Beechey Sean

The band has had another great year, and has continued to improve both as individual players and as a group. The ensemble and balance, tricky in such a top heavy band, have really come on and the band is playing with a much greater sense of musicality.

We had an incredibly busy summer term, being out most weekends in June and July, which I think is testament to the reputation the band has earned. Although I hope this next year is just as busy, we did have a few situations where we could only put out a very small band so I will be mindful not to over load the kid's diaries. Similarly, it has been a shame not to have the Advanced Group out much this year, again due to player availability and this is something I wish to tackle next year.

The starter brass group is coming on very well, and has already yielded a tenor horn ready to play in the main band. As ever, the band could always do with some more bottom end players.

Thanks again to the Town Band, Nat and Joe especially, for all the support and jobs that come through you. And to all the players who have helped out over the year.

I look forward to another fantastic year,

Many Thanks,

Jim Bennett

SHERBORNE TOWN BAND

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

Charity Number: 1046342

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2014, which are set out on pages 2 and 3.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required under section 43 (2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43 (7)(b) of the 1993 Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
   - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
   - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

I D DODDS CA
Lanham & Francis
Chartered Accountants
77a Cheap Street
Sherborne, Dorset

Signed : IDDodds

Date: 11.7.14

SHERBORNE TOWN BAND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

BALANCE SHEET

	2014		2013	
	£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank – Current Account	1,630.42		1,502.32	
- Deposit Account	6,318.15		6,315.68	
- Instrument Fund Account	276.84		276.72	
-Youth Band Account	2,175.36		2,744.28	
Debtors	798.00		-	
Prepayments	75.00		75.00	
		11,273.77		10,914.00
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Sundry Creditors & Accruals		(677.37)		(556.74)
CURRENT ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		£ 10,596.40		£ 10,357.26
RESERVES				
GENERAL				
Balance brought forward		10,357.26		10,717.74
Net surplus/(loss) for the year		239.14		(360.48)
Balance carried forward		£ 10,596.40		£ 10,357.26

Accounts approved by:

.....S Hunter, President

Dated: 11 July 2014

SHERBORNE TOWN BAND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	GENERAL FUNDS £	RESTRICTED FUNDS £	2014 TOTAL £	2013 TOTAL £
INCOME				
Concert fees	6,390.41	-	6,390.41	6,022.44
Collections	1.781.68	-	1,781.68	1,930.25
Raffles	342.73	-	342.73	119.80
Donations	805.50	-	805.50	832.87
Subscriptions	4,127.00	-	4,127.00	4,763.00
Bank interest	2.59	-	2.59	2.10
Room hire income	960.00	-	960.00	960.00
Sundry income	222.13	-	222.13	372.71
Easter Break activity	1,820.00	-	1,820.00	1,800.00
Prize money	-	-	-	500.00
Tape and CD sales	430.00	-	430.00	1,535.90
	16,882.04	-	16,882.04	18,839.07
EXPENDITURE				
Rent	1,240.00	-	1,240.00	1,271.31
Water rates	32.30	-	32.30	55.23
Insurance	1,240.74	-	1,240.74	1,304.79
Electricity and fuel	820.29	-	820.29	1,785.06
Stationery	6.81	-	6.81	93.81
Website expenses	35.00	-	35.00	35.00
Easter Break expenditure	2,294.00	-	2,294.00	2,305.00
Uniforms	22.16	-	22.16	292.25
Subscriptions	225.00	-	225.00	175.94
Advertising	78.55	-	78.55	209.30
Travelling costs	618.71	-	618.71	1,089.81
Conductor fees	4,410.00	-	4,410.00	2,372.00
Guest player expenses	3,279.50	-	3,279.50	3,399.50
Music purchases	153.20	-	153.20	246.70
Instrument purchases	558.97	-	558.97	183.43
Instrument repairs	128.47	-	128.47	60.00
CD production costs	126.00	-	126.00	1,702.00
Miscellaneous	251.65	-	251.65	287.82
Hire of halls	175.50	-	175.50	299.00
Contest expenses	1,157.05	-	1,157.05	1,788.19
Building maintenance	-	-	-	186.91
Band dinner	(211.00)	-	(211.00)	56.50
	16,642.90	-	16,642.90	19,199.55
NET SURPLUS/(LOSS) FOR THE YEAR	£239.14	£ -	£ 239.14	£ (360.48)
Allocated as follows:				
General Reserves				£ (360.48)

Treasurers Report

The band's finances remain healthy with the end of year assets being broadly that of the previous year. The single biggest expenditure last year was the area contest which saw a larger number of deps used predominately due to the demands of the piece and some of our regular players were unavailable. The rent and insurance continue to be the next 2 biggest items of expenditure and I have asked Stuart to convene a meeting with the Town Clerk to discuss the rent with a view of getting an reduction.

