

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

England & Wales · Charity number 1130051

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [06860375](#)

Registered 2009-06-09

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

Contact

Address Bell House
Wallbridge Lock
Wallbridge
Stroud
GL5 3JS

Phone 01453758331

Email admin@stroudvalleyscanal.org

Website www.stroudvalleyscanal.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE COMPANY'S OBJECTS (THE "OBJECTS") ARE THE PRESERVATION, MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE COTSWOLD CANALS AND THEIR SURROUNDING AREAS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC

Activities: To preserve, maintain and improve the Cotswold Canals.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services
- **What:** Amateur Sport, Environment/conservation/heritage, Economic/community Development/employment, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** COTSWOLD
- Gloucestershire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-01	£158,759	£205,277	-	-
2024-04-01	£215,483	£267,494	-	-
2023-04-01	£206,801	£227,085	-	-
2022-04-01	£154,134	£211,258	-	-
2021-04-01	£140,968	£184,371	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
John Bloxsom		2025-10-15
John Parker		2024-07-12
Keith Tibbitts		2023-06-03
Kevin Cranston		2024-05-08
Michael John Lambert		2019-10-08
Nicholas Rowson		2024-03-06
Stephen Davies		2025-07-15

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

England & Wales - Charity number 1130051

Accounts

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2025

Company Number 06860375 (England & Wales)

Charity Number 1130051

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

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STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
DIRECTORS' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Directors/Trustees submit their Annual Report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019). As an incorporated charity this Trustees Annual Report also includes the Director's report as required by company law.

1 LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

COMPANY NUMBER	06860375	(England and Wales)	limited by guarantee
CHARITY NUMBER	1130051		
REGISTERED OFFICE and PLACE OF BUSINESS	Bell House Wallbridge Lock Wallbridge Stroud Gloucestershire GL5 3JS		
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS	Randall & Payne LLP Chartered Accountants Chargrove House Shurdington Road Cheltenham GL51 4GA		
SOLICITORS	BPE Solicitors LLP St James House St James Square Cheltenham GL50 3PR		
BANKERS	NatWest 21 Eastgate Street Gloucester GL1 1NH		
TRUSTEES	As per list of Directors in Section 3		

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Stroud Valleys Canal Company's aim is:

To work with Stroud District Council, Gloucestershire County Council, the Cotswold Canals Trust and the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation to effect the restoration of the Cotswold Canals.

The objects of the Charity are to preserve, maintain and improve the Cotswold Canals and their surrounding areas for the benefit of the public.

General Guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Board's objectives, activities and plans for the future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

3 THE BOARD

The Stroud Valleys Canal Company is both a charity and a company limited by guarantee.

The Company was constituted under Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1 March 2009 and amended in 2 resolutions dated 6 May 2009 and 13 December 2018 which sets out the Company's objects and how it may operate.

The Company was registered as a charity with the Charities Commission on 9 June 2009.

The Board of Directors fulfils the dual role of Trustees of the Charity and Directors of the Limited Company.

The Directors/Trustees who served during the year were:

Geoffrey Dyer (resigned 1 September 2025)
Colin Hygate (resigned 24 July 2025)
David Groom (resigned 14 November 2025)
Michael Lambert
Robin Layfield (resigned 13 May 2024)
Peter Rogol (resigned 8 September 2025)
Stephen Davies (resigned 18 September 2024) (appointed 16 July 2025)
John Bloxsom (resigned on 5 June 2025) (reappointed 15 October 2025)
Kevin Cranston
John Parker (appointed 12 July 2024)
Nicholas Rowson
Keith Tibbitts

John Bloxsom, Geoffrey Dyer, Colin Hygate, David Groom and Peter Rogol resigned after the year end.

4 MEETINGS

The Board of Directors/Trustees, which manages the business of the Charity, meets regularly, usually monthly.

5 MEMBERSHIP

The Company had 4 members at the Balance Sheet date:

Stroud District Council (SDC)

The Cotswold Canals Trust (CCT)

Gloucestershire County Council (GCC)

The Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation (CoPSN)

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

6 DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Day to day management and administration of the Charity is undertaken by its sole employee assisted by staff of Cotswold Canals Trust.

Advice and support has been provided by the Canal Project Team and the Asset Management Team of Stroud District Council.

7 METHODS ADOPTED FOR RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

Trustees who are appointed by member organisations are chosen by that organisation according to their own internal systems.

Independent Trustees are nominated by existing Trustees as having particular skills, expertise or knowledge which is considered useful to the Board as a whole.

The appointment of an independent Trustee must be agreed by all Members.

8 INDUCTION AND TRAINING POLICY FOR TRUSTEES

Trustees are provided with copies of current business plans and project plans.

A tour of the geographical area of the Canals is provided, if required.

New Trustees are advised to read the Charity Commission guidance for Trustees.

9 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The organisation consists of the Board of Directors/Trustees.

All decisions are made at Board meetings, with information and advice provided by the Canal Project Team and Asset Management Team, both of Stroud District Council, where appropriate.

Exceptionally, decisions may be agreed electronically, and in emergencies, one Director may make decisions and seek approval as soon as is possible.

10 IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR RISKS

The Charity, Stroud Valleys Canal Company (SVCC), is involved with the restoration of the Cotswold Canals. It is responsible for the maintenance of a six mile stretch of recently restored canal (Phase 1A) and partnered with Stroud District Council (SDC), the Cotswolds Canal Trust (CCT), Gloucester County Council (GCC) and the Canal & River Trust (C&RT) in their successful bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for a £9 million grant to permit the restoration of a further 4.5 miles of canal (Phase 1B) which would provide a connection into the 2500 mile national canal network.

As is common with many major engineering projects, restoration of the additional 4.5 miles of canal is proving considerably more costly than previously envisaged. The original redevelopment plans are being redefined to significantly reduce costs and a further application for additional grant funding from NLHF was made in July 2025 based on these redefined works.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

10 IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR RISKS (cont'd)

Currently the maintenance of Phase 1A is being predominately funded by annual grants from SDC and CCT augmented by self generated income. Until a connection into the national network is achieved together with a significant build-out of long-term moorings there will be no substantial income from licence and mooring fees and reliance on the annual grants will be crucial. Maintaining close relations with SDC and CCT is therefore extremely important and both organisations work closely with the SVCC Board.

