

# Stainsby Festival

## Annual Report & Financial Statement





## Details of charity and trustees

The name of the charity is **Stainsby Folk Group**

Registered charity Number: 509610

Website address: <https://stainsbyfestival.org/>

### Registered Address:

The Schoolhouse,  
Stainsby,  
Derbyshire  
S44 5RN

### **Charitable Objectives:**

(a) To educate the public in the arts and in particular the art of folk music as a means to promote social justice, social cohesion, intergenerational equity and sustainable development by all or any of the following means:-

(i) The presentation of the Stainsby Folk Festival and other events of a similar nature.

(ii) The advancement of education in the arts, particularly among young people and children

(iii) The provision of access to the arts and training opportunities for the public at large or those who by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances, have need of such opportunities.

(iv) The promotion of peace, understanding and reconciliation between differing social groups

## Our Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for ensuring that the management, policies and strategies are in place to achieve the objectives of the charity. This involves formal approval of key financial decisions such as the annual budget and annual report.

**Trustees:** Bob Betts, Vince Briers, Bethan Ellis, Chris Ellis, Hugh Ellis, Owain Ellis,  
Emma Farndon, Tim Farndon, Kate Gillibrand, Zara Gillibrand, Ian Gobbi,  
Alice Martin, Moby Renshaw, Tony Trafford,

**Chair:** Hugh Ellis

**Vice Chairs:** Bob Betts, Bethan Ellis

**Treasurer:** Tim Fardon

**Secretary:** Chris Ellis

**President:** Tony Trafford

**Vice Presidents:** John Glover, Liz Wilkinson , Dave Whitmore

# 2024 Impact Report

## **Our Festival**

Stainsby folk group has, for almost 60 years, been creating access to live music in the former Derbyshire coalfield. The centrepiece of the charity's work is the production of Stainsby festival which is a three day long greenfield site music event. The festival provides an opportunity to experience the very best of the folk music tradition from the UK and internationally. But the festival is unique in providing opportunities to participate in music at all levels including the results of our young people's music programme in local schools. The event also provides opportunities to enjoy and participate in spoken word events from poetry to politics as well as traditional craft and children's entertainment. The ethos of the festival is designed to be kind and welcoming with a strong emphasis on creating an inclusive environment.

The production of the festival creates access to this high-quality arts experience for up to 2000 people in a number of different ways. Those paying full ticket prices are gaining access to music at approximately one third of the cost of equivalent commercial events. Weekend camping is free and food and drink prices a consciously kept out an affordable level. We also offer a range of free and half-price tickets for the immediate community and those who cannot afford to pay are welcomed as part of our 600 strong volunteer workforce.

## **Our volunteer ethos.**

We can only offer the unique experience of Stainsby festival because of the work and commitment of hundreds of volunteers. It is through the generous donation of that time and effort that access to the festival can remain affordable for some and free for others. The voluntary nature of our event is the foundation of the unique experience of Stainsby festival which is not about extracting profit but using the arts to inspire and entertain. Over the last 10 years the festival has become increasingly aware of the very important mental health benefits generated through volunteering at the festival and throughout the year. Part of these benefits are about creating opportunities for connection between people which can help address the chronic loneliness that many people experience in modern society. It is about using music and art to explore emotions through shared experiences. There are also specific mental health benefits which were revealed when volunteers undertook our most ambitious infrastructure project, the building an oak framed storage barn. During that process we created a safe space where people could express some deep-seated mental health challenges in an atmosphere of acceptance and kindness.

## **Our commitment to sustainable development.**

One of the most hard-won achievements of our charity was successfully raising £80,000 to buy the two fields where the festival takes place. The purchase of the fields has enabled us to begin an environmental transformation which will both restore nature and make our event more resilient to the severe weather being driven by the climate crisis. Our plans include the restoration of a Green Lane as well as other hedgerow boundaries the long-term restoration of the wildflower Meadow which once existed on the site. We have recently completed the construction of a traditional oak frame barn to create resilient storage on the site and begun the replacement of ancient field trees which were removed by opencast coal extraction in the 1950s. We have begun this work with enthusiasm and by April 2025 will have had planted more than 600 hedgerow plants and trees in less than two years.





