

Strabane Brass Band
Financial statements
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Strabane Brass Band

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	Pages
Trustees and advisors	1
Trustees' annual report	2
Independent examiner's report	4
Income and expenditure account	5
Balance sheet	6
Notes to the financial statements	7

Strabane Brass Band

Trustees and advisors

Trustees

Thomas Barr
Rob Coyle
Barry Callaghan
Tom Bonner
Ciaran Simpson
Ryan Quinn
Gerard Walsh
Terry Doherty
Darren Barr
Michael Kielty

Bankers

Ulster Bank
29 Abercorn Square
Strabane
BT82 8AL

Strabane Brass Band

Trustees' annual report For the year ended 31 March 2024

We, the trustees of Strabane Brass Band, present our report below and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Strabane Brass Band is a registered charity with the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland. The registration number is 101156.

Objectives and activities

The Band is established to advance the education of the public in the art and science of Music, by the provision of training in the playing of musical instruments and to promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the Strabane area and its environs of County Tyrone without distinction to age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnic identity, political or religious opinion.

The Bank associates with the statutory authorities, community and voluntary organisations and the inhabitants in a common effort to advance education, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants and in particular:

- a) To present public events including concerts and recitals;
- b) To encourage the beneficiaries to study and play music as part of a band.

Purpose

As a band we do not discriminate in any form, so every member of the public can be a beneficiary of our music making, we partake in various cross border cross community events and we support other charities by providing our services free of charge.

The senior band has a steady membership of around 25 players, and the junior band currently has 14 students.

We currently rehearse one to two nights per week, for one and a half hours with the junior band rehearsing one night a week for up to an hour before the main band's rehearsal. The junior members are invited to sit in on these rehearsals to learn first-hand experience of music ensemble etiquette, advanced technical skills, as well as enjoying a shared experience of music making and friendships within a community ensemble.

Our concert performances range from carol services to recent performances in the UK City of Culture's Walled City Tattoo (2013). We have taken part in cross border, cross community workshops with flute bands and pipe bands. As a mixed band, we strive to enhance our friendships with those of different faiths and musical traditions.

The Bank works tirelessly to provide a safe space for people of any age to make music. Our community educators who lead rehearsals/lessons are vetted through ACCESS NI. The Band has a Child Protection Policy and Equality Statement which are widely circulated throughout the band and participants. We have two Designated Child Protection Officers in the band who have been trained to deal with any issues or concerns that may arise.

The Band has an executive committee that meets on a regular basis and oversees all business in regards to Strabane Brass Band and the youth band.

Benefits

We provide an affordable extended music education curriculum for beginning musicians of any age and as part of our community outreach programme the Band provides instruments and music lessons at a reduced cost compared to the education board which can be out of reach for some families.

The Band provides a healthy community support network for both new and existing participants: providing a safe space for social networking with other instrumental musicians from different communities, educational backgrounds and nationalities.

The provision of music has a number of physical and mental benefits including reducing stress, enhancing creative thought/creative problem solving, enhancing memory and focus, which can drive improvements in symptoms of old age and dementia. The breathing techniques associated with playing an instrument can assist people who suffer from chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD) and other breathing-related conditions such as Asthma to learn helpful breathing techniques through instrumental performance.

Strabane Brass Band

Trustees' annual report For the year ended 31 March 2024

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are required by law to prepare the annual report and financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Band for the financial year.

In preparing these financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are responsible and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Band's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Band and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Regulator for Charities in Northern Ireland. 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.

Statement of Trustees' Confirmations

In the case of each of the persons who are trustees at the time that the report is approved, the following applies:

- so far as each trustee is aware, there is no relevant information of which the Band's independent examiner is unaware; and
- each trustee has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant information and to establish that the organisation's independent examiner is aware of the information.

