

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING:	Council
MEETING DATE:	16 September 2021
TITLE:	Annual Report of the Charitable Trust Board
WARD:	All
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
List of attachments to this report: None	

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Council on the work of the Charitable Trust Board over the past year.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To note the report.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 3.1 The purpose of the Charitable Trust Board is to facilitate the management of the charitable trusts for which the Council is the sole trustee; independently, in accordance with their governing documents and in the best interests of the charity. Currently the only charitable trust which the Board oversees is the Alice Park Trust. This is managed by a Sub-Committee consisting of three voting members (elected members of the Council) and two independent non-voting members.
- 3.2 The Charitable Trust Board is satisfied that the finances of the charity are being managed adequately with the support of the Council's finance team. The Alice Park Trust annual report and accounts for 2019/20 have now been submitted to the Charity Commission. The Commission agreed an extension for the submission this year, following discussions about how the accounts are produced. These issues were satisfactorily resolved, and the accounts were submitted by the required deadline of 31 March 2021.

4 THE REPORT

4.1 Meetings and Membership

- 4.1.1 The Charitable Trust Board has met once in the last municipal year.
- 4.1.2 The current membership of the Charitable Trust Board is:

Cllr David Wood (Chair)

Cllr Rob Appleyard

Cllr Sally Davis

Cllr Mark Roper

Cllr Joanna Wright

Graham Page (Independent Member)

4.2 Activities Undertaken

4.2.1 The Charitable Trust Board received the Annual Report of the Alice Park Trust Sub-Committee on 29 June 2021 and is satisfied that the Alice Park Trust is:

- Being managed in pursuit of its charitable purposes.
- Financially solvent.
- Acting within the requirements of its governing documents.
- Dealing with its regulatory and public accountability obligations.

4.3 Finances of the Alice Park Trust Sub-Committee

4.3.1 Expenditure incurred for Alice Park Trust in 2019/20 was £87,820; this was offset by income of £58,628.

4.3.2 The deficit of £29,192 has been subsidised from the Bath & North East Somerset Council Parks revenue budget, to ensure the Trust operates on a going concern basis. This is the same process that has been undertaken in previous years. One of the priorities for the Trust is to become more financially independent of the Council.

4.3.3 Net Assets of the Trust are valued at a historic cost of £189,476. Net assets include investments held, land at Alice Park, car park, cottage number one, tea chalet and storage shed, public conveniences, tennis courts, garden shelter and play equipment.

4.3.4 The accounts for 2019/20 have been prepared by the Council's Finance team and have been independently examined by One West.

4.3.5 The accounts for the Trust are prepared on a cash basis, in line with reporting requirements and guidelines issued by the Charity Commission.

4.3.6 An annual report for the Trust has also been prepared for submission to the Charity Commission.

4.3.7 Subject to Covid closures, the park was open for public access throughout the year, including use of the tennis courts and tea chalet, and has been suitably maintained. The cottage property was let, and the income used in the upkeep of the park.

5 RATIONALE

5.1 Under its terms of reference, the Charitable Trust Board is required to submit an annual report to the Council.

6 EQUALITIES

6.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has not been carried out as this report is for information only.

7 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 None

8 CLIMATE CHANGE

8.1 This is an internal matter, so climate change considerations are not relevant.

9 CONSULTATION

9.1 The Section 151 and Monitoring Officer have had opportunity to review and input into this report.

10 RISK MANAGEMENT

10.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision-making risk management guidance.

Contact person	Marie Todd – Democratic Services Officer Email: Marie_Todd@bathnes.gov.uk Tel: 01225 394414
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	