

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
(Registered charity number 522695)

**Trustee's Report  
and  
Financial Statements**

**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Charity Reference and Administrative Information**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

The Trust presents its' report together with the statement of accounts for the year to 31 December 2024.

**Full name** Willoughbridge Garden Trust

**Registered charity number** 522695

**Trustee**

Willoughbridge Garden Trust Ltd is the sole corporate trustee. The directors/trustees of Willoughbridge Garden Trust Ltd during the year were:

Sir B E F Fender            Chairman  
A E Fisher  
J A Arkie  
T Kyriacou  
P M Dobson

K Atkey  
C I Barcroft  
J Hughes (retired 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2025)  
R Underwood  
A Lakin

**Garden Curator**

K Robey

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**Principal address**

The Dorothy Clive Garden  
Willoughbridge  
Market Drayton  
Shropshire  
TF9 4EU

**Independent Examiner**

Daryl Denson ACMA  
VAST  
The Dudson Centre  
Hope Street  
Stoke-on-Trent  
ST1 5DD

**Bankers**

Santander  
Bridle Road  
Bootle  
Merseyside  
L30 4GB

**Investment Advisors**

Castlefield Investment Partners LLP  
1 Portland Street  
Manchester  
M1 3BE

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust  
Curator's report  
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

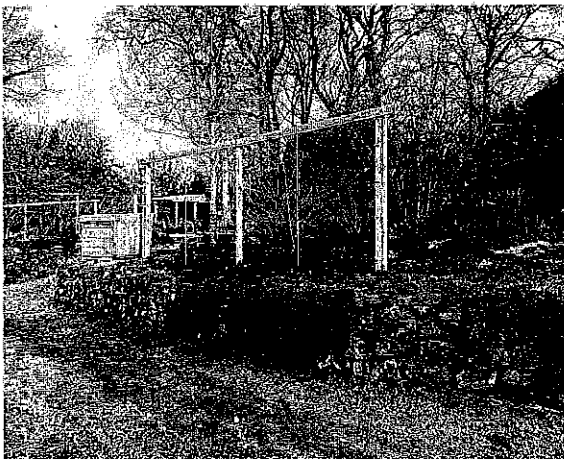
2024 has been a very successful year in terms of number of visits. Although the weather has not been kind with rain continually (almost) from October 23 through to October 2024. We welcomed just over 34,000 visits to the garden which was just 1,000 less than the previous year which was much better weather wise. Memberships have also continued to grow to over 3,500. Coach trip and group booking numbers were at their best since Covid boosted by the Garden's appearance on Gardeners World in 2023. Hopefully this will extend to 2025.



Education has been a focus of 2024 with school trips dramatically increasing following the appointment of Education Officer Hannah Turner in September 2023.

The majority of schools tend to visit in the summer term so Hannah is extending the year with more adult education and a Dorothy Clive Choir. The evening lectures and workshops continue to prove popular with some being booked as far as October 2026. These lectures usually convert to a group visit so are particularly beneficial to the Trust. Workshops currently are mostly based around horticulture and art. Hannah will extend this to music and singing.

We have been extremely lucky to receive a donation and a legacy from Joan Masters, a long-term supporter of the garden. Joan wanted to see a structure close to the Tearoom which could be mostly for the use of doggy visitors as dogs are not allowed in the Tearoom. We were able to fulfil Joan's wishes and Joan and her 2 dogs, Olive and Barney, officially opened the Olive Barn in May 2024. Many thanks to Contrak for their help in meeting the deadline. The structure has greatly enhanced the Tearoom lawn and will be a great addition to evening events at the garden.



The Potager area has been an ongoing project throughout 2024. The aim is to introduce more edible planting in the area with the plan to run workshops around growing and cooking. The Tree Council were kind enough to enable us to buy Apple and Pear trees to start the project. These have been planted as espaliers and cordons. In 2025 we will add raised beds with herbs and vegetables. The whole area will be made more accessible.

Wildlife is an important part of the Garden and the Wildlife Hub has enabled us to bring this to the fore. A nest cam in the Hub followed a Great Tit family throughout the spring. Various exhibitions, trails and activities for both adults and children were centred on the Hub providing holiday activities for all ages. One of the highlights of the year was a Tawny Owl family occupying a nest box in the Quarry.