We await the outcome of the proposed restructure of local government as this may represent a significant risk to the charity. Government has indicated that this could occur in April 2028 with assets, liabilities and contracts transferred to a successor body.

The SVCC Board comprises professional volunteers who bring a wide and comprehensive set of knowledge and commercial experience to the table. Each Director is allocated a specific aspect for attention and management. One Director has extensive experience in risk assessment and management.

Whilst SVCC was not committed to contribute any cash to the Phase 1B work, it is a full Partner in the project and following the year end the Board committed to provide £200,000 in four equal contributions of £50,000 cash in the years ending 31 March 2026 through 31 March 2029. This commitment was made after receiving assurances from SDC that the company's solvency would be underwritten. A major part of the grant application to NLHF was the first iteration of the SVCC 25-year Business Plan. The Business Plan is subject to revision to reflect the outcome of the application for further grant funding and the results of any new governance structure.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

11 MAJOR GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Charity acknowledges the major grants received from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), and from South West Regional Development Agency (succeeded by Homes & Communities Agency, now Homes England), Stroud District Council, Cotswold Canals Trust and others towards the canal project.

Without these funds and donations the Restoration project would be unable to proceed.

12 RESERVES POLICY

The Reserves of a charity are that part of a charity's income funds that is freely available for its general purposes. This excludes Restricted Funds (funds donated for a specific purpose).

The Balance Sheet of the Charity on 31 March 2025 shows Total Funds of £1,537,970 (2024 - £1,584,488) of which £136,163 (2024 - £136,163) is restricted.

The General fund at 31 March 2025 amounted to £1,401,807 (2024 - £1,448,325), including Designated Funds.

Designated Funds are funds which the Board has earmarked for particular projects.

The Board's Designated Infrastructure fund £4,482 (2024 - £4,482) is being applied to the investigation of opportunities to derive value from silt extracted from the canal.

A further Designated Fund has been set up to mitigate against future costs which might be incurred at Dudbridge Hydro as a result of irrecoverable accidental losses. [2025 - £8,750, 2024- £7,500]

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

12 RESERVES POLICY (cont'd)

A further Designated Fund has been established to build up reserves needed to cover the programme of lock gate replacements anticipated to be required until the mid 2060's. (2025 - £115,000, 2024 - £92,000)

Free Reserves are the amount of General Funds (including Designated Funds, but excluding Fixed Assets) which are available for the Board to spend. The Free Reserves at 31 March 2025 are £211,787 (2024 - £152,091).

The Board is aware of the need to:

- a. Secure the viability of the Charity beyond the immediate future.
- b. Absorb any financial setbacks and to take advantage of change and opportunities.
- c. Secure unrestricted funding for the longer term to cover the running costs of the Charity and provide reserves.

The Charity's Annual Budget incorporates planned expenditure matched by reserves plus forecast income in respect of the day to day activities. The Board believes, however, that it is prudent to keep a minimum reserve of £20,000 in the General Fund to cover unforeseen eventualities.

The Board will review its Reserves Policy once a year and will do its best to ensure that reserves are maintained at the agreed level.

13 FINANCIAL POSITION AT YEAR END

Whilst the severe constraints caused by the Covid pandemic on work capable of being undertaken have largely disappeared, a combination of the reduced extent of available volunteer time coupled with increasing awareness of ecological limitations and increasing time being spent on Phase 1B work have all impacted on the amount of construction work capable of being undertaken on Phase 1A. As a result, the Charity's financial position at the year end looks comparatively healthy, but as the construction work is undertaken that is necessary to ensure a usable canal is ready by the time reconnection to the national waterways network occurs, such surpluses as are currently available to the Charity will be absorbed.

Principal unrestricted income sources in the year comprise Stroud District Council grants (£65K), grants from Cotswold Canals Trust (£36K), Surface Water discharge fees (£7K) and Hydro electric generation (£43K).

Principal expenditure items relate to routine canal maintenance costs, including dredging, amounted to £46K.

14 GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence at least until reconnection is achieved in some four or more years. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies section.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

15 THE CHARITY'S ROLE WITHIN THE RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP

The Cotswold Canals Partnership comprises a large number of organisations including all the local authorities along the line of the canal, the Environment Agency, The Canal & River Trust, Natural England, the Inland Waterways Association and the Cotswold Canals Trust. The Charity continues to play an important role within the Partnership.

Phase 1A of the restoration programme is almost complete, and Phase 1B is being led by Stroud District Council and Cotswold Canals Trust.

The charity has continued to be actively involved in the Partnership's work of making an application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund to enable the second phase (1B) of the project to go ahead. The bid was approved in principle in September 2020 and Permission to Start was granted during the year.

The electronic Asset Register and Maintenance Plan has gone live and will prove over time to enable costed regular maintenance of the restored areas of canal to be included in future budgets as part of cost control measures. It provides an invaluable link between lengthsman, volunteers and Managers from all organisations.

Redevelopment of the Charity's website has been temporarily put on hold, pending determination of how the post-reconnection canal will be operated.

16 SUMMARY

Over the year the Trustees have worked closely with our partners on the Heritage Lottery Fund grant application. Key areas of involvement include Management and Maintenance, Risk Evaluation and Land Acquisition.

Whilst the lottery bid took up a lot of time, the task of keeping the assets of the canal in good order and managing our resources has continued.

We are able to fund equipment and materials needed for canal preservation and maintenance, placing reliance on volunteers from CCT and SDC for the majority of the necessary work. Members of the Waterway Recovery Group also provide working parties and carry out valuable tree cutting work, contributing to the ongoing health of the waterway.

As in previous years the Board has been re-structured with a significant number of changes. The team currently consists of 8 Directors, and there are skills gaps we still need to fill to ensure we can achieve the long term viability of the waterway.

Essential maintenance work continues to be carried out in order to protect public rights of way. The Board is reviewing the situation regularly, and taking all steps to protect the volunteers and the public who use our canal.

As news of our work spreads, we receive an increasing number of enquiries regarding long term moorings availability. These we deal with as and when they occur. However, we have recently experienced issues with some boat owners who choose not to engage with us but simply to have their vessels craned in without permission. This is a problem we know we need to address going forward.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2025

18 STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

Company Law requires the Directors/Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which will give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Company for that year.

