

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1088978

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [04181961](#)

Registered 2001-10-22

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Coombeswood Canal Trust
Hawne Basin
Hereward Rise
Halesowen
B62 8AW

Phone 01215501355

Email coombeswood@btconnect.com

Website www.hawnebasin.org.uk

Activities

Objects: FOR THE USE AND BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC TO STIMULATE PUBLIC INTEREST IN AND APPRECIATION OF THE HISTORY, STRUCTURE AND BEAUTY OF THE DUDLEY NUMBER 2 CANAL AND WITH THE AIM OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE PERSONS FOR WHOM SUCH FACILITIES ARE PRIMARILY INTENDED, TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE ACTIVITIES AT OR NEAR TO THE DUDLEY NUMBER 2 CANAL INCLUDING HAWNE BASIN INCLUDING THE RESTORATION, IMPROVEMENT, ENHANCEMENT, DEVELOPMENT, MAINTENANCE, CONSERVATION OF AND MAKING FULLY NAVIGABLE THE CANAL AND THE PROMOTION OF ITS USE BY ALL APPROPRIATE FORMS OF WATERBORNE TRAFFIC AND THE PROMOTION OF A PUBLIC FOOTPATH AND RIGHT OF WAY ALONG THE LENGTH OF THE DUDLEY NUMBER 2 CANAL.

Activities: assist in the provision of facilities for recreation at or near to the Dudley Number 2 Canal including Hawne Basin including the restoration, improvement, enhancement, development, maintenance, conservation of and making fully navigable the Canal and the promotion of its use

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Birmingham City
- Dudley
- Sandwell

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£115,178	£136,157	-	-
2024-07-31	£81,804	£101,030	-	-
2023-07-31	£91,922	£80,835	-	-
2022-07-31	£93,330	£30,473	-	-
2021-07-31	£77,531	£74,488	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Robert David Fox	Chair	2023-12-09
Denise Cheryl Brown		2026-01-24
Gavin Hawkins		2024-05-03
Gillian Reynolds		2022-12-10
Jude Dorrington		2026-01-24
Judy Hanchet		2023-12-09
Roy Burgess		2023-12-09
Stephen Busby		2026-01-24

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1088978

Accounts

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

(A COMPANY LTD BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2025

Legal Information

Directors/Trustees during the year	Bob Fox - Chair (Appointed 9th December 2023) Gavin Hawkins - Treasurer (Appointed 3rd May 2024) Judy Hanchet - Secretary (Appointed 9th December 2023) Roy Burgess (Appointed 9th December 2023) Anthony Friar (Appointed 14th December 2005) Darren McKenzie (Appointed 9th December 2023) Gillian Reynolds (Appointed 10th December 2022) Ivor Chambers (Resigned 1st February 2025)
Charity Number:	1088978
Company Number	04181961
Registered Office	Hawne Basin Hereward Rise Halesowen West Midlands B62 8AW
Telephone	0121 550 1355
Email	coombeswood@btconnect.com
Website	www.hawnebasin.org.uk
Accountant	Groundbreakers Ltd Shop 1 at 83 High Street Kinver Stourbridge West Midlands DY7 6HD

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year ended 31st July 2025

The trustees present their annual report and accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st July 2025. The Trustees have followed the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and accounts.

Trustees

The trustees as named on page 3 have served throughout the year to 31st July 2025 except where stated. The trustees are also the directors of the Limited Company. All trustees that served during the year are listed. Trustees are appointed as governed by the Articles of Association of the charity. Only members of the charity can be appointed as trustees.

New trustees are appointed who can bring relevant experience and skills to the governing body. The induction of new trustees involves being made aware of a trustee's responsibilities, the governing documents and the history and ethos of the charity.

Constitution, Objects and Management

Coombeswood Canal Trust (charity number 513054) was constituted as a charity of the same name by a Deed of Trust from 1st September 1982 to 8th September 2003, when it became a new charity (number 1088978) operating as a company limited by guarantee.

The objects of the charity are:

For the use and benefit of the public to stimulate public interest in and appreciation of the history, structure and beauty of the Dudley number 2 canal, and with the aim of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom such facilities are primarily intended.

To provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure activities at or near to the Dudley number 2 canal including Hawne Basin including the restoration, improvement, enhancement, development, maintenance, conservation of and making fully navigable the canal and the promotion of its use by all appropriate forms of waterborne traffic and the promotion of a public footpath and right of way along the length of the Dudley number 2 canal.

The charity is organised so that the governing council of trustees meets monthly to manage its affairs and formulate the charity's policies. The Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit is kept in mind when decisions are made.

The running of the charity is undertaken by the Chair, the Secretary, the other trustees and other members, with the help of the paid caretaking staff.

The charity is very grateful to all its volunteers, without whom the charity would not exist. In the unlikely event of winding up, each member of the Trust undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company up to a maximum of £1.

Membership of the charity is required for long term mooring and use of the social club.

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year ended 31st July 2025 (cont'd)

Financial Review

The majority of the charity's funds come from the provision of mooring to members and from providing slipway and other services for boats. Coombeswood Canal Company Ltd, a separate company limited by guarantee, covenants its profits to the Trust. Other funding is from membership fees and donations, as well as profits from fundraising, public open days and Social Club activities.

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total incoming resources of £115,178 and resources expended of £136,157 resulting in a net decrease in funds carried forward of £20,979.

The total assets carried forward to the next financial year are £1,222,677.

Development, activities and achievements this year

One of our long serving trustees (directors) resigned in February 2025, but the other directors have continued to bring their expertise and experience to the monthly meetings to ensure that the Trust works towards meeting its charitable objectives. Two additional trustees have been co-opted on to the committee, whose full appointment will be put to the members at the AGM.

The charity continued to maintain its core services, providing leisure mooring for around 78 boats and undertook projects promoting and maintaining Hawne Basin, the Dudley No 2 Canal and footpath. Slipway services previously provided by Coombeswood Canal Company Ltd were provided weekly by a volunteer team. Being so popular, this service booked up months in advance.

Part-time caretaking staff kept the site running and provided support to moorers and visitors, 7 days a week. Volunteers supplied in excess of 1980 registered hours to the Trust, helping with site maintenance, the open weekend, public outreach, the slipway and running the Social Club bar, Sunday lunches and events.

Coombeswood Canal Company Ltd continued to provide diesel and chandlery at competitive prices from the onsite shop, to attract boaters and local customers. It also provided 12 residential moorings.

Work parties were held on the first Sunday of each month along the Dudley No2 canal and around the basin using the work boats, Hawne and Stratford, clearing trees, logs, tyres and other rubbish from the canal.