Volunteers continue to be invaluable to the garden. In 2024 volunteer hours were at a record level enabling the garden to reach a much higher standard of maintenance. Online reviews of the garden have been consistently outstanding with the standard of planting and maintenance being an outstanding feature. This is in no small part due to the increase in volunteer hours given by our very loyal team. Volunteers also help with the office, Giftroom, Events and exhibitions. We have another full programme for 2025 averaging one large event per month.

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust  
Curator's report (continued)  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

During 2024 we were offered the chance to expand the garden through the purchase of 3.5 acres of adjoining land. This will be to East of the existing garden and will enable the addition of an arboretum. Planning permission is currently being sought with completion due to happen in spring of 2025. The plan is to plant a hedge in the autumn of 2025. Thereafter a windbreak will be required with specimen trees to be added after that. We would hope to expand the planting to include a national collection.

I would like to thank, on behalf of all visitors and staff of Dorothy Clive, all the funders and supporters of the garden. Your help does enable us to undertake projects that would not otherwise be possible.

K Robey  
Curator

## **Willoughbridge Garden Trust Trustee's Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024**

The Trustees presents their annual report and financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in notes to the accounts and comply with Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2019) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 effective from 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and they also comply with the Charities Act 2011.

### **Objects and aims**

The principal object of Willoughbridge Garden Trust as set out with the Charity Commission are to provide

- A memorial garden for the rest and recreation of the public and
- The promotion of horticultural education for the benefit of students and the general public.

The charity's aims continue to be to maintain and enhance a garden inspired by the memory of the late Dorothy Clive to be used for the enjoyment and benefit of the public and to promote and support horticultural education for the continuing benefit of both students and the general public. The Dorothy Clive Garden covers approximately 12 acres. The principal strategies used by the charity to achieve its objectives are revised annually and set out in a formal five year plan.

### **Public benefit**

The Trustee confirms that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

### **Achievements and performance**

The charity's achievements for the year are set out in the Curator's Report.

### **Management of the charity**

This is vested in the Directors/Trustees of Willoughbridge Garden Trust Ltd who hold regular quarterly meetings and are involved in all major decisions regarding both the strategy and management of the garden.

### **Volunteers**

The charity is indebted to the 'Friends of the Garden' and volunteers both for their regular financial support and in assisting with the maintenance and running of the Dorothy Clive Garden. We estimate that the volunteers' time amounted to approximately 5,450 hours.

### **Financial review**

The Statement of Financial Activities is set out on page 9. Overall, the charity made a net surplus of £73,819 (before investment gains and losses) for the year ended 31 December 2024 (2023: £2,510 loss). Incoming resources totalled £620,760 (2023: £498,268). Investment income was £15,765 (2023: £12,496). Investment gains amounted to £11,903 in the year (2023: £11,155).

The current year has seen slightly lower visitor numbers due to the poor summer weather but the impact of cost pressure particularly on wage and food prices has had the main impact on our results. Investment in education and garden staff has also increased our cost base. We were however very fortunate to receive a legacy of £70,000 at the end of the year which has had a significant impact on our final result.

The number of visitors, including re-visits and children, was 34,015 (2023: 35,800)

Resources expended totalled £546,941 an increase of 9.2% on 2023. In accordance with Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Second edition October 2019, these have been split across our three principal activities.

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust  
Trustee's Annual Report (continued)  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

Expenditure on charitable activities totalled £270,816 compared to £237,548 in 2023 and is detailed in note 7.

Governance costs are no longer shown as a separate line on the Statement of Financial Activities in accordance with Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Second edition October 2019. The costs are allocated between expenditure on raising funds and charitable activities. The Trustee monitors the level of these costs on a regular basis.

Support costs have been allocated across the charity's principal activities in line with Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Second edition October 2019.

Investment gains/losses in the year are split between realised and unrealised reserves relating to the extent of the monies withdrawn from the portfolio in the period.

**Policy on reserves**

The Trustee's policy is to maintain free reserves sufficient to cover anticipated capital expenditure requirements and improvements to the collection of plants, shrubs and trees, to provide sufficient working capital to finance the charity's operations during the winter months when the garden is closed on weekdays and to generate investment income and gains to help improve the sustainability of the garden. Free reserves amounted to approximately £481,000 on 31 December 2024 (2023: approximately £428,000). These are held as an income generation fund with the objective of realising a sufficient return of capital and income to enable the Trust to operate at an approximate break-even position. This policy over the last ten-year period broadly achieved this objective.

