



COMMITTEE MEMBERS'

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER

2024



Bingley Music Town

Committee members' annual report for the year ended 30th November 2024

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Review of the Year

December 2023 - November 2024

This year has seen a continued growth in our membership, our networks, and our activities.

Membership now stands at 19 organisations and 51 individuals, and our mailing list has 141 people signed up to receive newsletters.

Our Facebook page has 605 likes and 869 followers

We don't yet have people willing to manage our Instagram or Twitter/X accounts, which remain potential places for us to increase our reach.

Our website now consistently has over 100 visits a week. A year ago they were at about half of that. Our analytics recorded a big peak in the run up to the Challenge Festival in May and reported 7,800 visits over the year, up 239.4% on the previous year.

We continue to participate in our local community through the Bingley 2025 planning group, Bingley Creates, and Bingley Town Council events.

Our partnership with the Bingley Camera Club continues to thrive and it's been good to strengthen ties with Beckfoot School, the Bradford and Bingley sports clubs, Bingley Library, local businesses and more music groups and organisations.

As we said last year, we're connected to people, places, and events in ways that were not at all possible back in 2022. However, there's still a lot more we could do with a little help from our friends.

We'd still like to be more involved in the wider district as a whole - there are great things going on in Cottingley, Cullingworth and Wilsden, and we'd like to be better connected.

We'd still like to get our membership together more often and we'd still like to have a better offer for young people and find meaningful ways to involve them more.

If you'd like to join us, we'd love for you to help us celebrate and support music in our communities for the benefit of all.



Summary of the main achievements during the last year

- Our steering group has met 10 times in the year.
- Our 'what's on each week guide' has been updated and reprinted with a grant from the Shipley Community Chest
- We continue to rehome donated musical instruments.
- We have successfully distributed and reported back on the grant from the Alfred Sharp fund which continues to support the musical education for 10 local people by local music teachers.
- Electricity was finally installed in the bandstand, thanks to John Goode and Bingley Town Council, and we invested money into new equipment, which we share with Friends of Myrtle Park (FOMP), which will enable us to host musicians.
- The organisers of Challenge Fest asked us if we would find local acts to perform on the bandstand in May. We successfully filled two days full of music with lots of local acts. Unfortunately, as we all may recall, this event was cancelled and the lovely people at the Bradford and Bingley Sports Club stepped in to allow us to move all our musicians to their venue. We successfully ran this event, alongside the sports club, reorganising equipment and PA, bands and BMT volunteers.
- Provided support for Bingley First Monday Folk whose events can now be more easily advertised.
- Helped Bingley Singing for Fun get funding to pay for their meeting room costs.



- Canal Fest celebrated 250 years of the Five Rise Locks in March and BMT volunteers organised music in the market square.
- From May to June, the Bingley Makes Music exhibition of music photographs by Bingley Camera Club at the Bingley Arts Centre and around Bingley town centre. A fantastic collaboration which highlighted a variety of groups and put a spotlight on both BMT and Bingley Camera Club.
- Make Music Day (21st June) is more established in the calendar and was celebrated again last year in Bingley Library.
- We ran two Sounds In Town events that showcased local music talent in Cullingworth (May) and Harden (October), and also raised funds to allow us to do more events in the future (Sounds in Town 3 is planned for March 2025).
- Supported the Artisan Market and District Councillors with the all day Summer Market in August volunteering with Cornell Daley to organise music in the market square.
- BMT helped put out chairs with Friends of Myrtle Park for brass band concerts at the bandstand in summer.
- Saturday Music at Damart Cafe in November, an event scheduled by Bingley Creates, where we hoped to have a pick up and play session with some impromptu live music, but unfortunately this event was cancelled by the weather.
- Worked with a number of community groups around Bingley's 2025 event planning.



- Welcomed a music industry event organised by Launchpad to All Saints Church in Bingley in November. Brought in good connections with Bradford Music Scene, Bradford City of Culture, Bradford Producing Hub and musicians.
- Helped organise a Christmas music event in December at the library which included local primary schools.
- Took part in the Christmas Tree Festival at All Saints Parish Church, Bingley in December.

Outside of the things we were doing directly, there was also a lot going on that we were happy to promote and publicise including: The Bingley Pubs and Clubs Sound of Music event that ran over a weekend in July, Bingley Rocks on over a weekend in August at the Bradford and Bingley Sports Club, the classical music concerts at Cottingley Town Hall, as many local gigs as we could in local venues, all the opportunities for people to make music themselves, the concerts at Beckfoot School and the tribute bands and theatre at the Arts Centre, and many more.