**Stainsby Folk Group**  
**Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period**  
**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**

<b>B-1 Cash funds</b>		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Cash at bank and in hand		10793	18035
Restricted funds	2.	(3,098)	6746
Unrestricted funds		13890	11289
<b>Total cash funds</b>		<b>10793</b>	<b>18035</b>

<b>B-2 Other monetary assets</b>			
Final tranche of grant for barn build due in 2025		9742	

<b>B-4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>			
Festival fields	3.	83128	

**Notes**

1. The final payment of £9,742 towards a grant received for the Barn Build project was received in 2025, bringing the balance on this restricted fund to nil.

2. Monthly donations were initiated for the purchase of the fields and after the completion of the purchase, all donors were notified, thanked and invited to continue to donate in this manner to support the charity's constituted aims. From the end of this accounting year, ongoing monthly donations will be accounted as unrestricted, but designated by the trustees to the educational aims of the charity.

3. The fields are now held as an asset of the charity by three holding trustees: Richard Renshaw, Zara Gillibrand and Tony Trafford

### **Statement of Trustee responsibilities**

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- a) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- b) make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charities transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees confirm that, to the best of their knowledge, the financial report represents a true and accurate description of the charity's accounts.

### **Reserves Policy**

The charity does not currently operate a reserves policy.

### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to public benefit as set out in section 17 of the Charities Act, 2011.

The objects and priorities set out in the constitution (appendix 1, below) are achieved through a range of activities set out in our impact report. These include: creating access to music through our schools programme; the successful development of Stainsby Festival into an inclusive arts and social space and a long term land management plan to restore biodiversity and lost landscape features.

**STAINSBY FOLK GROUP**

**CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

**(1)**

Adopted: 27th April 1979.

Amended: 2nd October 1989.

Amended 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

Amended 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Name Of group: The group shall be known as the **Stainsby Folk Group**

- Objects: (a) To educate the public in the arts and in particular the art of folk music as a means to promote social justice, social cohesion, intergenerational equity and sustainable development by all or any of the following means:-
- (i) The presentation of the Stainsby Folk Festival and other events of a similar nature.
  - (ii) The advancement of education in the arts, particularly among young people and children
  - (iii) The provision of access to the arts and training opportunities for the public at large or those who by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, poverty or social and economic circumstances, have need of such opportunities.
  - (iv) The promotion of peace, understanding and reconciliation between differing social groups

**STAINSBY FOLK GROUP**  
**CONSTITUTION AND RULES**

**(2)**

**Membership:** The group shall have a maximum of twenty trustees who shall be members from the date of adoption until they resign in writing. When a vacancy arises, it may be filled by any person elected by an Ordinary Resolution of the remaining members.

**Officers:** The officers of the group shall consist of the following:-  
Chair  
Vice-chairs(2)  
Treasurer  
Secretary

The officers shall serve from the date of adoption until they resign in writing, or are dismissed by a Special Resolution. When a vacancy arises, it shall be filled by any member elected by an ordinary resolution of the group.

**Co-option:** The group shall have the right to co-opt non-members to attend meetings of the group to assist with particular specialised matters, but these persons shall not be entitled to vote at these meetings.

**Quorum:** At meetings, a quorum shall consist of five members

**Ordinary Resolutions:** Ordinary resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority of the members attending a meeting at which a quorum is present.  
In the event of equality, the chairman shall have a casting vote

**Special Resolutions:** Special Resolutions may only be discussed and voted on when notice in writing of the special resolution has been sent to all members at least seven days before the date of the meeting. Subject to this notice having been issued, a Special Resolution shall be passed only if supported by two-thirds of the members attending the meeting.

**N.B. Special Resolutions shall be required only for the following:-**

- a) Removal of any person from membership of the group
- b) Removal of any member of the group from office
- c) Alteration or amendment of the constitution and rules of the group -  
- provided that no amendment shall be made that would cause the group to cease to be a charity at law.
- d) Dissolution of the group

**Dissolution:** Upon the passing of a Special Resolution to dissolve the group, all funds remaining after the settlement of all liabilities shall be paid to some other charitable institution or institutions having objects similar to those of the group.

