Bretforton Silver Band

Registered Charity number: 1204316

Annual Report and Accounts

For the year ending 31st January 2026

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Administrative information

Status:	Charitable Incorporated Organisation Registered number: 1204316
Honorary President:	Peggy Wheatley
Musical Director:	Paul Wood
Trustees:	Linda Hall Nigel Smith Colin Jelfs Michelle Everall (Chair) Laura Hunt (Secretary) Martin Kemp (Treasurer) Paul Wood - Band Master as Ex Officio Trustee
Committee:	Michelle Everall (Chair) Laura Hunt (Secretary) Martin Kemp (Treasurer) Paul Wood - Band Master as Ex Officio Trustee Kieran Hunt Pauline Herbert Sally Taylor Shane Grove-Robson Tim Gutteridge
Correspondence address:	Secretary, Bretforton Silver Band 6 Clayfield Road Bretforton Evesham Worcestershire WR11 7HS

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Contents

	Pages
Trustees' Annual Report	1 - 3
Receipts and Payments Account	4
Statement of Assets and Liabilities	5
Notes to the Accounts	6

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Trustees' Annual Report

The Trustees present their annual report together with accounts for the year ended 31st January 2026.

The Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) 1204316 was registered on 10th August 2023, to take forward the work of the Unincorporated Association known as Bretforton Silver Band. All the assets, liabilities and funds were transferred from the Unincorporated Association with effect from 31st March 2024 to the CIO.

Objectives

The primary objectives of the charity revolve around advancing the education and appreciation of the public in the art and science of brass band music through public concerts and training programs for individuals interested in playing brass instruments.

Governance Structure

The governance structure of the charity ensures effective oversight and management. The Trustees meet regularly throughout the year to review the charity's strategic direction, financial health, and operational performance.

The day-to-day running of the band is entrusted to the elected Committee, including the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Band Master, who also serve as Trustees. The elected Committee convenes monthly to address operational matters, plan events, and ensure the seamless execution of the band's activities.

The Band Master, currently Paul Wood, automatically holds the position of a charity trustee by virtue of holding that office ("ex officio"). This designation recognizes the pivotal role of the Band Master in guiding the band's musical direction and aligns with the broader governance structure of the charity.

Trustees, other than the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Band Master, are appointed for a term of 3 years and can then be re-appointed. The Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Band Master are elected annually at the Annual General Meeting together with other members of the Committee.

Membership in Brass Bands England

It is noteworthy that Bretforton Silver Band proudly holds membership in Brass Bands England. This affiliation serves as a testament to the band's commitment to excellence and adherence to industry standards. This collaboration further enhances the band's capacity to achieve its mission and contribute positively to the broader brass band community.

During 2024, the band updated and created policies and developed a players' handbook with valuable support and guidance from Brass Bands England.

Volunteer Recognition

It is crucial to highlight that Bretforton Silver Band operates entirely with the dedication of unpaid volunteers. Both band members and non-playing volunteers generously contribute their time, meeting their own expenses in attending rehearsals, events, and concerts. The Trustees extend their utmost gratitude and recognition to all these volunteers, emphasizing that without their selfless contributions, the charity would not function.

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

Education Initiatives

Bretforton Silver Band continues to place a strong emphasis on education and player development. In October 2025, the beginner group, Bret Set Go, successfully integrated into the training band, Bret Prep. The combined group now has 24 regular attendees and continues to rehearse on Sunday mornings, catering to both young players and adult learners.

The training band has enjoyed a busy and varied programme of performances throughout the year. These have included appearances at a classic car gathering at The Ranch in Honeybourne, the Band Fete at The Fleece Inn, and a concert as part of the band's 130th anniversary celebrations, also held at The Fleece Inn. Additional engagements included performing at a carol service in Aldington, festive fundraising through carol playing at Waitrose, and a community event at Bretforton Theatrebarn.

A particular highlight was the contribution of Bret Set Go members to the 130th anniversary celebrations, where the younger players delivered a memorable performance, including introducing and conducting pieces themselves.

Looking ahead, there are plans to establish a new beginners' group in early 2026, ensuring continued growth and accessibility for new players. The band also continues to benefit from the support of Brass Bands England's Youth Development Team, who provide valuable advice, resources, and guidance.

Main Band Achievements and Public Performances

The main band currently has 32 players and continues to explore opportunities to secure land in Bretforton for the development of a larger band room with improved storage facilities. The band remains in discussion with the Parish Council regarding potential sites.

Throughout the year, the band delivered a varied programme of concerts and community performances. Highlights included two concerts at Bretforton Theatrebarn—a Spring concert and the annual Christmas concert and singalong—both of which were well supported and attracted a broad audience. The band also participated in the Midlands Brass Band Regional Championships in Bedworth, providing an opportunity for players to further develop their musical skills and ensemble performance.

The Annual Asparagus Auction at The Fleece Inn was once again a success, continuing its tradition as a key fundraising and community event.