The social club continued to thrive with the help of an enthusiastic new volunteer team. It provided a weekend bar, Sunday lunches during the winter and event nights including fundraisers. Music nights with live singers proved especially popular.

The operation of the heritage boats, Atlas and Malus, in partnership with the BCNS, continued with some maintenance work being undertaken. They attended a number of local canal rallies during which members of the public were encouraged to look around them and were informed about the ways of life of boaters in their heyday. A Community Grant application was made to Dudley MBC to encourage new volunteers to work alongside mentors from the Trust in restoring, maintaining and operating these boats.

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year ended 31st July 2025 (cont'd)

Development, activities and achievements this year (cont'd)

Maintenance, funded from our reserves, was carried out on site including more work on the PA and Ethernet systems and retarmacing of a large section of the the basin frontage and area between the main buildings. An induction loop system was installed in the Clubhouse for those with hearing impairment.

The Trust continued to host several local community music groups by offering the use of the facilities for meetings and practices. Members of the Trust also maintained communication with local councillors.

The IWA Waterways Recovery group had a camp at Coombeswood in October 2024, during which they cleared shrubs and trees from the Dudley No2 canal extension. The IWA local branch continues to hold its branch committee meetings and winter socials at the Basin.

In the autumn of 2024, Coombes Bridge was finally repainted, funded jointly with Dudley MBC. The Trust was instrumental in getting this achieved. It was opened by Hilary Bills, Mayor of Dudley on 5th November.

Patrick Moss of Moss Naylor Young provided a helpful presentation at the AGM in February 2025 about their interim report on the feasibility study for the further extension of the Dudley No 2 canal. Due to his ill health, there has been a delay in producing the full report. The Trust's response to the draft report has yet to be finalised.

An open weekend was held on the 7th & 8th June 2025, which was very well attended by the public. Boat trips along the canal on Malus and Phoenix (provided by BCNS for the weekend) were quickly booked up. Hot food, cakes, real ale, other bar and hot drinks were provided, with entertainment by local bands and musical groups.

There was also a model boat display, children's activities, trade and craft stalls and a visit from the miniature ponies. It was such a success in fundraising and in public engagement that more frequent open events were proposed, including a Winter event later in the year.

The Trust also supported Halesowen in Bloom, with our two planters in the shape of narrowboats on road islands in the town. Halesowen was again successful in obtaining a Gold Award in the Heart of England Britain in Bloom awards in 2025.

Future Plans

The main activities of the Trust are expected to continue in 2025/26. The Social Club continues to offer its bar, Sunday lunches and events. An Open day titled "Winterfest" was held on 29th December 2025 and another Open event is planned in Spring 2026. Additional Gardening and Maintenance weekends for volunteers will be held to get the site in good condition for the visitors.

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year ended 31st July 2025 (cont'd)

Future Plans (cont'd)

The Community Grant for new Atlas and Malus volunteers was successful and the Trust was awarded £14,250 for the 6 months to the end of March 2026. A project manager was appointed, starting in October 2025. Mentors came forward and a number of young people are already involved. As a consequence of this project the Trust has made links to several useful community organisations, which may lead to joint working.

The Trustees have identified that significant infrastructure maintenance of the Basin and its facilities is required, which is likely to necessitate further use of reserves in the next few years.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review the major risks the charity faces and believe that sufficient resources are held to keep the charity running through unforeseen adverse events. Systems have been put in place, whenever operational and business risks have been identified, to mitigate those risks.

The management committee continues to keep risk management under review.

Reserves Policy

The Governing Council commits to retain sufficient reserves to cover winding-up costs, if necessary, including provisions for statutory redundancy payments and contract cancellation charges.

The current reserves are also being held for urgent site maintenance and the improvement of facilities at Hawne basin, as well as supporting Dudley No 2 canal projects.

Statement of Director's (Trustee's) Responsibilities

The directors are required under Company Law to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of its results for that period.

In preparing those financial statements the directors are required to:

- (a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- (b) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (c) prepare the financial statements on an ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for the keeping of proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for the safeguarding of the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the directors on 16th January 2026.



Signed on their behalf by Bob Fox - Trustee

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the charitable company

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st July 2025.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of independent examiners report

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name :
Graeme Underhill



Groundbreakers Ltd
Shop 1 at 83 High Street
Kinver
Stourbridge
DY7 6HD

Date : 16th January 2026

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Statement of Financial Activities Year ended 31st July 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2025 £	Total Funds 2024 £
Income				
Donations	2a	24,784	24,784	23,459
Charitable activities	2b	87,459	87,459	57,836
Bank Interest Receivable		2,920	2,920	498
Dividends received		15	15	11
Total		<u>115,178</u>	<u>115,178</u>	<u>81,804</u>
Expenditure				
Charitable Activities	3	134,998	134,998	100,280
Governance Costs	4	1,159	1,159	750
Total		<u>136,157</u>	<u>136,157</u>	<u>101,030</u>
Net (Expenditure)/Income		(20,979)	(20,979)	(19,226)
Total funds brought forward		1,243,656	1,243,656	661,882
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	7	-	-	601,000
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,222,677</u>	<u>1,222,677</u>	<u>1,243,656</u>

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Balance Sheet As at 31st July 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	7		985,982		985,000
Current Assets					
Stocks		1,177		338	
Sundry Debtors/prepayments	8	38,998		58,252	
Cash at Bank and in Hand	9	219,552		210,247	
Investments	10	326		326	
		<u>260,053</u>		<u>269,163</u>	
Current Liabilities					
Creditors due within one year	11	<u>23,358</u>		<u>10,507</u>	
Net Current Assets			236,695		258,656
Net Assets			<u><u>1,222,677</u></u>		<u><u>1,243,656</u></u>
Represented by:					
Unrestricted Funds	12				
Income & Expenditure account			328,313		347,539
Surplus/ Deficit for the year			<u>(20,979)</u>		<u>(19,226)</u>
			307,334		328,313
Designated Funds	12		<u>915,343</u>		<u>915,343</u>
			<u><u>1,222,677</u></u>		<u><u>1,243,656</u></u>

The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006. The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Approved by the Directors and signed on their behalf on 16th January 2026.

..... Bob Fox, Director

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st July 2025

1. Accounting Policies

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities, with the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS102) issued 16th July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

The accounts present a true and fair view and no changes have been made to the accounting policies.

Going Concern

The directors consider that the charity remains viable for the year ahead and the accounts are therefore prepared on a going concern basis.

Income Recognition

Donations are recognised when received. Other income is recognised when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. All incoming resources are accounted for gross. There is no offsetting of assets and liabilities unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP.

Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Volunteer Help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees report.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

Freehold property and Plant and Machinery are valued at reasonable valuation by the trustees. Other equipment is initially valued at cost and depreciated over its expected lifetime.

Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st July 2025 (cont'd)

2. Analysis of Income Received

	2025 Unrestricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
2a Donations			
Charitable covenants from Coombeswood Canal Company Ltd	21,911	21,911	21,792
Other Donations	2,873	2,873	1,667
	<u>24,784</u>	<u>24,784</u>	<u>23,459</u>
2b.Charitable Activities			
Mooring Fees	49,946	49,946	46,759
Social Club	13,331	13,331	1,042
Electricity	6,293	6,293	4,351
Open Weekend	6,294	6,294	4,255
Slipway fees	5,990	5,990	-
Membership subscriptions	1,756	1,756	1,402
Laundry tokens	1,525	1,525	-
Hardstanding Fees	1,222	1,222	27
Other Fundraising income	1,062	1,062	-
Other fees	40	40	-
	<u>87,459</u>	<u>87,459</u>	<u>57,836</u>

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st July 2025 (cont'd)

3. Analysis of Resources Expended

Charitable activities	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages,NI and Pensions	27,551	24,399
Electricity	15,389	16,310
Gas	3,223	7,044
Rent and Rates	14,964	10,209
Site services and Cleaning	5,652	6,536
Telephone & Internet	972	932
Licences and Insurances	4,241	2,533
Office running costs	1,563	2,853
Sundry expenses	779	314
Bookkeeping	8,418	11,103
Legal & Professional fees	-	2,693
Social Club	8,466	615
Other fundraising income	635	-
Open Weekend	2,804	1,751
Youth Projects	239	364
Site Maintenance	8,095	8,088
Tarmac drive repairs	18,180	-
Canal gate posts & panels	-	1,700
Heritage Boat expenses	410	1,326
Workboat expenses	1,033	561
Bridge repainting	5,850	-
Report on extending canal to Leasowes park	5,760	-
Bank and card charges	528	949
Depreciation	246	-
	<u>134,998</u>	<u>100,280</u>

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st July 2025 (cont'd)

4. Governance costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accountancy costs	850	750
Legal and professional fees	309	-
	<u>1,159</u>	<u>750</u>

5. Paid Employees

	2025	2024
	£	£
Caretakers Costs		
Gross Salaries & Employers NI	27,334	24,098
Pension Costs	217	301
Total Staff Costs	<u>27,551</u>	<u>24,399</u>

6. Trustee's remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

7. Fixed Assets

	Freehold Property	Plant & Machinery	Other Equipment	2025 Total	2024 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Valuation					
Balance as at start of year	950,000	35,000	-	985,000	384,897
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	601,000
Additions	-	-	1,228	1,228	-
Depreciation	-	-	246	246	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	897
Balance as at end of year	<u>950,000</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>982</u>	<u>985,982</u>	<u>985,000</u>

Fixed assets of £170,000 were introduced in to the new charity, Coombeswood Canal Trust, in 2003.

The freehold of the site was purchased in 2007/8.

It has been decided to revalue the freehold property on a periodic basis at a reasonable valuation

provided by members of the Trust. Plant and machinery will be valued at net realisable value.

Other equipment will be depreciated over its expected lifetime.

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st July 2025 (cont'd)

8. Debtors

	2025	2024
	£	£
Prepayments	4,968	4,215
Trade Debtors	2,403	3,122
Owed by Coombeswood Canal Company Ltd	31,047	50,295
Accrued income	580	620
	<u>38,998</u>	<u>58,252</u>

9. Cash at bank and in hand

	2025	2024
	£	£
Current accounts	115,652	125,718
Deposit account	16,047	30,391
Building Society Account	82,732	50,000
Cash in hand	2,205	500
Funds in transit	2,111	3,638
Volopa payment card account	805	-
	<u>219,552</u>	<u>210,247</u>

10. Listed Investments

	2025	2024
	£	£
Shares	<u>326</u>	<u>326</u>

11. Creditors due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accrued expenses	3,697	3,489
Trade creditors	6,209	5,259
Deposits held	1,625	1,450
Tax due	214	309
Prepaid fees	11,613	-
	<u>23,358</u>	<u>10,507</u>

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st July 2025 (cont'd)

12. Fund Movements

	Fund balances brought forward £	Net movement in funds £	Fund balances carried forward £
Restricted Funds	-	-	-
Designated Funds			
Membership Reserve	278,637	-	278,637
Revaluation Reserve (Note 7)	636,706	-	636,706
	915,343	-	915,343
Unrestricted Funds			
Income & Expenditure account	328,313	(20,979)	307,334
Total Funds	1,243,656	(20,979)	1,222,677

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1088978

Accounts

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST JULY 2024

Company Number: 04181961

Charity Number: 1088978

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

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Coombeswood Canal Trust

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST JULY 2024

LEGAL INFORMATION

Directors /Trustees

Bob Fox - Chair (Appointed 9th December 2023)
Gavin Hawkins - Treasurer (Appointed 3rd May 2024)
Judy Hanchet - Secretary (Appointed 9th December 2023)
Roy Burgess (Appointed 9th December 2023)
Ivor Chambers (Appointed 21st November 2009)
Anthony Friar (Appointed 14th December 2005)
Darren McKenzie (Appointed 9th December 2023)
Gillian Reynolds (Appointed 10th December 2022)

Terence Blakesley (Resigned 9th December 2023)
Paul Taylor (Resigned 9th December 2023)
David Owen (Resigned 9th December 2023)
Susan Owen (Resigned 9th December 2023)
Adele Sidaway (Resigned 25 February 2024)

Charity Number 1088978

Company Number 04181961

Registered Office Hawne Basin
Hereward Rise
Halesowen
West Midlands
B62 8AW

Telephone 0121 550 1355

Email coombeswood@btconnect.com

Website www.hawnebasin.org.uk

Accountant Groundbreakers Ltd
Shop 1 at 83 High Street
Kinver
Stourbridge
West Midlands
DY7 6HD

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Trustees' Annual Report for Year ended 31 July 2024

The trustees present their annual report and accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st July 2024. The trustees have followed the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (FRS 102) in preparing the annual report and accounts.

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For the use and benefit of the public to stimulate public interest in and appreciation of the history, structure and beauty of the Dudley number 2 canal, and with the aim of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom such facilities are primarily intended.

To provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure activities at or near to the Dudley number 2 canal including Hawne Basin including the restoration, improvement, enhancement, development, maintenance, conservation of and making fully navigable the canal and the promotion of its use by all appropriate forms of waterborne traffic and the promotion of a public footpath and right of way along the length of the Dudley number 2 canal.

The charity is organised so that the governing council of trustees meets monthly to manage its affairs and formulate the charity's policies. The Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit is kept in mind when decisions are made.