The level of admission fees is restricted by competition from other attractions, and they are kept at a modest level in line with other gardens of a similar size and quality. Income from this source is insufficient to cover the cost of maintaining the garden to a high standard and the income from the charity's investments is wholly used to cover the shortfall.

**Investment policy**

The charity's investment policy has been formulated after taking full account of Part II of the Trustee Act 2000 and the advice of their investment managers. The policy seeks to achieve the efficient and prudent management of the charity's investments with the aim of maximising the return on them.

**Governing document**

The Willoughbridge Garden Trust is an unincorporated body constituted by a conveyance and deed dated 12 April 1958, a supplemental deed dated 11 November 1958 as modified by a Scheme of the Secretary of State for Education and Science dated 8 June 1965 and by Schemes of the Charity Commissioners dated 11 August 1993 and 17 March 1998.

The trustees of Willoughbridge Garden Trust Ltd are involved in all aspects of these procedures.

**Governance**

Procedures are in place to ensure that income, expenditure and performance are monitored, and that appropriate management information is prepared and reviewed regularly. The systems of internal controls are designed to provide reasonable assurances against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- A strategic five-year plan
- An annual budget
- Regular consideration of financial results
- Delegation of day-to-day management authority
- Identification and management of risks.

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust  
Trustee's Annual Report (continued)  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Annual audit**

Under clause 9 of the conveyance (Trust Deed) dated 12 April 1958 the Trustee resolved to dispense with the annual audit requirement and to comply with the Charity Commissioner's normal rules which require an Independent Examination for a charity of our size.

**Appointment of trustees**

Trustees of the Willoughbridge Garden Trust Ltd are appointed from time to time to provide relevant experience and technical support to the management team and to assist with the governance of the charity. All potential appointees are considered by the Board prior to formally being appointed. Appropriate induction and training is provided if considered necessary.

**Risk management**

The risks to which the charity is exposed are reviewed regularly. The major risks include adverse weather conditions which have a detrimental impact on the number of visitors to the garden and volatility in investment markets. Systems have been established to mitigate these and all other risks to the extent that this is possible.

**Going concern**

There are no risks identified with the going concern status of the trust.

For and on behalf of the Trustee

Signed BEF 03.03.2025 on March 2025

Sir B E F Fender, Chairman

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustee of  
Willoughbridge Garden Trust  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 9 to 24.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees of Willoughbridge Garden 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 Willoughbridge Garden Trust 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**

Since Willoughbridge Garden Trust's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Willoughbridge Garden Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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  on 13/03/2025

Daryl Denson ACMA  
VAST  
The Dudson Centre  
Stoke on Trent  
ST1 5DD

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Note	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £	2023 Unrestricted Funds £	2023 Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £
<b>Income from:</b>							
Donations and legacies	2	74,869	45,109	119,978	17,848	0	17,848
Charitable activities	3	205,417	0	205,417	200,673	0	200,673
Other trading activities	4	277,697	0	277,697	265,415	0	265,415
Investments	5	15,765	0	15,765	12,496	0	12,496
Other		1,903	0	1,903	1,836	0	1,836
<b>Total income</b>		<b>575,651</b>	<b>45,109</b>	<b>620,760</b>	<b>498,268</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>498,268</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Charitable activities	7	252,025	18,791	270,816	224,759	12,789	237,548
Raising Funds	8	276,125	0	276,125	263,230	0	263,230
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>528,150</b>	<b>18,791</b>	<b>546,941</b>	<b>487,989</b>	<b>12,789</b>	<b>500,778</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses on investments</b>		<b>47,501</b>	<b>26,318</b>	<b>73,819</b>	<b>10,279</b>	<b>(12,789)</b>	<b>(2,510)</b>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		11,903	0	11,903	11,555	0	11,555
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>59,404</b>	<b>26,318</b>	<b>85,722</b>	<b>21,834</b>	<b>(12,789)</b>	<b>9,045</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>732</b>	<b>(732)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>60,136</b>	<b>25,586</b>	<b>85,722</b>	<b>21,834</b>	<b>(12,789)</b>	<b>9,045</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>							
Total funds brought forward		785,677	103,502	889,179	763,843	116,291	880,134
Total funds carried forward	14	845,813	129,088	974,901	785,677	103,502	889,179