The Trustees consider that these Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity for this period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Directors/Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Directors/Trustees are responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company
- ensuring that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006;
- safeguarding the assets of the Charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

19 ADVANTAGE HAS BEEN TAKEN OF EXEMPTIONS FOR SMALL COMPANIES

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies

Act The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Chairperson

John Bloxsom



Date: 18/12/2025

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stroud Valleys Canal Company

I report to the Charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025 which are set out on pages 9 - 17.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of Company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006
3. Act 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; or
the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the
4. Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard

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.

Ryan Moore

*Ryan Moore CA (Independent Examiner)
For and on behalf of Randall & Payne LLP*

*Chartered Accountants & Independent Examiners
Chargrove House
Shurdington Road
Cheltenham
GL51 4GA*

Date: 23 December 2025

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

Registered Number: 06860375

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 2025

			2025	2024
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total funds £
Income				
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies		101,618		101,618
Charitable activities		54,785		54,785
Investments		2,356		2,356
Total		158,759	0	158,759
Expenditure	5			
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds		-	-	-
Charitable Activities		160,227		160,227
Other		45,050		45,050
Total		205,277	0	205,277
Net income/(expenditure) before tax for the reporting period		(46,518)	0	(46,518)
Net movement in funds		(46,518)	0	(46,518)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		1,448,325	136,163	1,584,488
Transfer of Funds		-		-
Total funds carried forward		1,401,807	136,163	1,537,970

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

Registered Number: 06860375

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	2025 Total £	2024
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	6	1,190,020	86,153	1,276,173	1,382,387
Total fixed assets		1,190,020	86,153	1,276,173	1,382,387
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	20,558		20,558	41,067
Cash at bank and in hand		202,766	50,010	252,776	181,827
Total current assets		223,324	50,010	273,334	222,894
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	11,537		11,537	20,793
NET CURRENT ASSETS		211,787	50,010	261,797	202,101
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,401,807	136,163	1,537,970	1,584,488
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted Income Funds	13		136,163	136,163	136,163
Unrestricted Funds		1,401,807		1,401,807	1,448,325
TOTAL FUNDS		1,401,807	136,163	1,537,970	1,584,488

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

Registered Number: 06860375

BALANCE SHEET (cont'd)

as at 31 March 2025

For the year ended 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 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/Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject

Signed by two trustees/directors on behalf
of all the trustees/directors

Chair

Date

Director/Trustee

Date

Signature of one director authenticating accounts
being sent to Companies House

Chair

Date

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements

Year ended 31 March 2025

1. Statutory

Stroud Valleys Canal Company is a private limited company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number, registered office and principal place of business can be found on the legal and administrative page. The Director's/Trustee's report contains more information regarding the company's principal activities.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is in Pound Sterling (£).

2. Accounting Policies

2.1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) (issued in October 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 1a for small entities. 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2.2 Incoming Resources

Grants and donations are recognised in the accounts when the Charity has the rights to those funds and all external conditions are met. Where funds are subject to external conditions which have not been met at year end these have been dealt with as deferred income.

Where the nature of the grant is in substance a loan, in that it is potentially repayable and carries interest, then it is accounted for as a loan.

Other income is accounted for on an accruals basis so far as it is prudent to do so.

Rental income is included in Incoming Resources on an accruals basis, and is recognised in the year to which it relates.

2.3 Restricted Income

Where donors or funders specify that grants or donations, including capital grants are for a particular purpose, this income is included in incoming resources as restricted funds, and the relevant expenditure included in resources expended as restricted expenditure.

2.4 Donated Assets and Services

Donated Assets and Services received are included in the accounts at a reasonable estimate of their open market value provided by either the donor or the Trustees. The services provided by volunteers are not given a value or included in the accounts.

2.5 Income

The income shown includes assets donated to the Charity, such as canal structures which have been completed, e.g. new bridges. Transfers of freehold parcels of land are also included.

2.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recorded on the accruals basis.

Governance costs are those costs incurred in the governance of the Charity and its assets and are primarily associated with administrative, constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants made are recognised when payments are made to the recipient.

2.7 Tangible Fixed Assets

The freehold property owned by the Charity is considered to be a programme asset as it is held directly in pursuit of the organisation's charitable activities and is therefore included in the accounts at cost, or estimate of market value on acquisition where donated but not depreciated.

Where a value is provided in a funding agreement under which the asset is acquired, the asset is included in the accounts at that value.

Further purchases have been made using either funding grants provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund or the charity's own funds and are included at cost.

Dudbridge Hydro scheme is depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 10% per annum.

Assets which cost, or are valued at, in excess of £250 are capitalised where they are expected to have a useful life in excess of 1 year. However, items of expenditure to improve property which the Charity plans to demolish in the short to medium term will not be capitalised, and will instead be recognised as an expense in the year in which the costs are incurred. Equipment and Motors are depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 20% per annum. Boats are depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 10% per annum.

Canal structures are depreciated on a straight line basis over either 10 years in the case of mooring and landing stages or 25 years in the case of bridges.

Assets in the course of construction are not depreciated until brought into use.

2.8 Heritage Assets

The charitable company owns the line of the Thames and Severn Canal, from its junction with the Stroudwater Canal to the basin at Brimscombe Port, together with the towpath, locks and the fixed bridges which have primarily been in existence since the eighteenth century. These were gifted to the Charity at no cost, and it is considered that they should not be included as a Heritage Asset on the Balance Sheet. It is not considered that the cost of obtaining a valuation would be justified by the usefulness of this information to the users of the accounts. Our Heritage Assets are accessible to the public at all times.

It is our policy only to acquire Assets which are an integral part of the Canal system. We aim to preserve and maintain all our Assets in order to provide a functional Waterway for the use of the public.

However, those structures which are new-built or where costs are associated in a complete repair are capitalised according to the costs involved. Thus new bridges are depreciated over 25 years.

2.9 Taxation

As a registered Charity, the Company is generally exempt from Corporation Tax in connection with its direct charitable purpose, but not from VAT. The Charity is registered for VAT and relevant income and expenditure is included net of VAT. Where VAT is irrecoverable it is included within the expense item to which it relates.

2.10 Going Concern

The trustees have considered the financial risks that are relevant to the going concern, which are considered to be: the inability to meet its maintenance covenants under a lease. The Trustees believe that the Charity should be able to meet its commitments as they fall due, having considered a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts. Therefore the Trustees consider the going concern basis to be appropriate for the preparation of the accounts.