The running of the charity is undertaken by the Chair, the Secretary, the other trustees and other members, with the help of the paid caretaking staff.

The charity is very grateful to all its volunteers, without whom the charity would not exist.

In the unlikely event of winding up, each member of the Trust undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company up to a maximum of £1.

Membership of the charity is required for long term mooring and use of the social club.

Financial Review

The majority of the charity's funds come from the provision of mooring to members and from Coombeswood Canal Company Ltd, a separate company limited by guarantee, whose profits are covenanted to be paid to the Trust.

The Statement of Financial Activities shows total incoming resources of £81,804 and resources expended of £101,030 resulting in a net decrease in funds carried forward of £19,226. Revaluation of the fixed assets has increased the revaluation reserve by £601,000. The funds carried forward to the next financial year are £1,243,656.

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Trustees' Annual Report for Year ended 31 July 2024 (continued)

Development, activities and achievements this year

Several of our trustees (directors) moved on this year, but were replaced by enthusiastic fresh faces bringing experience and expertise to the governing council. The council continued to ensure that the Trust met its charitable objectives.

The charity continued to maintain its core services of providing mooring and facilities for around 77 boats and undertook projects promoting and maintaining Hawne Basin, the Dudley No 2 Canal and footpath. Three part time caretaking staff kept the site running and provided support to moorers and visitors, 7 days a week. Volunteers supplied in excess of 1,009 registered hours to the Trust, helping with site maintenance, the open weekend and public outreach, and running the social club bar.

Coombeswood Canal Company Ltd continued to provide diesel and chandlery at competitive prices to attract boaters and local traders. It also provided residential mooring and slipway services. All profits were covenanted to the Trust.

Work parties continued on the first Sunday of each month along the Dudley No2 canal and around the basin using the work boats, Hawne and Stratford. Much was accomplished in the removal of trees, logs, tyres and other rubbish deposited in and around the canal.

The social club, which had previously been run as a separate company and then as part of Coombeswood Canal Company Ltd, was brought into Coombeswood Canal Trust at 1st May 2024, as it furthers the objects of the charity and the service is provided by the Trust volunteers as a facility for canal users. It aims to provide a bar, Sunday lunches during the winter and fundraising events.

Despite best efforts, it has not been possible to attract a suitably qualified youth worker to enable the restart of the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme this year.

The operation of the heritage boats, Atlas and Malus, in partnership with the BCNS, continued with maintenance work being undertaken. They attended at a number of local canal rallies during which members of the public were encouraged to look around them and were informed about the ways of life of boaters in their heyday. Both boats require gunnel replacement and discussions about materials, costs and retention are ongoing.

Maintenance carried out on site included a new entrance sign, work on the slipway and the installation of a PA system.

An open weekend was held on the 2nd and 3rd of September 2023, which was very well attended. Boat trips were offered along the canal, as well as boat handling demonstrations. Hot food and real ale were provided, with musical entertainment by several local bands. There was also a model boat display and children's activities. It was a great opportunity for local people to visit the basin.

On 25th and 26th May, the Trust hosted the BCNS (Birmingham Canal Navigation Society) 24 hour challenge which was well received by all participants and used the opportunity to promote the "Fund Britain's Waterways" campaign.

In June, 60 pupils and staff from Olive Hill School visited the Basin over 2 days. They were entertained and educated on matters surrounding the waterways by volunteers. They have requested a return visit in 2025, having thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Trustees' Annual Report for Year ended 31 July 2024 (continued)

Development, activities and achievements this year (continued)

The IWA Waterways recovery group had a week long camp at Coombeswood during the summer in which they exposed the wash wall for some one hundred metres beyond the Stank and removed many of the overhanging trees and debris. The IWA continues to hold its monthly winter social meetings at the basin.

The Trust was instrumental in getting Coombes Bridge repainted. Owned by Dudley MBC, it was in a poor decorative state and the Trust offered to contribute 50% of the cost of the repainting. It was finally painted in the autumn of 2024 and reopened by Hilary Bills, the Mayor of Dudley, on 5th November.

The Trust was also active in the Coombeswood Green Wedge project to reinstate the old boat dock of Stuart and Lloyds tube works as well as with Halesowen in Bloom, with our two planters in the shape of narrowboats on road islands in Halesowen.

Future Plans

The charity is continually aiming to raise our local profile and encourage more volunteering. We are also planning to undertake a recruitment process to employ additional staff to support the administration of the Trust.

Slipway services were brought back in to the Trust on 1st August 2024 from the Coombeswood Canal Company Ltd, as provision of services such as this to canal users is very much part of the charity objects and the service is wholly provided by volunteers.

The trustees are looking to produce a more detailed plan for the periodic maintenance of the site facilities as well as for future public outreach projects in pursuit of the objects of the charity.

An open weekend is planned for 7th and 8th June 2025.

A study by Moss Naylor Young has been commissioned to assess the feasibility of extending the Dudley No 2 Canal beyond the stank or coffer dam up to Leasowes Park and further discussions are planned with the Friends of Leasowes and other stakeholders.

The social club started doing Sunday lunches in October 2024, which will continue until the spring, as well as hosting event nights to raise money for the Trust. The bar is also open on certain nights.

A meeting was held with the new local MP Alex Ballinger on 16th October to explain the Trust's activities and seek his support to obtain adequate funding of Britain's waterways.

Risk Management

The trustees regularly review the major risks the charity faces and believe that sufficient resources are held to keep the charity running through unforeseen adverse events. Systems have been put in place, whenever operational and business risks have been identified, to mitigate those risks.

The management committee continues to keep risk management under review.

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Trustees' Annual Report for Year ended 31 July 2024 (continued)

Reserves Policy

The Governing Council commits to retain sufficient reserves to cover winding-up costs, if necessary, including provisions for statutory redundancy payments and contract cancellation charges.

Reserves are also being held for site maintenance, improvement of the site and facilities and towards the project to investigate extending the Dudley No2 Canal to Leasowes Park.

Statement of Director's (Trustee's) Responsibilities

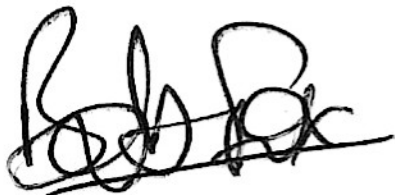
The directors are required under Company Law to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of its results for that period. In preparing those financial statements the directors are required to:

- (a) select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently.
- (b) make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (c) prepare the financial statements on an ongoing concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the company will continue in business.

The directors are responsible for the keeping of proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity. They are also responsible for the safeguarding of the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approval

This report was approved by the directors on 1st February 2025 and signed on their behalf.



