unrestricted funds***—are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.

***Restricted funds***—are for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

## Note 2: Trustees remuneration and benefits

No remuneration or benefit was paid to any trustee or any person connected with a trustee during the accounting period.

No trustee expenses were paid during the accounting period.

**Note 3: Breakdown of restricted funds**

| Fund | Funds at 31/12/25 £ | Incoming Resources £ | Resources Expended £ | Funds at 31/12/24 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Canal and River Trust (annual grant) | 8,592 | 0 | 4,119 | 4,473 |
| Major machinery repair | 1,755 | - | - | 1,755 |
| Flood resilience | 543 | - | - | 543 |
| Battens Charitable Trust | 242 | - | 50 | 192 |
| Headly Trust | 3,420 | - | 3,420 | - |
| Medlock Charitable Trust | 5,000 | - | 1,354 | 3,646 |
| Total | 19,552 | - | 8,943 | 10,609 |

**Note 4: Breakdown of Charitable Activity Spending**

| Category | Expenditure £ |
|---|---|
| Direct maintenance and site running costs | 7,828 |
| Governance, Administration, and Compliance costs | 1,278 |
| Total | 9,106 |

**Note 5: Assets**

The charity owns a number of artefacts related to the pumping station's working life. it is not possible to assign a monetary figure to these items as their value is tied to their situation inside the pumping station and as our charitable objects wouldn't allow them to be sold.

The charity has a supply of tools, equipment, and other stock materials for the daily running and maintenance of the pumping station. The trustees have not valued these items on the balance sheet as assets as they are required for the operation of the charity and are not believed to have significant resale value.