2.11 Financial Instruments

Financial Instruments are classified by the trustees as basic or advanced following the conditions in FRS 102 Section 11. Basic financial instruments are recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
Notes to the financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2025

2.12 Operating Leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the year of the lease.

2.13 Capital Commitments

As at the balance sheet date there were no current Capital Commitments

3 EXAMINATION OF ACCOUNTS

2025	2024
£	£

Net incoming funds are stated after charging:

Independent Examiners' remuneration	2,750	2,600
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4 JOINT ARRANGEMENTS

As disclosed in the Director's report, the Charity is part of the Cotswold Canals Partnership and has entered into funding agreements with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and South West Regional Development Agency (SWRDA), succeeded by Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), now Homes England, jointly with Stroud District Council for the purpose of restoring the Cotswold Canal. Funding has been received by the Charity in the form of freehold land from SWRDA under these arrangements, with the Charity taking joint responsibility for certain of the obligations to HLF and HCA.

5 TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	2025			2024	
	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities					
Lease costs	2,250	-	-	2,250	2,250
Canal repair & maintenance	48,025	-	-	48,025	100,211
Depreciation in year	109,952	-	-	109,952	129,859
	<u>160,227</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>160,227</u>	<u>232,320</u>
Other					
Insurance	13,549	-	-	13,549	8,325
Solicitors fees	-	-	-	-	3,093
Examiners' remuneration	2,750	-	-	2,750	2,600
Other Professional fees	9,796	-	-	9,796	8,716
Administration services	12,633	-	-	12,633	9,493
Other costs	6,322	-	-	6,322	2,947
	<u>45,050</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>45,050</u>	<u>35,174</u>

No Trustees received remuneration during the period ended 31 March 2025 (2024: £nil). Details regarding reimbursement of expenses can be found within note 14.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
Notes to the financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2025

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Programme Assets

	Equipment & Motors £	Boats £	Structures £	Dudbridge Hydro scheme £	Land and Buildings £	Assets in the course of construction £	Total £
<u>At cost or valuation</u>							
At 1 April 2024	198,035	145,330	1,629,790	264,834	109,153	17,425	2,364,567
Additions	837	-	-	-	-	2,901	3,738
At 31 March 2025	198,872	145,330	1,629,790	264,834	109,153	20,326	2,368,305
<u>Accumulated</u>							
Depreciation at 1 April 2024	118,589	60,421	538,336	264,834	-	-	982,180
Depreciation in year	25,972	13,100	70,880	0	-	-	109,952
Total Depreciation	144,561	73,521	609,216	264,834	-	-	1,092,132
<u>Net Book Value as at:</u>							
31 March 2025	54,311	71,809	1,020,574	-	109,153	20,326	1,276,173
31 March 2024	79,446	84,909	1,091,454	-	109,153	17,425	1,382,387

7 DEBTORS

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	134	11,635
Prepayments and accrued income	15,955	26,826
VAT	4,469	2,606
	<u>20,558</u>	<u>41,067</u>

8 CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year

Trade creditors	8,787	17,463
Accruals and deferred income	2,750	3,330
Other creditors	-	-
	<u>11,537</u>	<u>20,793</u>
Deferred income		
Balance brought forward	750	-
Released in the year	(750)	-
Deferred in the year	-	750
Balance carried forward	<u>-</u>	<u>750</u>

The deferred income relates to income received in the current financial year but which relates to the following financial year.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
Notes to the financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2025

9 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

	2025 Land & Buildings £	2024 Land & Buildings £
The Charity had the following annual commitments under non cancellable operating leases:		
Expiring within one and five years	-	-
Expiring after more than five years	<u>2,250</u>	<u>2,250</u>

The Charity has an obligation to maintain the canal under the lease. The future minimum lease obligations amount to £1,964,000.

10 MEMBERS' LIABILITY

Each member of the Charitable Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Charitable Company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

11 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Charity has entered into joint arrangements for funding with Stroud District Council as described in note 4 which subjects the Charity to joint and severable liability for obligations of and funds received by Stroud District Council in connection with these arrangements.

These liabilities are not quantifiable.

12 STAFF COSTS

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	3,140	-
Social security costs	-	-
Other pension costs	38	-
	<u>3,178</u>	<u>-</u>

The Charity employs one administrator (2024: no employees)

13 FUNDS

	As at 1 April 2024 £	Incoming resources for year £	2025 Outgoing resources for year £	Funds transferred during year £	Funds as at 31 March 2025 £
General Fund	1,344,343	158,759	(205,277)	(24,250)	1,273,575
Designated Funds	103,982	-	-	24,250	128,232
Restricted Property Fund	86,153	-	-	-	86,153
Bonds Mill Bridge Fund	50,010	-	-	-	50,010
Total Funds	<u>1,584,488</u>	<u>158,759</u>	<u>205,277</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,537,970</u>

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
Notes to the financial statements
Year ended 31 March 2025

13 FUNDS (cont'd)

Represented by:	Tangible Fixed Assets	Current assets	Current liabilities	Total
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	1,190,020	95,092	(11,537)	1,273,575
Designated Fund	-	128,232	-	128,232
Restricted Property Fund	86,153	-	-	86,153
Bonds Mill Bridge Fund	-	50,010	-	50,010
	<u>1,276,173</u>	<u>273,334</u>	<u>(11,537)</u>	<u>1,537,970</u>

The Property Restricted fund arises from property which has been gifted to the Charity following acquisition

The Bonds Mill Bridge Fund arises from income donated towards the future repair and maintenance costs of Bonds Mill Bridge.

The Board has three designated funds. The first has been designated for potential income generation from exploiting the value of extracted silt. The second is for funds to mitigate against unrecoverable accidental losses at Dudbridge Hydro Scheme. The third is a fund designed to build up sufficient funds over the next four decades to ensure the company has sufficient reserves to enable it to meet major outgoings on lock gate replacements.

14 TRANSACTIONS WITH DIRECTORS AND RELATED PARTIES

During the year, the company reimbursed expenses to directors as follows:

Keith Tibbitts	27.17	(2024- £16.99)
Mike Lambert	26.49	(2024- £14.96)

Cotswold Canals Trust

Nicholas Rowson is a director of Cotswold Canals Trust. Cotswold Canals Trust provides grants to the company to enable it to carry out its work.