Bob Fox

Chair

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of the charitable company

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity for the year ended 31st July 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

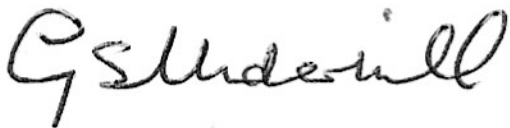
Basis of independent examiners report

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Name :
Graeme Underhill



Groundbreakers Ltd
Shop 1 at 83 High Street
Kinver
Stourbridge
DY7 6HD

Date : 1st February 2025

Coombeswood Canal Trust

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES Year ended 31st July 2024

	<u>Notes</u>	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income				
Donations	2a	23,459	23,459	33,116
Charitable activities	2b	57,836	57,836	58,496
Bank Interest Receivable		498	498	310
Dividends received		11	11	-
		-	-	-
Total		<u>81,804</u>	<u>81,804</u>	<u>91,922</u>
Expenditure				
Charitable Activities	3	100,280	100,280	80,035
Governance Costs	4	750	750	800
Total		<u>101,030</u>	<u>101,030</u>	<u>80,835</u>
Net (Expenditure)/Income		(19,226)	(19,226)	11,087
Total funds brought forward		661,882	661,882	650,795
Gains and losses on revaluation of fixed assets for the charity's own use	7	601,000	601,000	-
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,243,656</u>	<u>1,243,656</u>	<u>661,882</u>

Coombeswood Canal Trust

BALANCE SHEET

As at 31st July 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	7		985,000		384,897
Current Assets					
Stocks		338		-	
Sundry Debtors/prepayments	8	58,252		104,309	
Cash at Bank and in Hand	9	210,247		182,345	
Shares in group undertakings		-		1	
Investments	10	326		326	
		<u>269,163</u>		<u>286,981</u>	
Current Liabilities					
Creditors due within one year	11	10,507		9,996	
Net Current Assets			258,656		276,985
Net Assets			<u>1,243,656</u>		<u>661,882</u>
Represented by:					
FUNDS					
Unrestricted Funds	12				
Income & Expenditure account			347,539		336,452
Surplus/ Deficit for the year			(19,226)		11,087
			<u>328,313</u>		<u>347,539</u>
Designated Funds	12		915,343		314,343
			<u>1,243,656</u>		<u>661,882</u>

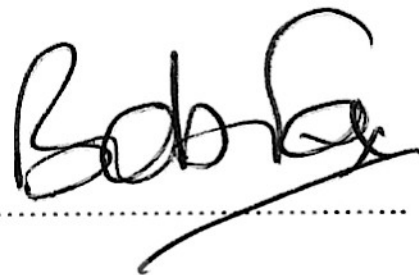
The company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Approved by the Directors and signed on their behalf on 1st February 2025.



Bob Fox, Director

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st July 2024

1. Accounting Policies

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities, with the Financial Reporting Standard (FRS102) issued 16th July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

No changes have been made to the accounts for previous years.

The accounts present a true and fair view and no changes have been made to the accounting policies.

Going Concern

The directors consider that the charity remains viable for the year ahead and the accounts are therefore prepared on a going concern basis.

Income Recognition

Donations are recognised when received. Other income is recognised when the charity becomes entitled to the resources, it is more likely than not that the resources will be received and the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability. All incoming resources are accounted for gross. There is no offsetting of assets and liabilities unless required or permitted by FRS102 SORP.

Expenditure Recognition

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Volunteer Help

The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees report.

Governance costs

Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

Tangible fixed assets for use by charity

Tangible fixed assets are stated at valuation.

Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st July 2024 (continued)

2. Analysis of Income Received	2024 Unrestricted Funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
2a Donations			
Charitable covenants from Coombeswood Canal Company Ltd	21,792	21,792	32,617
Other Donations	1,667	1,667	499
	<u>23,459</u>	<u>23,459</u>	<u>33,116</u>
2b. Charitable Activities			
Mooring Fees	46,759	46,759	51,719
Hardstanding Fees	27	27	534
Electricity	4,351	4,351	3,149
Open Weekend	4,255	4,255	-
Social Club	1,042	1,042	-
Membership subscriptions	1,402	1,402	3,094
	<u>57,836</u>	<u>57,836</u>	<u>58,496</u>

3. Analysis of Resources Expended

Charitable activities	2024 £	2023 £
Wages, NI and Pensions	24,399	21,380
Electricity	16,310	18,309
Gas	7,044	2,999
Rent and Rates	10,209	12,514
Site services and Cleaning	6,536	5,481
Telephone & Internet	932	1,130
Licences and Insurances	2,533	2,877
Office running costs	2,853	1,615
Sundry expenses	314	491
Bookkeeping	11,103	3,800
Legal & Professional fees	2,693	721
Publicity expenses	-	546
Social Club	615	-
Open Weekend	1,751	86
Youth Projects	364	600
Site Maintenance	8,088	5,903
Canal Gate Posts & Panels	1,700	-
Heritage Boat expenses	1,326	96
Workboat expenses	561	784
Bank Charges	949	703
	<u>100,280</u>	<u>80,035</u>

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st July 2024 (continued)

4. Governance costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accountancy costs	750	800
	<u>750</u>	<u>800</u>

5. Paid Employees Caretakers Costs

	2024	2023
	£	£
Gross Salaries & Employers NI	24,098	21,191
Pension Costs	301	189
Total Staff Costs	<u>24,399</u>	<u>21,380</u>

6. Trustee's remuneration and expenses

No trustees received any remuneration during the year.

7. Fixed Assets

	Freehold Property £	Plant & Machinery £	Office Equipment £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Valuation					
Balance as at start of year	176,000	208,000	897	384,897	384,897
Revaluation	774,000	(173,000)	-	601,000	-
Disposals	-	-	(897)	(897)	-
Balance as at end of year	<u>950,000</u>	<u>35,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>985,000</u>	<u>384,897</u>

Fixed assets of £170,000 were introduced in to the new charity, Coombeswood Canal Trust, in 2003. The freehold of the site was purchased in 2007/8.

It has been decided to revalue the assets on a periodic basis at a valuation provided by the members of the Trust. There will therefore be no depreciation of tangible fixed assets as such.

As much of the plant and machinery is now at the end of its working life, it has been revalued at its net realisable value.

8. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments	4,215	-
Trade Debtors	3,122	7,518
Owed by Coombeswood Canal Company Ltd	50,295	87,890
Owed by Hawne Basin Social Club Ltd	-	8,901
Accrued income	620	-
	<u>58,252</u>	<u>104,309</u>

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Notes to the Accounts for year ended 31st July 2024 (continued)

9. Cash at bank and in hand

	2024	2023
	£	£
Current accounts	125,718	123,087
Deposit account	30,391	59,258
Building Society Account	50,000	-
Cash in hand	500	-
Funds in transit	3,638	-
	<u>210,247</u>	<u>182,345</u>

10. Listed Investments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Shares	<u>326</u>	<u>326</u>

11. Creditors due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accrued expenses	3,489	750
Trade creditors	5,259	9,246
Deposits held	1,450	-
Tax due	309	-
	<u>10,507</u>	<u>9,996</u>

12. Fund Movements

	Fund Balances Brought forward £	Net movement in funds £	Fund Balances carried forward £
Restricted Funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Designated Funds			
Membership Reserve	278,637	-	278,637
Revaluation Reserve (Note 7)	35,706	601,000	636,706
	<u>314,343</u>	<u>601,000</u>	<u>915,343</u>
Unrestricted Funds			
Income & Expenditure account	347,539	(19,226)	328,313
	<u>661,882</u>	<u>581,774</u>	<u>1,243,656</u>

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1088978

Accounts

Governing Council Report- 2022/23

Charitable Objectives

Monthly work parties along the Dudley No2 canal continued using our workboats Hawne and Stratford. In addition to the regular work parties, rescue operations for stranded boats took place as the need arose. Approximately 330 hours of work was carried out, by a regular group of volunteers. Much effort was expended on the removal of large quantities of tyres which were found to be regularly dumped in the canal. A great deal of time was also spent upon the removal of logs left by contractors after tree felling operations, which too found their way into the canal; thus impeding navigation. Restoration work on our dredger, Stoa, has made good steady progress, at its monthly work parties, and in the coming year it is envisaged that restoration of the hydraulic systems will be undertaken. Plans are at an advanced stage for our Heritage Boats Atlas and Malus, along with a large contingent of other boats from Coombeswood Canal Trust, to be present at a large rally in August in central Birmingham, supporting the Inland Waterways Association's (IWA) campaign for more Government funding for the waterways

The Trading Company continued to perform well and has been able to covenant further funds towards our charitable objectives.

Provision of safe moorings and services at Hawne Basin continues to promote boat movements along the Dudley No2 Canal. We have had an increasing number of visiting boats, approximately 170 of whom stayed overnight, many of these return.

Community Outreach

We have been able to restart our Community Outreach programme this year. In June we welcomed 60 students from Olive Hill Primary School over a two day period. On each day the children undertook a wide variety of activities including, as a highlight, a trip on our workboat Hawne. Subsequently a number of the parents expressed an interest in attending our forthcoming Open Weekend.

With regard to the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme, discussions are ongoing with a view to attracting a suitably qualified Youth Worker to assist with this endeavour. A meeting at Dormston Secondary School was also held with the aim of developing plans in this regard. In addition we have committed Trust funds to ensure continuity of the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme

Discussions have started with representatives of the Coombeswood Green Wedge project to examine the possibility of reinstating the old boat dock of Stewarts and Lloyds Tube Works, and the erection of signage and artwork explaining the history of this area.

We are continuing our partnership with Halesowen in Bloom. The Trust's two planters featured prominently in the Britain in Bloom competition, and undoubtedly contributed to the success of Halesowen in winning their section of the competition. These two planters in the shape of canal boats continue to be maintained by members of the Trust and the local community.

Heritage Boats

Our partnership with the Birmingham Canal Navigation Society (BCNS) to operate the Heritage boats Atlas and Malus continues. Both Atlas and Malus attended the Black

Country Boating Festival in Sept 2022 and Atlas went on to the Stourbridge Festival in October and then to the BCNS November celebrations. It is planned that Atlas and Malus will be taken to a number of boating festivals during the summer season 2023.

Dudley No 2 Canal restoration

During the course of the year the Trust re-committed itself to adopting the length of canal from Windmill End to Hawne Basin. The certificate to this effect is displayed in the Cabin.

A meeting has taken place between representatives of Coombeswood Canal Trust and a representative of Canal and River Trust examining the possibility of extending the navigation beyond the present closed off section (the Stank). The project would involve significant expenditure of Trust funds, in conjunction with other funding bodies. In the long term it is hoped to be able to promote restoration of the canal into Leasowes Park (a site of Special Scientific Interest and listed as Grade 1 on the English Heritage list of historic parks). In this respect the Trust is also attending meetings of the Leasowes Green Gateway Project, which is supportive of canal restoration through the park. Further discussions are ongoing.

Two years ago the Trust voted to support Halesowen Abbey Trust in its quest to refurbish Coombs Bridge (across the canal near to our Basin). After discussions, the Trust offered to “match fund” the project with Dudley MBC. Dudley MBC have appointed a contractor and permission from Canal and River Trust is awaited.

Volunteering

The volunteer scheme continues to be a success. In addition to the volunteer hours spent on maintaining the Dudley No2 canal (mentioned earlier) approximately 3,200 hours have been contributed during the course of the year. This included community engagement, maintenance and other activities around the Basin, and provision of catering for both members and outside organisations.

A great deal of work, involving many volunteers, took place to prepare for our first Open Weekend in 4 years. This was to take place on 2nd and 3rd of September 2023, and would be the first time since the lifting of lockdown restrictions that we would be able to admit large numbers of the public to the Basin.

The Cabin continues to be used by outside groups, more such groups having started to use the facility during the year. The pool/ table-tennis, and Northamptonshire Skittles table (as mentioned in Tom Rolt’s book “Narrow Boat”) have proved to be very popular.

The Bar and Kitchen have recovered well following the restrictions of the pandemic, and thanks go to the stalwart volunteers who have made this possible.

Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

for

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

	Page
Income Statement	1
Balance Sheet	2
Report of the Accountants	4
Detailed Income and Expenditure Account	5
Detailed Balance Sheet	6

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Income Statement
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

	31.7.23 £	31.7.22 £
TURNOVER	91,612	93,371
Other income	310	9
Cost of raw materials and consumables	(686)	(50)
Staff costs	(21,380)	(19,752)
Other charges	(58,769)	(43,685)
Taxation	-	-
SURPLUS	<u>11,087</u>	<u>29,893</u>

Balance Sheet

31 July 2023

	31.7.23		31.7.22	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS		384,897		384,897
CURRENT ASSETS	286,981		268,325	
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	(9,996)		(2,427)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>276,985</u>		<u>265,898</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>661,882</u>		<u>650,795</u>
RESERVES		<u>661,882</u>		<u>650,795</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. STATUTORY INFORMATION

Coombeswood Canal Trust is a private company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address are as below:

Registered number: 04181961

Registered office: Hawne Basin
Hereward Rise
Halesowen
West Midlands
B62 8AW

2. AVERAGE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES

The average number of employees during the year was 2 (2022 - 2).