**END**

**Stainsby Folk Group**  
**Receipts & Payments Accounts**  
**Year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024**


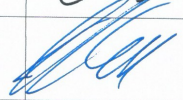
	Restricted: Barn build	Restricted: Fields	Restricted: Community access	Restricted: Volunteer welfare	Unrestricted	2024	2023
<b>A1-Receipts</b>							
<b>Grants</b>							
Ault Hucknall Parish Council (subsidized community tickets)	-	-	2,500	-	-	2,500	2,000
Four winds energy co-operative ltd	7,376	-	-	-	-	7,376	-
Bolsover District Council	7,469	-	-	500	-	7,969	-
Derbyshire County Council	-	-	-	500	-	500	-
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>14,845</b>	-	<b>2,500</b>	<b>1,000</b>	-	<b>18,345</b>	<b>2,000</b>
<b>Other Receipts</b>							
Advertising Income	-	-	-	-	325	325	-
Bar receipts	-	-	-	-	16,952	16,952	13,527
Car Park receipts	-	-	-	-	571	571	-
Concessions (catering stalls)	-	-	-	-	3,056	3,056	3,824
Craft stall receipts	-	-	-	-	590	590	625
Individual Donations	-	3,194	-	-	1,000	4,194	-
Gift aid HMRC	-	-	-	-	1,259	1,259	-
Other Income	-	-	-	-	3,316	3,316	-
Ticket sales	-	-	-	-	34,305	34,305	34,135
<b>Total Other Receipts</b>	-	<b>3,194</b>	-	-	<b>61,374</b>	<b>64,568</b>	<b>52,111</b>
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>14,845</b>	<b>3,194</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>61,374</b>	<b>82,913</b>	<b>54,111</b>
		See note 2					
<b>A-3 Payments</b>							
Artists fees & expenses	-	-	2,500	-	23,987	26,487	-
Admin	-	-	-	-	1,927	1,927	2,459
Bar payments	-	-	-	-	5,362	5,362	6,257
Trustees Expenses	-	-	-	-	142	142	724
Publicity	-	-	-	-	1,451	1,451	522
Site payments	-	-	-	1,000	25,146	26,146	25,650
Misc. payments	-	-	-	-	757	757	-
<b>Total Payments</b>	-	-	<b>2,500</b>	<b>1,000</b>	<b>58,773</b>	<b>62,273</b>	<b>35,612</b>
<b>A-4 Capital spend</b>							
Purchase of mobile cabin for volunteer work days	-	1,200	-	-	-	-	-
Barn build	26,683	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Capital Spend</b>	<b>26,683</b>	<b>1,200</b>	-	-	-	<b>27,883</b>	<b>81,658</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(11,838)</b>	<b>1994</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2601</b>	<b>(7,242)</b>	<b>(63,159)</b>
<b>A-5 Transfers between funds</b>							
	2096	(2,096)					
<b>A-6 Cash funds last year end</b>							
Cash funds this year end	1	(9,742)	6644	-	-	13890	18035

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Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		C.P. ELLIS	19/10/25
		H. ELLIS	14/10/25

# Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Stainsby Folk Group

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Stainsby Folk Group (the Group) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

## **Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Group 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 Group's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

## **Independent examiner's statement**

The Group's gross income did not exceed £250,000 and so there is no requirement that your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the Act.

Nevertheless, I confirm that I am a member of the ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records.

In carrying out my examination I noted three matters to which I specifically draw your attention:

1. The Annual Report for 2024 was approved in March 2025, prior to the Independent Examination, and the financial information contained therein is not consistent with the final accounts. Additionally, the Annual Report does not contain all the details required by the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. You have agreed to amend and reissue the 2024 Annual Report accordingly.
2. As a result of enquiries made during the examination, you identified a cash purchase of £1,200 which did not initially appear in your accounting records. I have not seen any indication of further errors and consider the amount

immaterial, however this lapse puts into doubt the completeness and overall integrity of your accounting records.

3. I noted an immaterial lapse in the keeping of accounting records which has resulted in £3,275 of receipts and £797 of expenditure for which you are unable to accurately identify the nature of the transactions. While the circumstances of these transactions strongly suggest that they relate directly to the operation of the festival, you should take steps in future to ensure that you comply with your duty to keep complete accounting records.

I attach as an Appendix to this report to provide further detail of these matters and others identified and corrected during the course of the Independent Examination.

I confirm that there are no other matters to which your attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed: Tim Rouse

Name: Tim Rouse ACA

Relevant professional qualification: ICAEW Chartered Accountant

Address: 12 Century Road, London E17 6JB

Date: 24 October 2025