Signed on behalf of the committee:

Stephanie Laycock, Chair



Aims and objectives

The aims of the Group shall be to make Bingley a place where music is celebrated and valued as an asset that sustains our health, our wellbeing, and our economy.

To that end we will:

1. Create a **Board of representatives** who will care for the Music Town idea and **monitor progress**.
2. Curate an ever evolving plan to **support and harness music** that has clear tasks that can be worked on by anyone that wants to, both within and outside of the steering group. This will include a plan to **evaluate our local music infrastructure in depth**.
3. Work towards a **formal recognition that music is an asset** that sustains the health, wellbeing, and the economy of the people of Bingley.
4. Not do all the work to achieve everything on the plan, but we will find, encourage, and support other people to follow their musical improvement passion, so that we can achieve our goals together.
5. Create a Bingley Music Town brand that local community groups, musical groups, and businesses can use to tie their events and activities together.
6. Ensure that music in Bingley will be a key cultural contribution to the Bradford 2025 City of Culture programme.



Main address

26 Myrtle Avenue, Bingley, BD16 1EW

Committee members (from) (role)

Stephanie Laycock	09/11/22 (Chair)
David Carpenter	09/11/22 (Treasurer and acting Secretary)
David Johnson	09/11/22
Anita Bašić	13/12/22
Liz Narey	09/11/22
Patrick Gray	12/04/23
Rachel Tyrell	14/02/24
Helen Richmond	14/02/24
Mike Wheatley	09/11/22
(Mike no longer attends meetings but continues as a second signatory on the bank account.)	

Special mentions to regular Steering group participants:

Members Steve Spencer Jim Bailey

Others Pete Jebb

Bankers

Virgin Money

154-158 Kensington High Street, London, W8 7RL

Our bank account is set up such that two signatories are supposed to be required for any purchase. In practice there are holes in that procedure. Both David Carpenter and Mike Wheatley have debit cards that could be used independently. Both David and Mike have access to the account online and via a phone app. Mike can set up payments and David can then authorise them. This is how we tend to work. However, David as 'super admin' is able to make payments without a second authorisation.

The spending and bank balance was part of the monthly meetings for most of 2023-24, but has dropped off the agenda in recent times. The income expenditure sheet is in a Google Spreadsheet and all Steering Group members have access to it.

Governance and management

We are governed by the [rules in our constitution](#) which were agreed on 9th November 2022 and are available to all via our website - linked from the bottom of the '[Join page](#)'.

The steering group meets on the second Wednesday of the month.

Meetings are advertised on the website, and by mailchimp newsletters that go to both members and non-members.

Agendas and Minutes are kept in shared Google Drive folders. Members have the right to access those folders, and should request access if they want to do so. (They can do so by clicking on links to agendas etc)

Mailchimp is also used to contact members only.

Sometimes we email people directly (e.g. for the AGM)

Quotes from Bingley Music Town Steering Group Member's Highlights

Steph

My highlight of 2024 would be collaborating with Cornell Daley at the all day market in August. Music from 9am, gorgeous weather and lots of interest from the local community. It was a successful day and one which we hope we can replicate in the future to boost engagement with the local stall holders.

Rachel

When the Challenge festival was cancelled a few days before it was due to go ahead, I was very proud that we managed to rearrange it and run a very successful two day event at a different location. It was a great team effort!

Dave J

My highlight was BMT pulling off the festival at the Rugby Club. It was a massive effort from all involved but we did it. Shows what BMT is capable of.

Thoroughly enjoyable....(but I wouldn't want to do it every month!!)

Helen

A highlight for me has been meeting so many people, particularly the BMT committee who are so dedicated to improving music opportunities in Bingley and the surrounding areas.

Also being part of the Sounds in Town group and the two concerts which were a great success.

Anita

1. Sounds in Town launch - 2 x very entertaining musical evenings showcasing local talent and supporting local churches
2. Much greater awareness of everything that is happening musically in and around Bingley - the BMT 'hub' has started!
3. Hearing live music on the Square in the Town has been a welcome addition

David

So many things, but I think the photography exhibition that saw huge pictures in the highstreet, and a three way collaboration between Bingley Camera Club, The Arts Centre and ourselves was special.

Receipts & payments account

for the year ended 30th November 2024

This year we've had a mixture of donations from business, grant income, and cash donations.