The Trust is a Charitable organisation, and as such the Trustees do not gain from any transaction.

Voluntary services were provided by members of the Trust at no cost to the Charity, other than a small amount of petty cash expenditure required by volunteers which was reimbursed by Stroud Valleys Canal Company to the volunteers.

Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation.

Kevin Cranston is a Director of the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation.

15 PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Charity is a public benefit in that it is restoring the Thames & Severn Canal and the Stroudwater Canal for the benefit of canal users and towpath users.

16 CONTROL

The charitable company is controlled by its Board of Trustees.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

England & Wales - Charity number 1130051

Accounts

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2024

Company Number 06860375 (England & Wales)

Charity Number 1130051

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

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STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Directors/Trustees submit their Annual Report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024 . The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019). As an incorporated charity this Trustees Annual Report also includes the Director's report as required by company law.

1 LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

COMPANY NUMBER	06860375	(England and Wales)	limited by guarantee
CHARITY NUMBER	1130051		
REGISTERED OFFICE and PLACE OF BUSINESS	Bell House Wallbridge Lock Wallbridge Stroud Gloucestershire GL5 3JS		
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS	Randall & Payne LLP Chartered Accountants Chargrove House Shurdington Road Cheltenham GL51 4GA		
SOLICITORS	BPE Solicitors LLP St James House St James Square Cheltenham GL50 3PR		
BANKERS	NatWest George Street Stroud GL5 3DT		
TRUSTEES	As per list of Directors in Section 3		
KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL	Chair of the Board, plus Directors and Company Secretary		

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2024

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Stroud Valleys Canal Company's aim is:-

To work with Stroud District Council, Gloucestershire County Council, the Cotswold Canals Trust and the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation to effect the restoration of the Cotswold Canals.

The objects of the Charity are to preserve, maintain and improve the Cotswold Canals and their surrounding areas for the benefit of the public.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the information contained in the Charity Commission's General Guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Board's objectives, activities and plans for the

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

3 THE BOARD

The Stroud Valleys Canal Company is both a charity and a company limited by guarantee.

The Company was constituted under Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1 March 2009 and amended in 2 resolutions dated 6 May 2009 and 13 December 2018 which sets out the Company's objects and how it may operate.

The Company was registered as a charity with the Charities Commission on 9 June 2009

The Board of Directors fulfils the dual role of Trustees of the Charity and Directors of the Limited Company.

The Directors/Trustees who served during the year were:

Kenneth Burgin (died 8 March 2023)
Geoffrey Dyer
Martin (Fod) Barnes (resigned 31 December 2023)
John Beatty (resigned 20 March 2024)
Colin Hygate
David Groom
Nicholas Housden (resigned 11 April 2023)
John Twydell (resigned 31 March 2024)
Michael Lambert
Robin Layfield
Peter Rogol
Matthew Lee (resigned 6 March 2024)
David Swinburne (resigned 13 December 2023)
Stephen Davies (appointed 11 April 2023)
Kevin Cranston (appointed 8 May 2023)
Nicholas Rowson (appointed 6 March 2024)
Keith Tibbitts (appointed 3 June 2023)

It is with considerable regret the Board announces the death of Kenneth Burgin on 8 March 2024.
Robin Layfield and Stephen Davies resigned after the year end.

4 MEETINGS

The Board of Directors/Trustees, which manages the business of the Charity, meets regularly, usually

5 MEMBERSHIP

The Company had 4 members at the Balance Sheet date:

Stroud District Council

The Cotswold Canals Trust

Gloucestershire County Council

The Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

6 DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Day to day management and administration of the Charity is undertaken by staff of Cotswold Canals Trust.

Advice and support has been provided by the Canal Project Team and the Asset Management Team of Stroud District Council.

7 METHODS ADOPTED FOR RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

Trustees who are appointed by member organisations are chosen by that organisation according to their own internal systems.

Independent Trustees are nominated by existing Trustees as having particular skills, expertise or knowledge which is considered useful to the Board as a whole.

The appointment of an independent Trustee must be agreed by all Members.

There are currently no personnel employed by the Charity.

8 INDUCTION AND TRAINING POLICY FOR TRUSTEES

Trustees are provided with copies of current business plans and project plans.

A tour of the geographical area of the Canals is provided, if required.

New Trustees are advised to read the Charity Commission guidance for Trustees.

9 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The organisation consists of the Board of Directors/Trustees.

All decisions are made at the monthly Board meeting, with information and advice provided by the Canal Project Team and Asset Management Team, both of Stroud District Council, where appropriate.

Exceptionally, decisions may be agreed electronically, and in emergencies, one Director may make decisions and seek approval as soon as is possible.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

10 IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR RISKS

The Charity, Stroud Valleys Canal Company (SVCC), is involved with the restoration of the Cotswold Canals. It is responsible for the maintenance of a six mile stretch of recently restored canal (Phase 1A) and partnered with Stroud District Council (SDC), the Cotswolds Canal Trust (CCT), Gloucester County Council (GCC) and the Canal & River Trust (C&RT) in their successful bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for a £9 million grant to permit the restoration of a further 4.5 miles of canal (Phase 1B) which would provide a connection into the 2500 mile national canal network.

Currently the maintenance of Phase 1A is being predominately funded by annual grants from SDC and CCT augmented by self generated income. Until a connection into the national network is achieved there will be no substantial income from licence and mooring fees and reliance on the annual grants will be crucial.

Maintaining close relations with SDC and CCT is therefore extremely important and both organisations work closely with the SVCC Board.

The SVCC Board comprises professional volunteers who bring a wide and comprehensive set of knowledge and commercial experience to the table. Each Director is allocated a specific aspect for attention and management. One Director has extensive experience in risk assessment and management.

Whilst SVCC is not committed to contribute any cash to the Phase 1B work, they are a full Partner in the project. A major part of the grant application to NLHF is the SVCC Business Plan. This considers the twenty-five year operational period after connection to the national network is achieved. The plan has been subjected to extensive probabilistic risk assessment, the results of which provide great confidence in the future financial prospects of the Charity once Phase 1B is completed.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

11 MAJOR GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Charity acknowledges the major grants received from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), and from South West Regional Development Agency (succeeded by Homes & Communities Agency, now Homes England), Stroud District Council, Cotswold Canals Trust and others towards the canal project.