A major highlight of the year was the celebration of the band's 130th anniversary. This was marked by a full day of events at The Fleece Inn, including performances from Bret Set Go and Bret Prep, showcasing the future of the organisation. The celebrations also featured an informative and engaging presentation on the band's history, including newly discovered footage. The day concluded with an evening concert alongside guest bands, including Arrow Valley Brass, Alcester Victoria Silver Band, and Avonbank (Evesham), followed by a performance from Bretforton Silver Band.

In addition to these key events, the band continued to support a wide range of local engagements throughout the summer and Christmas period, performing to diverse audiences and maintaining its strong presence within the community.

Trustees' Annual Report (continued)

The Future

The band is looking forward to an exciting year ahead, with a continued focus on nurturing new beginners of all ages through the establishment of a new beginner group. This will support the ongoing development pathway into Bret Prep and the main band.

The band also intends to participate in the 2026 National Regional Competition, providing players with an opportunity to further develop their musical skills and ensemble performance.

Key community events will remain central to the band's activities, including organising and performing at the Annual Asparagus Auction and supporting the Bretforton Village Proms.

A significant long-term objective remains the establishment of a purpose-built bandroom. The band will continue to explore opportunities to secure suitable land and progress this project through ongoing planning, fundraising, and community engagement.

Declaration

I declare the Trustees have approved the report above and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Michelle Everall
Chair of Trustees, Bretforton Silver Band
1st June 2026

Receipts and Payments Account

For the year ending 31st January 2026

	Note	General Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
RECEIPTS					
Grants and Donations					
Donations		7,292	-	7,292	2,024
Gift Aid Recovered		303	-	303	-
Concerts and engagements					
Christmas		4,180	-	4,180	5,845
Other engagements		5,976	-	5,976	5,565
Other					
Interest		832	-	832	659
Total Receipts		**18,583**	**-**	**18,583**	14,093
PAYMENTS					
Direct charitable expenditure					
Music		1,236	-	1,236	562
Instruments		6,600	-	6,600	2,887
Instrument maintenance		480	-	480	1,063
Contest, concert & tour costs		4,577	-	4,577	888
Administration, property and other costs					
Band room maintenance		136	-	136	316
Electricity		326	-	326	270
Gas		409	-	409	357
Insurance	2	606	-	606	-
Stationery, printing & web-site		458	-	458	378
Sundries		373	-	373	250
Total Payments		**15,201**	**-**	**15,201**	6,971
Net Receipts / (Payments)		**3,382**	**-**	**3,382**	7,122

For 2025, there were no receipts or payments prior to the transfer of assets, liabilities and funds from the Unincorporated Association on 31st March 2024 to the CIO.

The attached notes on page 6 form part of these accounts.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

As at 31st January 2026

	General Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
Monetary Assets				
Lloyds Bank current accounts	9,410	-	9,410	11,022
Lloyds Bank deposit account	15,059	11,882	26,941	21,947
	24,469	**11,882**	**36,351**	32,969

Other Assets

These include the band room, instruments, music and other equipment. These are not valued for reporting purposes, their costs are reported in the period to which their expenditure is incurred.

Movements in Funds during the year

	General Funds (£)	Restricted Funds (£)	Total 2026 (£)	Total 2025 (£)
As at 1st January 2025	21,087	11,882	32,969	-
From Unincorporated Association	-	-	-	25,847
Net Receipts / (Payments)	3,382	-	3,382	7,122
As at 31st January 2026	**24,469**	**11,882**	**36,351**	32,969

The Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) 1204316 was registered on 10th August 2023, to take forward the work of the Unincorporated Association known as Bretforton Silver Band. All the assets, liabilities and funds were transferred from the Unincorporated Association with effect from 31st March 2024 to the CIO.

The attached notes on page 6 form part of these accounts.

These accounts were approved by the Trustees held on 1st June 2026

Michelle Everall
Chair of Trustees, Bretforton Silver Band

Notes to the Accounts

1. Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the receipts and payments basis as allowed under section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 provided the charity's gross income is not over £250,000.

The Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) 1204316 was registered on 10th August 2023, to take forward the work of the Unincorporated Association known as Bretforton Silver Band. All the assets, liabilities and funds were transferred from the Unincorporated Association with effect from 31st March 2024 to the CIO.

2. Accounting policies

The financial statements include monetary transactions, assets and liabilities for which the charity can be held responsible. Receipts are included as received and expenditure when irrevocably paid.

Restricted Funds must be used for the purpose for which the money was given or donated. Unrestricted Funds represent money that can be used for the general charitable purposes of the band. Amounts that have been earmarked for specific purposes are called Designated Funds, which nevertheless remain unrestricted.

Volunteer help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts.

Insurance

For the prior year, insurance was paid by the Unincorporated Association in February 2024, prior to the transfer of assets, liabilities and funds to the CIO therefore there were no insurance costs in the year.