

Annual report April 2023/April 2024 The Callister Trust Charity no: 520017

Contact address: 29, Grafton Street, Prenton CH43 4UJ

Trustees: Catherine Warren, Allan Brame, Melanie Routledge, Laura Penn, Mary O Neill

Introduction

The charity's purposes are 'for the welfare of girls and women in Birkenhead' and derive from a declaration of trust within a conveyance dated April 20th 1925.

The charity owns a property in Argyle Street, Birkenhead tenanted by Wirral Children and Young People's department. The lease was renewed in March 2023 for a further four years.

The Charity also owns a half acre garden in Slatey Road, Birkenhead which had been boarded up and neglected for 15 years up until the appointment of new trustees in 2018.

The plan for April 2023/24 was to continue developing and restoring the Garden, to expand the use of the Garden for community activities, to continue following the funding plan for the new Pavilion and to identify appropriate grant applications.

The public benefit of the charity is as stated in the introduction. The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's policy on public benefit.

The trustees do not at present have a policy on reserves.

In January 2024 the RBS bank account was closed and a new account opened with the Co-operative bank in the name of The Callister Trust.

1. Tasks planned for 2023/24

The main tasks for 2023/24 were:

1. To continue the clearing and restoration of the garden for its use for the purposes of the charity.
2. To continue to work with a local architect on developing a detailed cost plan for the 'Pavilion' and to develop the funding plan and to identify potential grants sources. If successful with grant applications to go out to tender and identify most suitable contractor for the building of the Pavilion in time for the charity's centenary in 2025.
3. To expand the Callister Garden local volunteers and to encourage local refugees and asylum seekers to join the volunteers on a regular basis.
4. To work with local community groups to run small events to further the purposes of the charity.
5. To apply for local grants for community activities in the Garden and to continue to work in partnership with other local organisations.
6. To develop the 'hops' project working with Make Hamilton Square, local growers and Brimstage brewery.

2. The Pavilion

The trustees continued to work on the fundraising plan to bring this project to fruition offering an indoor space to support the work of the charity, offer modern, accessible facilities and enable the Garden to be used all the year round. A Just Giving platform was established for individual donations and donations were received at events held in the Garden including Heritage Open Day, September 2023.

An online consultation about the Pavilion in July 2023 received over a hundred very positive responses and letters of support from other local community organisations and charities were received by the trustees. In August 2023 the trustees received the news that they had been successful in their application to Veolia environmental trust for a large grant towards the Pavilion. This meant that the project could go ahead. Further meetings were held with the local architects and documents were prepared by them to go out to tender to local and regional contractors.

3. Activities

- a. Women's workshops – a Spring women's wellbeing workshop was well attended and very positive feedback was received. Three further workshops 'Plants for Wellness' were held in the summer and autumn and creative workshops – willow weaving and soap carving were also offered. They aroused great interest. These workshops were run in collaboration with Grow – Wellbeing CIC and local artists.
- b. Weekly reading group: This continues to be held outdoors as long as weather makes it possible.
- c. Open Days and public access: This year those that live in the neighbourhood have been encouraged to make use of the garden. The Garden is now open for volunteers every Wednesday and Saturday and is open to the general public every Saturday. A 'twilight' gardening session was held during Spring/Summer 23/24 to encourage volunteers who were working in the day time. The Garden received the help of over 25 members of the local community as part of 'The Big Help Out' and over 100 visitors came to the Garden as part of the 'Oxton Secret Gardens' event. Heritage open day was attended by over 200 people with live music, refreshments and other activities.
- d. Gardening programme with local refugees and Asylum seekers: This gardening programme funded by Wirral Refugee resettlement programmes 'Bridging Communities' project continued. Regular gardening sessions were offered to refugees/asylum seekers through local organisation, Heart for Refugees. A family woodland day were also well attended. 12 of those who have attended the sessions have become regular garden volunteers.
- e. EsSENTial early years: In March 2023 we received some new and our youngest regular visitors. We were approached by EsSENTial early years, a nursery ten minutes walk from the Garden about using the garden for forest school activities for their children all of whom have complex learning difficulties or other specific educational needs. They are the only special needs nursery on the Wirral. It has

been a delight to see the children enjoying and learning in the outdoors and to see their excitement and enthusiasm as they arrive.

f. The trustees continued to develop links with local organisations:

- GROW – Wellbeing CIC delivered woodland and wellbeing workshops.
- Wirral Environmental Network delivered gardening sessions.
- Members from Spider (Recovery project) continue to grow vegetables in a designated area in the Garden.
- EsSEntial early years have delivered forest school sessions for their children twice a week.
- Heart for Refugees have participated in gardening and family outdoor activities.
- Local community groups have used the Garden for outdoor events.