Without these funds and donations the Restoration project would be unable to proceed.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2024

12 RESERVES POLICY

The Reserves of a charity are that part of a charity's income funds that is freely available for its general purposes. This excludes Restricted Funds (funds donated for a specific purpose).

The Balance Sheet of the Charity on 31 March 2024 shows Total Funds of £1,584,488 (2023 - £1,636,499) of which £136,163 (2022 - £146,153) is restricted.

The General fund at 31 March 2024 amounted to £1,448,325 (2022 - £1,490,346).

Designated Funds are funds which the Board has earmarked for particular projects.

The Board's Designated Infrastructure fund £4,482 (2023 - £4,482) is being applied to the investigation of opportunities to derive value from silt extracted from the canal.

A further Designated Fund has been set up to mitigate against future costs which might be incurred at Dudbridge Hydro as a result of irrecoverable accidental losses. [2024 - £7,500, 2023- £6,250]

A further Designated Fund has been established to build up reserves needed to cover the programme of lock gate replacements anticipated to be required until the mid 2060's. [2024 - £92,000, 2023 - £69,000]

Free Reserves are the amount of General Funds (including Designated Funds, but excluding Fixed Assets) which are available for the Board to spend. The Free Reserves at 31 March 2024 are £152,091 (2023 - £165,462)

The Board is aware of the need to:

- a. Secure the viability of the Charity beyond the immediate future.
- b. Absorb any financial setbacks and to take advantage of change and opportunities.
- c. Secure unrestricted funding for the longer term to cover the running costs of the Charity and provide reserves.

The Charity's Annual Budget incorporates planned expenditure matched by reserves plus forecast income in respect of the day to day activities. The Board believes, however, that it is prudent to keep a minimum reserve of £20,000 in the General Fund to cover unforeseen eventualities.

The Board will review its Reserves Policy once a year and will do its best to ensure that reserves are maintained at the agreed level.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

13 FINANCIAL POSITION AT YEAR END

Whilst the severe constraints caused by the Covid pandemic on work capable of being undertaken have largely disappeared, a combination of the reduced extent of available volunteer time coupled with increasing awareness of ecological limitations and increasing time being spent on Phase 1B work have all impacted on the amount of construction work capable of being undertaken on Phase 1A. As a result, the Charity's financial position at the year end looks comparatively healthy, but as the construction work is undertaken that is necessary to ensure a usable canal is ready by the time reconnection to the national waterways network occurs, such surpluses as are currently available to the Charity will be dissipated to some degree. Principal unrestricted income sources in the year comprise Stroud District Council grants (£62K), grants from Cotswold Canals Trust (£36K), Surface Water discharge fees (£37K) and Hydro electric generation (£45K).

Principal expenditure items included equipment purchases (£86K), of which £19K was covered by way of restricted grants, and canal-related assets (£15K). Routine canal maintenance costs, including dredging, amounted to £99K.

14 GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies section.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

15 THE CHARITY'S ROLE WITHIN THE RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP

The Cotswold Canals Partnership comprises a large number of organisations including all the local authorities along the line of the canal, the Environment Agency, The Canal & River Trust, Natural England, the Inland Waterways Association and the Cotswold Canals Trust. The Charity continues to play an important role within the Partnership.

Phase 1A of the restoration programme is almost complete, and Phase 1B is being led by Stroud District Council and Cotswold Canals Trust.

The charity has continued to be actively involved in the Partnership's work of making an application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund to enable the second phase (1B) of the project to go ahead. The bid was approved in principle in September 2020 and Permission to Start was granted during the year.

The electronic Asset Register and Maintenance Plan has gone live and will prove over time to enable costed regular maintenance of the restored areas of canal to be included in future budgets as part of cost control measures. It provides an invaluable link between lengthsmen, volunteers and Managers from all organisations.

The Charity's website has been, and continues to be, updated to provide canal users with full and timely information on using the canal. We are indebted to volunteers for working on this and the Asset Register on our behalf.

16 SUMMARY

Over the year the Trustees have worked closely with our partners on the Heritage Lottery Fund grant application. Key areas of involvement include Management and Maintenance, Risk Evaluation and Land Acquisition.

Whilst the lottery bid took up a lot of time, the task of keeping the assets of the canal in good order and managing our resources has continued.

We are able to fund equipment and materials needed for canal preservation and maintenance, placing reliance on volunteers from CCT and SDC for the majority of the necessary work. Members of the Waterway Recovery Group also provide working parties and carry out valuable tree cutting work, contributing to the ongoing health of the waterway.

During the year the Board has been re-structured with a significant number of changes. The team currently consists of 7 Directors, and there are skills gaps we still need to fill to ensure we can achieve the long term viability of the waterway.

Essential maintenance work continues to be carried out in order to protect public rights of way. The Board is reviewing the situation regularly, and taking all steps to protect the volunteers and the public who use our canal.

As news of our work spreads, we receive an increasing number of enquiries regarding long term moorings availability. These we deal with as and when they occur. However, we have recently experienced issues with some boat owners who choose not to engage with us but simply to have their vessels craned in without permission. This is a problem we know we need to address going forward.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 March 2024

18 STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

Company Law requires the Directors/Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which will give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Company for that year.

The Trustees consider that these Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity for this period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Directors/Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Directors/Trustees are responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company
- ensuring that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006;
- safeguarding the assets of the Charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

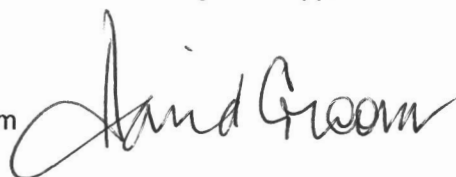
19 ADVANTAGE HAS BEEN TAKEN OF EXEMPTIONS FOR SMALL COMPANIES

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Chairman

David Groom



Date:

24/9/24

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stroud Valleys Canal Company

I report to the Charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024 which are set out on pages 11 to 18.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of Company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006
3. Act 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; or
the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the
4. Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard

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.