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 12 to 24 form part of these financial statements

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	9	329,400	312,290
Investments	10	531,664	513,227
		<u>861,064</u>	<u>825,517</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stock	11	14,500	16,750
Debtors	12	8,900	8,928
Cash at bank and in hand		141,360	87,328
		<u>164,760</u>	<u>113,006</u>
<b>Creditors amounts falling due within one year</b>	13	(50,923)	(49,344)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>113,837</u>	<u>63,662</u>
<b>Creditors :amounts falling due after one year</b>	13	0	0
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>974,901</u>	<u>889,179</u>
<b>The funds of the charity</b>			
Unrestricted income funds		845,813	785,677
Restricted income funds		129,088	103,502
<b>Total funds</b>	14	<u>974,901</u>	<u>889,179</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustee on 4th March 2024.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees

Signed B E F Fender on 03.03.2025

Sir B E F Fender, Chairman

The notes on pages 12 to 24 form part of these financial statements

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>			
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>	16	<u>103,412</u>	<u>14,054</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Purchase of property plant and equipment		<u>(49,380)</u>	<u>(11,905)</u>
<b>Net cash flow from investing activities</b>		<u>(49,380)</u>	<u>(11,905)</u>
<b>Net movement in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<u>54,032</u>	<u>2,149</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2024</b>		87,328	85,179
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2024</b>		<u>141,360</u>	<u>87,328</u>

The notes on pages 12 to 24 form part of these financial statements

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**1. Accounting policies**

**Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates**

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

**Statement of compliance**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Charities Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP): Accounting and Reporting by Charities (2019) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with FRS 102 effective from 1 January 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

**Basis of preparation**

Willoughbridge Garden Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the accounting policy notes.

**Going concern**

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

**Incoming resources**

The value of all resources accruing to the Charity are recorded in the Statement of Financial Activities as soon as it is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably, and it is probable the income will be received. Annual membership subscriptions are taken to revenue over the relevant subscription period.

No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP (FRS 102). Further detail is given in the Trustee's Annual Report.

For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the charity being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received. At this point income is recognised. On occasion legacies will be notified to the charity however it is not possible to measure the amount expected to be distributed. On these occasions, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset, and it is disclosed if material.

**Resources expended**

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under the headings that aggregate all costs relating to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

*Costs of raising funds* includes costs of generating voluntary income, fund-raising, trading and investment fees, plus a share of support costs.

*Expenditure on charitable activities* includes details of all costs associated with the maintenance and development of the garden directly.

Support costs are those costs incurred in the support of the fund raising, governance and charitable activities which cannot be directly attributed. Governance costs comprise all costs involving the public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. These costs include

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

cost related to independent examination fees. Support costs are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and are apportioned between the categories noted above either directly or on a basis consistent with the use of resources. In the main these apportionments have been made in relation to income received. The analysis of these costs is included in note 6.

**Government grants**

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

**Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis calculated to write off the cost of tangible assets, less estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows: -

Freehold land	:	Nil
Freehold buildings	:	4% - 20% pa
Plant and machinery	:	10% - 50% pa

Depreciation rates are variable to reflect the economic life of the asset.

**Fixed assets investments and related income**

Investments are included in the balance sheet at market value. Gains and Losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sale proceeds and opening market values (purchase date if later). Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the market value at year end and the opening market value (or purchase date if later). We only show realised gains or losses separately in the Statement of Financial Activities that relate to amounts that are utilised to directly benefit cash flow.

**Stock**

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

**Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year**

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustee to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity and which have not been designated for any other purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. The aim and use of any designated funds is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the Trust's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**Employee benefits**

The charity operates a defined contribution plan through NEST for the benefit of some of its employees. Contributions are expensed as they become payable. Other employees, where eligible, are auto-enrolled into a NEST pension scheme.