4. RHS North West in Bloom: The Callister Garden was visited by the judges from RHS North West in Bloom in July 2023 and were awarded an 'outstanding' certificate. The feedback was very useful and has informed work in the Garden going forward.

Conclusion

The Garden has continued to develop and flourish during the year April 2023 – 2024 thanks to the work and dedication of the volunteers and the support and enthusiasm of the local community. The work of the volunteers continues to improve both the appearance of the Garden, the variety of plants and encouragement of biodiversity.

Opening to the public on Saturday mornings has brought local visitors and those from further afield and also added to our volunteers.


The Wellbeing, woodland and creative workshops have continued to be very well received and a grant from CVF renewal fund and Wirral neighbourhood Fund saw them continue during 2023.

The income from the property in Argyle Street ensures maintenance costs for the garden.

The trustees were delighted to receive capital grants from Veolia Environmental Trust, Hubbub (Nature Hubs) and the Garfield Weston Foundation which will ensure that the build of the Pavilion will go ahead and they have continued fund raising towards other costs of the new Pavilion.

The trustees thank all the volunteers for their hard work and thank community groups and local people for their support and enthusiasm.

This report was approved by the Trustees at their annual meeting on 11/12/24 and it was agreed that the Chairperson should sign on their behalf.

Signed.......... Catherine M Warren (Chairperson) 11/12/24 .



Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/04/2023

To

31/03/2024

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					
Rent	10,346	-	-	10,346	14,000
Pavilion Fund Donations	-	6,597	-	6,597	2,391
Other Donations	-	-	-	-	-
Bridging Communities Grant	-	-	-	-	6,250
CVF Renewal Fund Grant	-	-	-	-	3,600
WBC Plants For Wellness Grant	-	250	-	250	-
Garfield Weston Pavilion Grant	-	10,000	-	10,000	-
Historic Gift Aid Claim	-	3,656	-	3,656	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	10,346	20,503	-	30,849	26,241
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	10,346	20,503	-	30,849	26,241
A3 Payments					
Consultants Fees	8,820	-	-	8,820	-
Garden Materials	174	-	-	174	874
Garden Work Non-Capital	125	-	-	125	420
WBC Plants For Wellness Grant Spend	-	250	-	250	-
Bridging Communities Grant Spend	-	2,139	-	2,139	1,669
Publicity	1,738	-	-	1,738	-
Open Day Costs	94	-	-	94	94
Fundraising Platform Fees	180	-	-	180	216
Insurance	-	-	-	-	282
Planning Fees	216	-	-	216	-
Utilities	-	-	-	-	-
CVF Renewal Fund Spend	-	-	-	-	3,625
Joint Fundraising Transfer to Make CIC	-	750	-	750	-
Other Fees	12	-	-	12	-
Sub total	11,359	3,139	-	14,498	7,180
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	11,359	3,139	-	14,498	7,180
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 1,013	17,364	-	16,351	19,061
A5 Transfers between funds	- 108,098	108,098	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	113,580	21,483	-	135,063	116,002
Cash funds this year end	4,469	146,944	-	151,414	135,063

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Total held by Callister Trust	4,469	146,944	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	4,469	146,944	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	19 Argyle Street	The Callister Trust	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	34A Slatey Road	The Callister Trust	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature 	Print Name LAURA PENN	Date of approval 11/12/2024
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Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Callister Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Callister Trust (the trust) for the year ended March 2024.

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 all 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 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.

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:

Name: Jane Ward

(Music administrator running own business for 30 years)

Address: 60 Shrewsbury Road, Oxtou CH43 2HY

Date: 17 January 2025