Ryan Moore

Ryan Moore CA (Independent Examiner)
For and on behalf of Randall & Payne LLP

Chartered Accountants & Independent Examiners
Chargrove House
Shurdington Road
Cheltenham
GL51 4GA

Date: 10 October 2024

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

Registered number: 06860375

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 2024

			2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total funds
		£	£	£
Income				
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies		98,518	19,000	117,518
Charitable activities		95,016	1,400	96,416
Investments		1,549	-	1,549
				0
Total		195,083	20,400	215,483
Expenditure	5			
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds		-	-	-
Charitable Activities		230,920	1,400	232,320
Other		35,174	-	35,174
Total		266,094	1,400	267,494
Net income/(expenditure) before tax for the reporting period		(71,011)	19,000	(52,011)
Net movement in funds		(71,011)	19,000	(52,011)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		1,500,336	136,163	1,636,499
Transfer of Funds		19,000	(19,000)	-
Total funds carried forward		1,448,325	136,163	1,584,488

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

Registered number: 06860375

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	2024 Total £	2023
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	6	1,296,234	86,153	1,382,387	1,411,037
Total fixed assets		1,296,234	86,153	1,382,387	1,411,037
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	41,067	-	41,067	45,486
Cash at bank and in hand		131,817	50,010	181,827	195,729
Total current assets		172,884	50,010	222,894	241,215
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	8	(20,793)	-	(20,793)	(15,753)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		152,091	50,010	202,101	225,462
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,448,325	136,163	1,584,488	1,636,499
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted Income Funds	13	-	136,163	136,163	136,163
Unrestricted Funds		1,448,325	-	1,448,325	1,500,336
TOTAL FUNDS		1,448,325	136,163	1,584,488	1,636,499

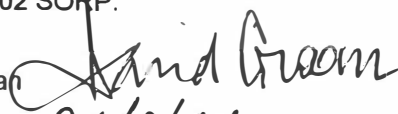
For the year ended 31 March 2024 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

The Directors/Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

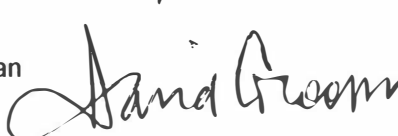
These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies subject to the small companies regime and in accordance with FRS102 SORP.

Signed by two trustees/directors on behalf
of all the trustees/directors

Chairman 
Date 24/3/24 David Groom

Director/Trustee 
Date 24/3/24

Signature of one director authenticating accounts
being sent to Companies House

Chairman 
Date
David Groom

1. Statutory

Stroud Valleys Canal Company is a private limited company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number, registered office and principal place of business can be found on the legal and administrative page. The Director's/Trustee's report contains more information regarding the company's principal activities.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is in Pound Sterling (£).

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) (issued in October 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 1a for small entities. 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2.2 Incoming resources

Grants and donations are recognised in the accounts when the Charity has the rights to those funds and all external conditions are met. Where funds are subject to external conditions which have not been met at year end these have been dealt with as deferred income.

Where the nature of the grant is in substance a loan, in that it is potentially repayable and carries interest, then it is accounted for as a loan.

Other income is accounted for on an accruals basis so far as it is prudent to do so.

Rental income is included in Incoming Resources on an accruals basis, and is recognised in the year to which it relates.

2.3 Restricted income

Where donors or funders specify that grants or donations, including capital grants are for a particular purpose, this income is included in incoming resources as restricted funds, and the relevant expenditure included in resources expended as restricted expenditure.

2.4 Donated Assets and Services

Donated Assets and Services received are included in the accounts at a reasonable estimate of their open market value provided by either the donor or the Trustees. The services provided by volunteers are not given a value or included in the accounts.

2.5 Income

The income shown includes assets donated to the Charity, such as canal structures which have been completed, e.g. new bridges. Transfers of freehold parcels of land are also included.

2.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recorded on the accruals basis.

Governance costs are those costs incurred in the governance of the Charity and its assets and are primarily associated with administrative, constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants made are recognised when payments are made to the recipient.

2.7 Tangible Fixed Assets

The freehold property owned by the Charity is considered to be a programme asset as it is held directly in pursuit of the organisation's charitable activities and is therefore included in the accounts at cost, or estimate of market value on acquisition where donated but not depreciated.

Where a value is provided in a funding agreement under which the asset is acquired, the asset is included in the accounts at that value.

Further purchases have been made using either funding grants provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund or the charity's own funds and are included at cost.

Dudbridge Hydro scheme is depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 10% per annum.

Assets which cost, or are valued at, in excess of £250 are capitalised where they are expected to have a useful life in excess of 1 year. However, items of expenditure to improve property which the Charity plans to demolish in the short to medium term will not be capitalised, and will instead be recognised as an expense in the year in which the costs are incurred. Equipment and Motors are depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 20% per annum. Boats are depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 10% per annum.

Canal structures are depreciated on a straight line basis over either 10 years in the case of mooring and landing stages or 25 years in the case of bridges.

Assets in the course of construction are not depreciated until brought into use.

2.8 Heritage Assets

The charitable company owns the line of the Thames and Severn Canal, from its junction with the Stroudwater Canal to the basin at Brimscombe Port, together with the towpath, locks and the fixed bridges which have primarily been in existence since the eighteenth century. These were gifted to the Charity at no cost, and it is considered that they should not be included as a Heritage Asset on the Balance Sheet. It is not considered that the cost of obtaining a valuation would be justified by the usefulness of this information to the users of the accounts. Our Heritage Assets are accessible to the public at all times.

It is our policy only to acquire Assets which are an integral part of the Canal system. We aim to preserve and maintain all our Assets in order to provide a functional Waterway for the use of the public.

However, those structures which are new-built or where costs are associated in a complete repair are capitalised according to the costs involved. Thus new bridges are depreciated over 25 years.

2.9 Taxation

As a registered Charity, the Company is generally exempt from Corporation Tax in connection with its direct charitable purpose, but not from VAT. The Charity is registered for VAT and relevant income and expenditure is included net of VAT. Where VAT is irrecoverable it is included within the expense item to which it relates.

2.10 Going concern

The trustees have considered the financial risks that are relevant to the going concern, which are considered to be: the inability to meet its maintenance covenants under a lease. The Trustees believe that the Charity should be able to meet its commitments as they fall due, having considered a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts. Therefore the Trustees consider the going concern basis to be appropriate for the preparation of the accounts.

2.11 Financial Instruments

Financial Instruments are classified by the trustees as basic or advanced following the conditions in FRS 102 Section 11. Basic financial instruments are recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.12 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the year of the lease.