Income from concert fees remain steady as does the collections over Christmas. The Christmas period remains the most productive time in the year for fund raising. The hire of the hall to the Yoga group continues to bring in regular funds and as of September it has expanded from 2 meetings a week to 3. This should raise the revenue generated by the Yoga group from £960 to approximately £1500 per year.

The Youth Band continues to flourish and revenue generated continues to exceed the expenditure.

The band has just replaced the boiler at a cost of excess £3000 but this is not reflected in the accounts as it was fitted in the new financial year. The savings account does reflect a donation of £1000 from the Simon Digby Trust with the rest being paid for from a donation from the Rotary and hall and Woodhouse Community Chest, both of which have yet to be received.

I would like to pay tribute to the work Stuart Hunter has done to raise funds for the boiler replacement. Stuart has approached a number of organisations over the last year in order to secure funds and due to his hard work it looks like enough has been raised to endure the savings account does not have to bare any of the cost. I'm sure I speak for the whole of the organisation (and the Yoga Classes) to warmly (no pun intended) thank Stuart for all his work in this area.

Finally I would thank Ian Dodds and Jayne Spooner at Lanham and Francis Accountants for auditing the books once again.

THORNFORD
29 AUGUST 2014

SHERBORNE TOWN BAND – AGM 2014– PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome to the 2014 AGM.

The Band has had another good year and we continue to retain our Championship status, well done to everyone concerned. It is sad that Paul decided to stand down after the area finals and we will miss his considerable knowledge and experience. I am, however, very grateful to Steve for adopting the conducting task. We have a daunting challenge ahead of us at the 2015 area finals if we are to maintain our top section status. I am, however, confident that we possess enough talent within the Band to achieve the objective but we will have to put in a monumental amount of hard work and display great determination if we are to succeed.

I am pleased to be able to announce that we have a new boiler. The cost of purchase and installation amounted to £3284. The Simon Digby Trust, Sherborne Castles Rotary Club, Historic Vehicle Rally and the Hall and Woodhouse Community Chest have all contributed towards the cost.

On your behalf I would like to thank The Chairman and Band Committee for their continued hard work in the planning, programming and administration vital to the operation of the Band.

The recent audit undertaken by our accountants, Messrs Lanham and Francis has certified that the accounts are being

properly maintained and that we are financially healthy. Well done Andrea.

We will always have to earn money to survive and our recent high profile in and around Sherborne is paying dividends.

I continue to be most concerned at the poor attendance for rehearsals. As I have mentioned on previous occasions, I am acutely aware of Band members' requirement to balance their commitment to work, family and the Band very carefully, but well attended rehearsals are essential if we are to succeed.

I am sorry that we have lost some players but would like to formally welcome Michelle, Gerald, Bridget and Megan to the Band. Congratulations to Megan for her selection to the National Youth Brass Band.

I remain impressed by the progress of our Youth section, and the tireless efforts of Jim Benett and his team of helpers, who continue to produce excellent results, thank you Jim. We still need to integrate the able youngsters into the main band.

Finally, I want to thank everyone for their continued support and friendship, I will be happy to continue as your President if you so wish.

Stuart Hunter
PRESIDENT

Musical Directors reports 2013 – 2014

I would first like to thank the committee and band in giving me the opportunity to direct the band again. After a gap of 3 years it was good to get back to conducting and hopefully push the band forward again.

I would also like to thank the committee for their hard work and continued efforts, in what can be described as a mixed year for the band. The retirement of Paul Cosh from the organisation but I think it was a decision that was right for the band and especially him. I would personally like to thank him for the professionalism and commitment he has shown and wish him a happy and enjoyable retirement.

Over the past year we have had a few comings and goings and I would like to welcome those people to the band who have joined and have made a positive impact. It is so good to see a few more young faces around the band, such as Megan and Thomas, this is one area where we must capitalise and bring younger members through. We must approach those members of the youth band who are good enough and invite them along. I am sure you will agree, playing harder music is one of the ways progress can be made. This is also vital for the continuity of the organisation.