Signed on behalf of the Band

Trustee

Trustee

Date:

Strabane Brass Band

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Strabane Brass Band

I hereby report on the financial statements of Strabane Brass Band for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Income & Expenditure account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Respective responsibilities of officers and members of the committee

As explained more fully in the 'Statement of Trustees' responsibilities' (as set out on page 2), the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

The committee consider that an audit is not required for this year end and have elected to have its accounts checked by an independent examiner.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 65 of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under Section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Band and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently, I do not express an audit opinion on the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, I have reasonable cause to believe that:

- 1) in all material respects the requirements: to keep accounting records and prepare accounts have been met; and
- 2) there are no material matters to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Michael Hann
Chartered Accountant – ACA Ireland

Date:

Strabane Brass Band

Income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 March 2024

		2024	2023
	Note	£	£
Continuing operations			
Members subscriptions		4,350	4,160
Collections/Donations		-	1,500
Fundraising		4,760	4,778
Performance fees		4,146	7,246
Grant income			
- All State Cyber Grant		1,000	-
- DC & SD Council Grant		-	15,000
- Clear Project Small Grants		4,000	-
- Developing Healthy		2,000	7,999
Capital grant release		539	578
Income		20,795	41,261
Project expenditure			
- DC & SD Council Grant		-	10,000
- Clear Project Small Grants		1,308	-
- Developing Healthy		-	9,617
Music costs			
- Band running costs		756	1,147
- Musical Director		3,595	5,160
- Sheet music		694	371
- Repairs & maintenance		3,010	1,359
- Uniform		165	1,927
- Performance costs		1,307	250
- Contest fees & travel		1,106	2,720
Rates		-	-
Rent		-	900
Insurance		422	422
Utilities		1,431	930
Bank charges		-	-
Fundraising costs		820	910
Other		650	-
Depreciation		607	653
Expenditure		15,871	36,366
Net profit/(loss)		4,924	4,895

Strabane Brass Band

Balance sheet as at 31 March 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Non-current assets			
Musical instruments		25,608	26,147
Music		20,000	20,000
Other		610	678
	3	46,218	46,825
Current assets			
Cash at bank		11,442	6,450
Current liabilities		-	-
Net current assets		57,660	53,275
Non-current liabilities – Deferred income	4	(7,549)	(8,088)
Net assets		50,111	45,187
Reserves			
At 1 April		45,187	40,292
Excess of income over expenditure		4,924	4,895
Capital employed		45,187	45,187

The notes to the accounts form an integral part of these financial statements.

Signed for on behalf of the Trustees of Strabane Brass Band:

Signed: Robert Coyle

Name:

Signed: Barry Callaghan

Name:

Date:

Strabane Brass Band

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Principal accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102). A summary of the key accounting policies, which have been consistently applied, have been set out below.

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention.

Income

Income represents members subscriptions, donations, cash received, fundraising and grant income

Tangible fixed assets

The cost of tangible fixed assets is their purchase cost, together with any incidental costs of acquisition. Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost, or valuation, of tangible fixed assets, less their estimated residual values, over the expected useful economic lives of the assets concerned. The principal annual rates and basis used are as follows:

Musical instruments	-	15 years reducing balance
Other	-	10 years reducing balance

Music is not depreciated.

Grants

Grants that relate to specific capital expenditure are treated as deferred income, which is then credited to the income and expenditure account over the useful life.

Revenue grants are credited to the income and expenditure account as the related expenditure is incurred.

2 Trustees' emoluments

All trustees give their services on a voluntary basis, and no remuneration is paid to them.

3 Tangible assets

	Musical Instruments £	Music £	Other fixed assets £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 April 2023	148,509	20,000	5,240	173,749
Additions	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	148,509	20,000	5,240	173,749
Accumulated depreciation				
At 1 April 2023	122,362	-	4,562	126,924
Charge for year	539	-	68	607
At 31 March 2024	122,901	-	4,630	127,531
Net book amount				
At 31 March 2024	25,608	20,000	610	46,218
At 31 March 2023	26,147	20,000	678	46,825

Strabane Brass Band

4 Deferred income

	£
At 1 April 2023	8,088
Additions	-
Credited to income and expenditure account	(539)
At 31 March 2024	7,549

Deferred income relates to capital grant income received in 2021 for £10,000 from Arts Council in relation to purchase of musical instruments. In line with the musical instruments accounting policy this is released to the income and expenditure account over 15 years under the reducing balance method