An underspend from a grant from Bingley Town Council in 2022-23 allowed us to continue to pay for a place to meet for most of the year.

The vast majority of our spending was to distribute the Alfred Sharp grant that we received in the last period. This was £5000 that went into tuition of 10 individuals via local music teachers.

The Challenge Festival event in May, and the Sounds In Town events both resulted in us getting cash donations for the first time. Challenge Fest also saw donations from a couple of local businesses, Martinez Wine Bar and Specsavers, to pay for performers at the event.

While we have 'only' paid £285 this year in artists fees, we believe in the principle of musicians getting paid for their work, and aim to see more of this in future.

We've also invested in Public Liability insurance now that we are actually doing public facing events, and we anticipate being the lead actor in a number of events in 2025.

We bought some waterproof, industry standard electrical equipment to enable performers to use electricity on the bandstand as a way of getting the electrification of the Bandstand project carried out by Bingley Town Council and the Friends of Myrtle Park finalised.

We continue to be grateful to Community Action Bradford And District for their very reasonable rates for room hire at Cardigan House for our steering group meetings.

At the moment, we don't raise funds from our members. Many membership organisations have a subscription mechanism, where membership is linked to an annual subscription which then provides the group with some money to operate.

Going into 2025, we have enough funds to cover our running expenses for another year which at a minimum are roughly £200 to cover meeting room hire, public liability and our website domain.

We also have about £600 of unrestricted funds that gives us some ability to invest in the activities we choose.



Receipts	Amount
Grants	£350.31
Donations	£190.00
Cash Donations	£1,023.23
Membership	£0.00
Bank Interest	£0.60
£1,023.23	£1,564.14
Payments	Amount
Alfred Sharp	£5,000.00
Artists Fees	£285.00
Equipment	£97.44
Insurance	£96.00
IT costs	£8.15
Printing	£298.77
Room Hire	£112.50
Venue Hire	£85.00
Event Costs (Sounds In Town)	£33.40
Instrument Repair	£10.00
Total Payments	£6,026.26
Net receipts/(payments)	-£4,462.12
Bank and cash at the start of the period	£5,328.53
Bank and cash at the end of the period	£866.41

Statement of assets and liabilities

at 30th November 2024

Cash assets	Amount
Cash	£142.00
Current account	£724.41
Total cash assets	£866.41
Other assets	
None	
Liabilities	
Room Hire - CABAD	£12.50
Leaflets (printed in Nov. Reimbursed in Dec 2024)	£98.40
Total Liabilities	£110.90
Restricted Funds	
Remaining balance of the Shipley Community Chest grant that must be spent on printing	£121.91

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the organisation by:

David Carpenter, Treasurer



Notes to the accounts

for the year ended 30th November 2023

1. Grants & Donations

Grants and donations (restricted funds)	Amount
BMDC - Shipley Community Chest	£350.31
Donations from Businesses for Challenge Fest artist payments	£190
Grants and donations (unrestricted funds)	
Cash donations (events)	£1,023.23
Total grants and donations	£1563.54

Notes:

Bradford Council via the Shipley Community Chest gave us £350.31 for re-printing and updating our leaflets and stickers.

Local businesses donated money specifically to support the artists playing at Challenge Fest in May.

Cash donations came from 3 events (Challenge Fest, and two Sounds In Town events), and the sale of a donated amplifier.



2. Committee members' remuneration

From our rules:

(d) Members, (including committee members) cannot receive any money or property from the group, except to refund reasonable out of pocket expenses. or unless the member is directly involved in running a music activity which has been fully or partially financially supported by funds raised by or awarded to the group, and where the Management Committee has agreed to this financial support.

During this period,

£97.44 was reimbursed to David Carpenter against the receipt for electrical equipment for the bandstand

£8.15 was reimbursed to David Carpenter for purchase of the website domain.

Alfred Sharp funding was awarded to music teachers to teach people musical instruments. The following members (and/or their organisations) who are also music teachers received funding:

Becs Leighton (Becs Leighton Music)

Dave Johnson (Bingley Guitar Studio)

Stu Partridge (Bingley Music School)



This document uses a template from CA Plus: www.caplus.org.uk/Accountsforsmallgroups

All the images in this document were taken by members of [Bingley Camera Club](#) who have been documenting music making activity in the district for us. A big thank you to all the photographers, individuals, and groups that have participated.

All photos © Bingley Music Town/Bingley Camera Club

Every attempt has been made to produce this document accessibly.