**2. Donations and legacies**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations and gifts	5,338	45,109	50,447	17,848	0	17,848
Legacy	69,531	0	69,531	0	0	-
	<u>74,869</u>	<u>45,109</u>	<u>119,978</u>	<u>17,848</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,848</u>

**3. Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Gate receipts and membership	205,417	0	205,417	200,673	0	200,673
	<u>205,417</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>205,417</u>	<u>200,673</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>200,673</u>

**4. Other trading activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Catering income	196,717	0	196,717	191,128	0	191,128
Gift shop income	37,707	0	37,707	39,729	0	39,729
Other trading income	43,273	0	43,273	34,558	0	34,558
	<u>277,697</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>277,697</u>	<u>265,415</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>265,415</u>

**5. Investments**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from listed investments	9,358	0	9,358	6,977	0	6,977
Bank interest	6,407	0	6,407	5,519	0	5,519
	<u>15,765</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>15,765</u>	<u>12,496</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>12,496</u>

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**6. Total expenditure:**

	Direct Costs	Support & governance costs	Total Costs	Direct Costs	Support & governance costs	Total Costs
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>a) Summary</b>						
Charitable activities	229,222	41,594	270,816	200,009	37,539	237,548
Raising funds	225,288	50,837	276,125	217,349	45,881	263,230
	<u>454,510</u>	<u>92,431</u>	<u>546,941</u>	<u>417,358</u>	<u>83,420</u>	<u>500,778</u>

Depreciation of £14,345 is included in the restricted costs of charitable activities.

	Charitable Activities	Raising Funds	Total costs	Charitable activities	Raising Funds	Total costs
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Allocation</b>						
<b>b) of support costs</b>						
Office salaries	14,110	17,245	31,355	12,850	15,705	28,555
Other office running costs	17,004	20,782	37,786	15,543	18,997	34,540
<b>c) of governance costs</b>						
Professional fees	859	1,050	1,909	427	523	950
Insurances	4,131	5,049	9,180	3,708	4,532	8,240
Office salaries	2,490	3,043	5,533	2,268	2,772	5,040
Other office running costs	3,000	3,668	6,668	2,743	3,352	6,095
	<u>41,594</u>	<u>50,837</u>	<u>92,431</u>	<u>37,539</u>	<u>45,881</u>	<u>83,420</u>

**d) Staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses**

The average number of persons directly employed during the year and their salary and wage costs are set out below. There were no employees with emoluments in excess of £60,000 (2023: £nil). Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred and are wholly charged to unrestricted funds.

<b>Staff costs:</b>	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	310,652	274,300
Social security costs	17,127	10,853
Defined contribution pension costs	13,529	11,140
	<u>341,308</u>	<u>296,293</u>

**Staff numbers:**

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charity was 18 (2023:17).

The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Charity were £62,025 (2023: £56,429).

**Trustee Remuneration**

No remuneration, directly or indirectly out of the funds of the charity, was paid or payable for the year to any Trustee of Willoughbridge Garden Trust Ltd or to any person or persons known to be connected with any of them other than expenses of £1,620 (2023: £2,079) were reimbursed to one trustee during the year in his role as a volunteer of the Willoughbridge Garden Trust.

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**7.Charitable Activities**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gardeners' wage costs	152,865	136,792
Gate wage costs	15,691	14,381
Direct garden expenditure	37,203	24,468
Direct educational costs	1,052	1,489
Depreciation	22,411	22,879
Support & governance costs allocated	41,594	37,539
	<u>270,816</u>	<u>237,548</u>

**8.Raising Funds**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Tea room purchases and wage costs	170,414	161,760
Gift room purchases and wage costs	36,593	36,588
Plants for resale	8,423	6,669
Depreciation	9,858	12,332
Support & governance costs allocated	50,837	45,881
	<u>276,125</u>	<u>263,230</u>

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**9. Tangible fixed assets**

	Freehold interest in land and buildings £	Plant and machinery £	Total £
<b>Costs</b>			
At 31 December 2023	622,182	120,825	743,007
Additions	41,028	8,352	49,380
Disposals	0	(3,768)	(3,768)
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>	<b><u>663,210</u></b>	<b><u>125,409</u></b>	<b><u>788,619</u></b>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 31 December 2023	349,120	81,597	430,717
Charge for year	22,985	9,285	32,270
On disposals	0	(3,768)	(3,768)
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>	<b><u>372,105</u></b>	<b><u>87,114</u></b>	<b><u>459,219</u></b>
<b>Net book value:</b>			
<b>At 31 December 2024</b>	<b><u>291,105</u></b>	<b><u>38,295</u></b>	<b><u>329,400</u></b>
At 31 December 2023	<u>273,062</u>	<u>39,228</u>	<u>312,290</u>

All tangible fixed assets are held by the charity for its own use on activities and furtherance of its' objectives. The Trustee does not consider it practicable to quantify any difference between the net book value of its land and buildings and the market value.