Balance Sheet - continued

31 July 2023

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 July 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- (a) ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the micro-entity provisions.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 9 December 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

D C OWEN - Director

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Report of the Accountants to the Directors of
Coombeswood Canal Trust

As described on the Balance Sheet you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 set out on pages one to three and you consider that the company is exempt from an audit.

In accordance with your instructions, we have compiled these unaudited financial statements in order to assist you to fulfil your statutory responsibilities, from the accounting records and information and explanations supplied to us.

Groundbreakers Ltd
Shop 1 @ 83 High Street
Kinver
Stourbridge
West Midlands
DY7 6HD

9 December 2023

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Detailed Income and Expenditure Account
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

	31.7.23		31.7.22	
	£	£	£	£
Turnover				
Charitable covenants	32,617		38,314	
Other donations	499		979	
Hardstanding	534		620	
Mooring fees	51,719		49,814	
Membership fees	3,094		1,265	
Electricity	3,149		2,379	
	<u> </u>	91,612	<u> </u>	93,371
Cost of sales				
Open weekend expenditure	86		-	
Youth project expenditure	600		50	
	<u> </u>	686	<u> </u>	50
GROSS SURPLUS		90,926		93,321
Other income				
Deposit account interest		310		9
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		91,236		93,330
Expenditure				
Rent and rates	12,514		12,920	
Licences and insurances	2,877		2,962	
Electricity	18,309		10,702	
Gas	2,999		1,408	
Site services and cleaning	5,481		5,018	
Wages and national insurance	21,191		19,531	
Pensions	189		221	
Telephone and internet	1,130		1,109	
Office running expenses	1,615		873	
Publicity expenses	546		-	
Other repairs and maintenance	5,903		2,155	
Workboat expenses	880		350	
Sundry expenses	491		208	
Accountancy	800		700	
Legal and professional fees	4,521		4,700	
	<u> </u>	79,446	<u> </u>	62,857
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		11,790		30,473
Finance costs				
Bank charges		703		580
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
NET SURPLUS		11,087		29,893
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Detailed Balance Sheet
for the Year Ended 31 July 2023

	31.7.23 £	31.7.22 £
FIXED ASSETS		
Freehold property	176,000	176,000
Plant and machinery	208,000	208,000
Computer equipment	897	897
	<u>384,897</u>	<u>384,897</u>
CURRENT ASSETS		
Trade debtors	7,518	-
Amount owed by CCC Ltd	87,890	64,501
Amount owed by HBSC Ltd	8,901	9,674
Shares in group undertakings	1	1
Listed investments	326	326
Bank deposit account	59,258	60,265
Bank current account	97,660	104,406
Bank current account	25,427	29,152
	<u>286,981</u>	<u>268,325</u>
CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	(9,246)	(1,727)
Accrued expenses	(750)	(700)
	<u>(9,996)</u>	<u>(2,427)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>276,985</u>	<u>265,898</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>661,882</u>	<u>650,795</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>661,882</u>	<u>650,795</u>
RESERVES		
Membership reserve	278,637	278,637
Revaluation reserve	35,706	35,706
Income and expenditure account	347,539	336,452
	<u>661,882</u>	<u>650,795</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Report of the Accountants to the Directors of
Coombeswood Canal Trust

As described on the Balance Sheet you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 set out on pages one to three and you consider that the company is exempt from an audit.

In accordance with your instructions, we have compiled these unaudited financial statements in order to assist you to fulfil your statutory responsibilities, from the accounting records and information and explanations supplied to us.

Groundbreakers Ltd
Shop 1 @ 83 High Street
Kinver
Stourbridge
West Midlands
DY7 6HD

9 December 2023

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Page 4

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1088978

Accounts

Governing Council Report- 2021/22

After two years of restriction the Trust has started to resume more of its charitable objectives.

Work parties along the Dudley No2 canal continued on a regular basis using our workboats Hawne and Stratford. Approximately 300 hours of volunteer work was carried out, including removal of debris and accumulated rubbish which was found in the canal. Work on restoration of our dredger, Stoa, has started. This will be a major project which, once complete, will enable larger maintenance tasks along the canal to be completed. In June we were able to send a large contingent of boaters to participate in the Boat Parade in Birmingham, organised as part of the Commonwealth games celebrations. Our heritage boat Atlas had the honour of leading the huge procession of boats through the centre of Birmingham.

It has not proved to be possible to recommence the Duke of Edinburgh Gold residential courses on the Heritage Working Boats. This is due in part to unavailability of our partners in the scheme, together with an inability to attract a suitably qualified Youth Worker to accompany participants. We are continuing our efforts in this respect.

We continued the partnership with the Birmingham Canal Navigation Society (BCNS) to operate the Heritage boats Atlas and Malus. As already mentioned Atlas took part in the Commonwealth Games boat festival in June, and further events for both Atlas and Malus are planned to take place later in the year.

The volunteer scheme restarted at the beginning of this reporting period. Approximately 2200 hours have been contributed during the course of the year.

Our partnership with Halesowen in Bloom continues. The trust's two planters in the shape of canal boats continue to be maintained by members of the Trust and the local community. The competition will take place again later this year and it is hoped that the boats will contribute to success. Both boats feature prominently on social media, creating awareness of both the Dudley No2 Canal and Coombeswood Canal Trust.

The cabin is being used once again by outside groups, and as confidence returns, it is expected that this will continue to be used as a community facility.

The Trading Company continued to perform well and has been able to covenant further funds towards our charitable objectives.

Provision of safe moorings and services at Hawne Basin continues to promote boat movements along the Dudley No2 Canal. We have had an increasing number of visiting boats, many of whom return.

Future Developments

The youth engagement project continues to offer exciting opportunities. Initial contact was made with Dudley National Citizenship scheme, and it is envisaged that this might develop in the next financial year. In addition we have committed Trust funds to ensure continuity of the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. Significant support has been received from BCNS, CRT, The Black Country Living Museum and Dudley Canal Trust in the past and it is hoped that this will resume in the next financial year.

Canal extension beyond the stank. During this financial year the lease of the currently navigable section of the canal within the area of the basin has been completed. We are now actively planning to restart this project to extend beyond the stank. The project would involve significant expenditure of trust funds, in conjunction with other funding bodies. In the long term it is hoped to be able to promote restoration of the canal into Leasowes Park (a site of Special Scientific Interest and listed as Grade 1 on the English Heritage list of historic parks). In this respect the Trust is also attending meetings of the Leasowes Green Gateway Project, which is supportive of canal restoration through the park.