From a musical perspective the band has played some excellent concerts and really has excelled in playing entertaining music to a good standard. The band has had quite a few positive comments from the public about the choice of music they hear; this is always a good sign and we should continue to provide varied and entertaining repertoire. However, from an experienced player I recognise that some of the music is not really challenging and perhaps a little 'old hat' but this where I see some frustrations appearing. Attendance at rehearsals is becoming increasingly sporadic. It is difficult to get more demanding music out and make a good job of it when people are not attending rehearsals. Success will breed success, but this means all pulling together. Commitment is paramount if the band is going to progress, attract new players and play more demanding repertoire.

On the contest platform we have achieved well. At the areas, a very creditable 8th was well deserved with a good performance on St Magnus. However, we will be struggling next year as the ranking system has finally caught up with us! Over the past few years we have had a lot of deps to help us out at this contest, myself being an advocate regards to standard. However, we need to ask ourselves is this maintainable, especially from a financial point of view? Yes we do well in the areas but the price is questionable.

I really enjoyed taking the band to Yeovil contest this year and I thought, as did many others, the program was entertaining and the band played very well. The result was disappointing but we did ourselves proud and gave the audience a well balanced program. Yet again in this contest we had to call in a few deps but compared to the area a minimal amount used.

The band committee now needs to be much more proactive in making arrangements for next year's area, looking at the people we have and booking people now.

The band still needs to sort out the empty seats, this must be a priority for the coming year. We need to make phone calls, Emails and generally, badger people. Advertising on Websites, facebook, twitter is essential. But also, if we know of people, even if they are playing in another band, contact them, invite them down, ask them to dep and badger them. The committee have also had to work far too hard when finding deps for jobs. As much time is needed to phone around and get these people in. Is it worth compiling a deps list and giving each member the details – perhaps this will lighten the load on the likes of Joe and Sean.

I have enjoyed the last year and am looking forward to 2015. The band has a very busy period coming up and would ask members to really pull together with regards to home practice, attendance and commitment.

Stephen Rogers

MD. Sept 2014

Chairmans Report

Firstly can I thank you all for supporting the 2014 Sherborne Town Band Annual General Meeting.

The band in my opinion has had a year of mixed fortunes; one hand we have continued to perform well on the contest stage and in concerts in and around town but on the other we are still dogged with small rehearsals and the ongoing problem of recruiting players in the key positions.

Since we last sat here we have welcomed Stuart Butt and Michelle who both played at the areas with us and more recently Gerald, Bridgett and Megan. The committee continues through various campaigns to try to fill the vacant seats but would welcome any assistance the members can give to get new faces through the door.

The band is definitely in a period of transition and I would urge all the players to work as a team to keep the band moving in the right direction. I know we all lead busy lives and sometimes the balance between our home life and our band life is a difficult one to make, but with the right commitment to the band I'm sure things will be on the up.

I am pleased to be able to report the Youth Band continues to flourish and the open day we held last summer saw 7 or 8 new members join, none of whom had played an instrument before. The band has been very busy over the summer and the improvement made over the last 3 terms is very noticeable. It is good to see Tom Arnott-Walker regularly sitting in the main senior band on the back row and hopefully it won't be too long before we see other joining him. I would like to thank Jim Bennett for the Stirling work he is doing and also the team of helpers behind him who help both in the band and at the front of house running the tuckshop.

I would like to thank Steve Rogers for his work as Musical Director over the past year. The band has performed well in some high profile events in the town and the Committee has received many positive comments on both the standard of the band and the programme we have performed. I would also like to thank Keith Long and Paul Slator for stepping in when Steve is unavailable.

I would like to thank Andrea for maintaining and presenting the accounts and the Committee for all their support they have given to myself and our organisation. Without their support and hardwork the band would fail to function in the way it does. I'm surprised Joe and Natalie haven't blocked my mobile number by now!!

I wholly concur with the tribute Andrea has paid to Stuart for the work he does to bring in funds from the various pots of gold in the area. I'm sure we will be appreciative of having a reliable heating system this winter.

Finally on behalf of all of us I would like to thank John Derrick for letting the band have use of the van to transport kit to the various concert venues; at times I think this is taken for granted. John is always at the bandroom to load up at least an hour before we ask anyone else to be at the venue and when everyone has packed up he still has to drop the kit off afterwards, so thanks you John. Plus he is a bloody good chippy as the wardrobes in my new house will testify.