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**10. Investments and cash**

	2024		2023	
	£	£	£	£
Market value at 31 December 2023		501,394		488,091
Additions at cost		78,541		1,748
Disposals at carrying value		(63,770)		0
Gains/(losses):				
Realised		0		0
Unrealised		11,903		11,555
Market value at 31 December 2023		<u>528,068</u>		<u>501,394</u>
Cash		<u>3,596</u>		<u>11,833</u>
Total		<u>531,664</u>		<u>513,227</u>
Represented by:				
Fixed interest and government stock	20,507		20,594	
UK & global equities	507,561		480,800	
Cash	<u>3,596</u>		<u>11,833</u>	
		<u>531,664</u>		<u>513,227</u>
Historical cost at 31 December 2024		<u>448,390</u>		<u>433,837</u>
Unrealised investment gains at 31 December 2024		<u>83,274</u>		<u>79,390</u>

**Material investments, representing in excess of 5% of the portfolio value are:**

	£
First Sentier Worldwide Sustainable	47,370
Castlefield Thoughtful European	49,608
Castlefield Thoughtful UK Opportunities	137,899
Castlefield Thoughtful UK Small Companies	47,213
Castlefield Real Return Fund	73,789
Lion Trust Sustainable	28,998

**11. Stock**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Tea room stock	3,000	3,500
Gift room stock	11,500	12,950
Plants	0	300
	<u>14,500</u>	<u>16,750</u>

**12. Debtors**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments	5,445	5,568
Other debtors	3,455	3,360
	<u>8,900</u>	<u>8,928</u>

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**13. Creditors**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade Creditors	4,050	6,749
Taxation and social security	7,460	6,576
Accruals	6,785	4,900
Deferred Income	<u>32,628</u>	<u>31,119</u>
	<u>50,923</u>	<u>49,344</u>
Deferred Income at 1 January 2024	31,119	28,791
Resources deferred in period	28,236	27,227
Amounts released from previous period	<u>(26,727)</u>	<u>(24,899)</u>
Deferred Income at 31 December 2024	<u>32,628</u>	<u>31,119</u>

Deferred income for the period includes membership subscriptions paid for the following calendar year, deposits for wedding bookings and advance ticket sales for various events.

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**14. Movement in funds**

	Balance at 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains/ on investments	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
Dorothy Clive Garden	625,313	575,651	(518,675)	11,903	(13,268)	680,924
<b>Designated funds</b>						
Maintenance Fund	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Strategic Development Fund	98,364	0	0	0	0	98,364
Education Development Fund	12,000	0	(9,475)	0	14,000	16,525
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>785,677</u>	<u>575,651</u>	<u>(528,150)</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>732</u>	<u>845,813</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Tractor shed-Garfield Weston	14,809	0	(1,234)	0	0	13,575
Glasshouse - Royal Botanical	55,190	0	(4,615)	0	0	50,575
Jean Masters Dog Shelter	0	42,917	(4,490)	0	0	38,427
HLF Emergency Funding	1,539	0	(1,007)	0	0	532
Olwen Mcpherson Trust	24,488	0	(4,280)	0	0	20,208
Upgrade Drive	5,450	0	(300)	0	0	5,150
Funds Under £5,000	2,026	2,192	(2,865)	0	732	621
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>103,502</u>	<u>45,109</u>	<u>(18,791)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(732)</u>	<u>129,088</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>889,179</u>	<u>620,760</u>	<u>(546,941)</u>	<u>11,903</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>974,901</u>

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

	Balance at 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains/ (losses) on investments	Transfers	Balance at 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
Dorothy Clive Garden	615,479	498,268	(487,989)	11,555	(12,000)	625,313
<b>Designated funds</b>						
Maintenance Fund	50,000	0	0	0	0	50,000
Strategic Development Fund	98,364	0	0	0	0	98,364
Education Development Fund	0	0	0	0	12,000	12,000
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>763,843</b>	<b>498,268</b>	<b>(487,989)</b>	<b>11,555</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>785,677</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
Tractor shed-Garfield Weston	16,043	0	(1,234)	0	0	14,809
Glasshouse - Royal Botanical	59,805	0	(4,615)	0	0	55,190
Pavilion Kitchen Upgrade	1,967	0	(673)	0	0	1,294
VOIP/IT System	1,012	0	(280)	0	0	732
Pavilion seating	400	0	(400)	0	0	-
HLF Emergency Funding	2,546	0	(1,007)	0	0	1,539
Olwen Mcherson Trust	28,768	0	(4,280)	0	0	24,488
Upgrade Drive	5,750	0	(300)	0	0	5,450
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>116,291</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(12,789)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>103,502</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>880,134</b>	<b>498,268</b>	<b>(500,778)</b>	<b>11,555</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>889,179</b>

