



## **Annual Report for the Financial Year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

### **Introduction**

The Derwent Valley Trust CIO is a registered charity number 1058609. The Derwent Valley Trust was converted, to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, on 20 January, 2023.

### **The Current Trustees are:**

- Derek James Latham (Chair)
- Howard Arthur (Chair Derwent Valley Heritage Way)
- Jeremy Jones (Treasurer)
- Clive John Pegg (Secretary)
- Ben Seal (Chair Paddle Trail)
- Dr Tanya Spilsbury (Chair Cycleway)
- Timothy John Wilmsburst (Vice Chair & Project Lead)
- Peter White (L A & Sustainable Transport Lead)

### **Purpose and Main Activities of the Charity**

The Derwent Valley Trust was founded in 1996. It is exclusively charitable and the objects of the trust are, amongst other things, to enable and encourage active travel and to identify, preserve and enhance, for the public benefit, the area comprised in the Derwent Valley in Derbyshire and the abutment area and whatever natural, historical, cultural, geological, architectural and constructional heritage may exist in the area of benefit.

The trust established the Derwent Valley Heritage Way in 2003 which enables the public to benefit from the experience and exercise when walking along this trail.

The trust has also actively promoted the potential to develop an off-road multi-user trail (for cycling, walking, mobility vehicles and horse-riding) to be known as the Derwent Valley Cycleway from the old port of Shardlow to Hathersage, a paddle trail down the length of the River Derwent and a horse trail to extend the Pennine

Bridleway to Derby. The trust partners with other organisations to achieve these goals.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

The governing document of the Charity is a constitution which was last amended on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.

The Derwent Valley Trust is a small charity with clearly defined responsibilities, amongst the trustees and other members, in order to set objectives, plan implementation, track progress and to deliver. The Board of the charity meets once every three months and the Steering Group every six weeks. The Board comprises the trustees and the Steering Group the trustees plus any other members with specific responsibilities. Minutes are prepared, circulated and approved for each of the meetings and this includes important meetings with third parties.

There is frequent contact between the trustees and other members of the charity by email and phone calls.

### **Financial Policies and Financial Review**

At the 31st of March 2023 the Trust had £6,722.59 credit; there were no restricted funds.

During the financial year under review, the Charity did not hold any funds as custodian trustee for others.

The charity continues to keep up to date with its responsibilities and current financial controls.

### **Achievement and Performance**

The Steering Group focused on tracking progress and recommending corrective measures to progress towards the main deliverables for the charity in terms of creating a new trail along the Derwent Valley, maintaining and promoting the Heritage Way and to developing Strategic Partnerships and governance.

- Derbyshire County Council (DCC) had initiated and was funding a study, by Aecom, on the feasibility of constructing the **Derwent Valley Cycleway**.
- **Belper West Bank**, a section of the Derwent Valley Cycleway, had been identified as a priority that could be delivered, by the trust.,

- For **The Heritage Way**, a team of Rangers, under the lead of a Ranger Co-ordinator, was established to regularly inspect the trail, identify maintenance work and to undertake same if possible.
- **Paddle Trail** (a representative from Paddle Peak, a separate charity, is a Board Member) worked on various initiatives including a proposed “Joint Community on the River”, and a “Paddlers Code”.
- The **Derwent Valley Trust Newsletter**, the participation of the trust in of relevant shows and the trust website were used to promote the trust
- The Board of the trust had previously approved the conversion of the trust to a **Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)**. This aim was realised in January, 2023.

The Directors very much appreciate:

- Support in kind by the county, local and parish councils.
- The substantial contribution of Lubrizol to a range of initiatives
- The on-going services of David Higley advising on our business software.
- The support of volunteers.

#### **Financial summary 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023**

On 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 we had £6,720.79 credit

On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 we had £6,722.59 credit.

Over the period, the trust had income of £2,661.25

#### Income:

£2,333.54: Derwent Valley Heritage Way guidebook sales

£254.21: Easyfundraising

£53.50 Donations

£20.00 Refund from Transition Belper

Over the period, the trust made payments of 2,659.45

#### Expenses:

£776.94 Printing

£618.00 Johnson Tidsall preparation of Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements (2021-22)

£449.37 Butterworth Spengl

£390.00 IT services

£274.94 Derwent Valley Heritage Way guidebook P&P


£75.00 Unsold Derwent Valley Heritage Way guidebook refunds

£55.20 Meeting room bookings

£20.00 Transition Belper

All projects carried out by the Derwent Valley Trust enhance the Social Capital value of the Derwent Valley and the wider community of Derbyshire. The trustees continue to have due regard for their duty to comply with guidance of the Charity Commission on public benefit in the exercise of their powers or duties.

Signature



Derek Latham

Chair of Derwent Valley Trust CIO

11th September, 2024