At the last AGM, the Trust voted to support Halesowen Abbey Trust in its quest to refurbish Coombs Bridge (across the canal near to our Basin). Discussions have taken place, and a plan will hopefully come to fruition in the Trust's next financial year.

Coombeswood Canal Trust (Registered number: 04181961)

Balance Sheet
31 July 2022

	31.7.22		31.7.21	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible assets		384,897		384,897
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	74,175		75,867	
Investments	327		327	
Cash at bank	193,823		163,820	
	<u>268,325</u>		<u>240,014</u>	
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	2,427		4,009	
	<u>268,325</u>		<u>240,014</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		265,898		236,005
		<u>265,898</u>		<u>236,005</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		650,795		620,902
		<u>650,795</u>		<u>620,902</u>
RESERVES				
Membership reserve		278,637		278,637
Revaluation reserve		35,706		35,706
Income and expenditure account		336,452		306,559
		<u>650,795</u>		<u>620,902</u>
MEMBERS' FUNDS		650,795		620,902
		<u>650,795</u>		<u>620,902</u>

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Detailed Income and Expenditure Account
for the Year Ended 31 July 2022

	31.7.22		31.7.21	
	£	£	£	£
Turnover				
Charitable covenants	38,314		21,605	
Other donations	979		968	
Hardstanding	620		138	
Mooring fees	49,814		50,366	
Membership fees	1,265		1,055	
Electricity	2,379		4,199	
	<u> </u>	93,371	<u> </u>	78,331
Cost of sales				
Youth project expenditure		50		800
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
GROSS SURPLUS		93,321		77,531
Other income				
Deposit account interest		9		-
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		93,330		77,531
Expenditure				
Rent and rates	12,920		15,308	
Licences and insurances	2,962		2,698	
Electricity	10,702		10,044	
Gas	1,408		1,639	
Site services and cleaning	5,018		5,843	
Wages and national insurance	19,531		24,285	
Pensions	221		256	
Telephone and internet	1,109		1,521	
Office running expenses	873		1,169	
Other repairs and maintenance	2,155		4,065	
Workboat expenses	350		1,287	
Sundry expenses	208		405	
Accountancy	700		700	
Legal and professional fees	4,700		5,268	
	<u> </u>	62,857	<u> </u>	74,488
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
		30,473		3,043
Finance costs				
Bank charges		580		544
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
NET SURPLUS		29,893		2,499
		<u> </u>		<u> </u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

COOMBESWOOD CANAL TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1088978

Accounts

Governing Council Review of Activities- 2020/21

During the financial year the charity has continued to pursue its objectives albeit severely restricted by the pandemic, with another long period of lockdown.

We were unable to restart the Duke of Edinburgh Gold residential course on the Heritage Working Boats as feared in last year's report. It is hoped we will be able to restart in Summer 2022, but this will result no trips in our next reporting year either.

We continued the partnership with the Birmingham Canal Navigation Society (BCNS) to operate the Heritage boats Atlas and Malus. Unfortunately, again due to covid no trips were undertaken, or events attended, although small work parties were able to complete some maintenance outside of lockdown periods.

Work parties along the Dudley No2 canal were able to restart late in the financial year using Hawne. However, no additional work on restoration of the dredger was possible, once restoration is complete it will enable larger maintenance tasks along the canal to be completed.

In addition, some hours were also contributed to the social club and basin maintenance. Both numbers are well down on usual due to curtailing of activities for most of the 2020/2021 reporting year.

The volunteer scheme was suspended again for this financial year, as opportunities for mooring members to volunteer throughout the qualifying period were restricted. The scheme will be restarted for the 2021/2022 reporting year.

Our liaison with Halesowen in Bloom continued. The first planter in the shape of a canal boat ("Blooming Boat") being tended to by members of the Trust. Unfortunately, the competition was not able to take place. However, both boats feature prominently on social media, creating awareness of both the Dudley No2 Canal and Coombeswood Canal Trust.

The cabin was not used by outside groups, but this was able to restart in the 2nd half of 2021 (2021/2022 reporting year).

The Trading Company continued to perform well and fortunately lock down restrictions were eased as we went into the new boating season.

Spend on our charitable aims was again restricted due to lockdown and social distancing restraints.

Provision of safe moorings and services at Hawne Basin continues to promote boat movements along the Dudley No2 Canal.

Future Developments

The youth engagement project continues to offer exciting opportunities unfortunately we lost the whole of 2020 and 2021 to the pandemic, we have committed Trust funds to ensure continuity of the project.

Significant support has been received from BCNS, CRT, The Black Country Living Museum and Dudley Canal Trust in the past and hopefully this will continue in 2022.

Canal extension beyond the stank. We initially prioritised the lease of the active length of canal before negotiating access to the length for restoration. It is now time to restart this project planning process. The project will still provide an opportunity for significant expenditure of trust funds on canal restoration.

Likewise towpath surface improvement along the Dudley No2 could provide a project for future expenditure of funds.

The trust is also attending meetings for the Leasowes Green Gateway Project, which is supportive of canal restoration through the park. Again, the pandemic has curtailed face to face meetings and progress has inevitably been slowed.

The pandemic has highlighted several opportunities to improve the way we run the Trust both in the terms of new technology for administration and the need to take time to review progress and refocus on current projects. We now need to understand what resources and capabilities we have available to us to enable decisions to be made on future activities.

Coombeswood Canal Trust (Registered number: 04181961)

Balance Sheet

31 July 2021

	31.7.21		31.7.20	
	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS				
Freehold property	176,000		176,000	
Plant and machinery	208,000		208,000	
Computer equipment	897		-	
	<u> </u>	384,897	<u> </u>	384,000
CURRENT ASSETS				
Trade debtors	-		1,401	
Amount owed by CCC Ltd	66,916		61,863	
Amount owed by HBSC Ltd	8,951		9,336	
Shares in group undertakings	1		1	
Listed investments	326		326	
Bank current account	163,820		162,021	
Cash in hand	-		155	
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
	240,014		235,103	
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Trade creditors	3,309		-	
Accrued expenses	700		700	
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	
	4,009		700	
	<u> </u>	236,005	<u> </u>	234,403
NET ASSETS		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		620,902		618,403
FINANCED BY				
RESERVES				
Membership reserve		278,637		278,637
Revaluation reserve		35,706		35,706
Income and expenditure account		306,559		304,060
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
		620,902		618,403
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Coombeswood Canal Trust

Report of the Accountants to the Directors of
Coombeswood Canal Trust

As described on the Balance Sheet you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2021 set out on pages one to three and you consider that the company is exempt from an audit.

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Groundbreakers Ltd
Shop 1 @ 83 High Street
Kinver
Stourbridge
West Midlands
DY7 6HD

12 March 2022