**Fund Descriptions**  
**Unrestricted Funds**

**General Funds**

Free reserves amounted to approximately £481,000 on 31 December 2024. These are held principally as an income generation fund with the objective of realising a sufficient return of capital and income to enable the Trust to operate at an approximate break-even position. This policy over the last ten-year period achieved this objective.

**Designated Funds**

**Maintenance Fund**

To cover the costs of major repairs and renovations to buildings and equipment.

**Strategic Development Fund**

This has been set up to earmark funds for the ongoing development and extension of the garden.

**Educational Development Fund**

To enable the further development and extension of the education programme and to cover the associated costs incurred.

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust  
Notes to the Accounts (continued)  
for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Purposes of Significant Restricted Funds**

**Tractor Shed**

Funded by the Garfield Weston Trust (£25,000) This enabled the construction of a purpose-built facility for machinery and tools and the demolition and redevelopment of the garden on the old site.

**Glasshouse**

The glasshouse construction was mainly funded by Royal Botanical and Horticultural Society of Manchester and the Northern Counties £100,000, the friends of the Dorothy Clive Garden and the William Dean Environment Trust.

**Emergency Funding –HLF**

This grant of £32,500 principally covered employment costs and PPE to enable maintenance of the garden and to facilitate better service to visitors. A small amount was to finance capital items aimed at offering visitors a safer environment.

**Olwen McPherson Trust**

This grant is to fund the construction of a wooden building for the exhibition of bees and related educational activities.

**Upgrade Drive Project**

Part funded by The Friends of the Dorothy Clive Garden.

**Jean Masters Dog Shelter**

This was a personal donation to fund the construction of an outside shelter where dog owners can sit with their pets.

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**15. Analysis of net assets by fund**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>
Fixed assets	200,312	129,088	329,400
Investments	531,664	0	531,664
Current assets	164,760	0	164,760
Current liabilities	(50,923)	0	(50,923)
	<u>845,813</u>	<u>129,088</u>	<u>974,901</u>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Restricted</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>	<b>funds</b>
Fixed assets	208,788	103,502	312,290
Investments	513,227	0	513,227
Current assets	113,006	0	113,006
Current liabilities	(49,344)	0	(49,344)
	<u>785,677</u>	<u>103,502</u>	<u>889,179</u>

**16. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash inflow from operating activities**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period</b> <b>(as per the statement of financial activities)</b>	<b>73,819</b>	<b>(2,510)</b>
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	32,270	35,211
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(6,534)	(4,333)
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	2,250	(2,100)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	28	(746)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,579	(11,468)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<u><b>103,412</b></u>	<u><b>14,054</b></u>

**Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Cash in hand	<u>141,360</u>	<u>87,328</u>
	<u>141,360</u>	<u>87,328</u>

**Willoughbridge Garden Trust**  
**Notes to the Accounts (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 December 2024**

**17. Independent Examiner's remuneration**

The independent examiner's fee is £800 (2023: £800).

**18. Related Party Transactions**

There were no related parties' payments in the year.

The total amount of donations received from trustees of Willoughbridge Garden Trust Limited or other related parties for the period was £1,510 (2023: £360).

**19. Financial Commitments**

The charity had committed purchases at 31 December 2024 of £nil (2023: £nil).

**20. Legal Status of the Charity**

The Willoughbridge Garden Trust is an unincorporated charity, registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales and constituted by a conveyance and deed dated 12 April 1958, a supplemental deed dated 11 November 1958 as modified by a Scheme of the Secretary of State for Education and Science dated 8 June 1965 and by Schemes of the Charity Commissioners dated 11 August 1993 and 17 March 1998.

The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 2 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are described in the trustee's report on pages 5-7 of these financial statements and in the curator's report on pages 3-4.