2.13 Capital Commitments

As at the balance sheet date there were no current Capital Commitments

	2024 £	2023 £
3 EXAMINATION OF ACCOUNTS		
Net incoming funds are stated after charging:		
Independent Examiners' remuneration	2,600	2,600

4 JOINT ARRANGEMENTS

As disclosed in the Director's report, the Charity is part of the Cotswold Canals Partnership and has entered into funding agreements with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and South West Regional Development Agency (SWRDA), succeeded by Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), now Homes England, jointly with Stroud District Council for the purpose of restoring the Cotswold Canal. Funding has been received by the Charity in the form of freehold land from SWRDA under these arrangements, with the Charity taking joint responsibility for certain of the obligations to HLF and HCA.

5 TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	2024			2023
	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Charitable activities				
Lease costs	2,250	-	-	2,250
Canal repair & maintenance	98,809	-	1,400	100,209
Depreciation in year	129,859	-	-	129,859
	230,920	-	1,400	232,320
Other				
Insurance	8,325			8,325
Solicitors fees	3,093			3,093
Examiners' remuneration	2,600			2,600
Other Professional fees	8,716			8,716
Administration services	9,493			9,493
Other costs	2,947			2,947
	35,174	-	-	35,174

No Trustees received remuneration during the period ended 31 March 2024 (2023: £nil). Details regarding reimbursement of expenses can be found within note 14.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY
Notes to the Financial Statements
Year ended 31 March 2024

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS
Programme Assets

	Equipment & Motors £	Boats £	Structures £	Dudbridge Hydro scheme £	Land and Buildings £	Assets in the course of construction £	Total £
At cost or valuation							
At 1 April 2023	118,050	139,300	1,620,137	264,834	109,153	11,886	2,263,359
Additions	79,985	6,030	9,653	-	-	5,539	101,208
At 31 March 2024	198,035	145,330	1,629,790	264,834	109,153	17,425	2,364,567
Accumulated	88,900	42,365	467,456	253,600	-	-	852,321
Depreciation in year	29,689	18,056	70,880	11,234	-	-	129,859
Total Depreciation	118,589	60,421	538,336	264,834	-	-	982,180
Net Book Value as at:							
31 March 2024	79,446	84,909	1,091,454	-	109,153	17,425	1,382,387
31 March 2023	29,150	96,935	1,152,681	11,234	109,153	11,886	1,411,038

7 DEBTORS

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	11,635	9,696
Prepayments and accrued income	26,825	26,474
VAT	2,607	9,316
	<u>41,067</u>	<u>45,486</u>

8 CREDITORS

Amounts falling due within one year

Trade creditors	17,463	-
Accruals and deferred income	3,330	13,173
Other creditors	-	2,580
	<u>20,793</u>	<u>15,753</u>

Deferred income

Balance brought forward	-	5,505
Released in the year	-	(5,505)
Deferred in the year	750	-
Balance carried forward	<u>750</u>	<u>-</u>

The deferred income relates to income received in the current financial year but which relates to the following financial year.

9 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

	2024 Land & Buildings £	2023 Land & Buildings £
--	-------------------------------	-------------------------------

The Charity had the following annual commitments under non cancellable operating leases:

Expiring within one and five years	-	-
Expiring after more than five years	<u>2,250</u>	<u>2,250</u>

The Charity has an obligation to maintain the canal under the lease. The future minimum lease obligations amount to £1,966,000.

10 MEMBERS' LIABILITY

Each member of the Charitable Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Charitable Company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

11 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Charity has entered into joint arrangements for funding with Stroud District Council as described in note 4 which subjects the Charity to joint and severable liability for obligations of and funds received by Stroud District Council in connection with these arrangements.

These liabilities are not quantifiable.

12 STAFF COSTS

The Charity does not employ any staff.

13 FUNDS

	As at 1 April 2023	Incoming resources for year	2024 Outgoing resources for year	Funds transferred during year	Funds as at 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General Fund	1,420,604	195,083	(266,094)	(5,250)	1,344,343
Designated Funds	79,732			24,250	103,982
Restricted funds contributions	-	20,400	(1,400)	(19,000)	-
Restricted Property Fund	86,153	-	-	-	86,153
Bonds Mill Bridge Fund	50,010	-	-	-	50,010
Total Funds	1,636,499	215,483	267,494	-	1,584,488

Represented by:	Tangible Fixed Assets	Current assets	Current liabilities	Total
	£	£	£	£
General Fund	1,296,234	68,902	20,793	1,385,929
Designated Fund	-	103,982	-	103,982
Restricted Property Fund	86,153	-	-	86,153
Bonds Mill Bridge Fund	-	50,010	-	50,010
	1,382,387	222,894	20,793	1,626,074

The Property Restricted fund arises from property which has been gifted to the Charity following

The Bonds Mill Bridge Fund arises from income donated towards the future repair and maintenance costs of Bonds Mill Bridge.

The Board has three designated funds. The first has been designated for potential income generation from exploiting the value of extracted silt. The second is for funds to mitigate against unrecoverable accidental losses at Dudbridge Hydro Scheme. The third is a fund designed to build up sufficient funds over the next four decades to ensure the company has sufficient reserves to enable it to meet major outgoings on lock gate replacements.

14 TRANSACTIONS WITH DIRECTORS AND RELATED PARTIES

During the year, the company reimbursed expenses to directors as follows:

John Beatty	£225.97	(2023 - £248.20)
Keith Tibbitts	£16.99	(2023 - £Nil)
Mike Lambert	£14.96	(2023 - £Nil)
John Twydell	£Nil	(2023 - £Nil)

Cotswold Canals Trust

Matthew Lee and Kenneth Burgin were both directors of Cotswold Canals Trust. Cotswold Canals Trust provides grants to the company to enable it to carry out its work.

The Trust is a Charitable organisation, and as such the Trustees do not gain from any transaction.

Voluntary services were provided by members of the Trust at no cost to the Charity, other than a small amount of petty cash expenditure required by volunteers which was reimbursed by Stroud Valleys Canal Company to the volunteers.

Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation.

Ken Burgin was a Director of the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation until his demise.

15 PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Charity is a public benefit in that it is restoring the Thames & Severn Canal and the Stroudwater Canal for the benefit of canal users and towpath users.

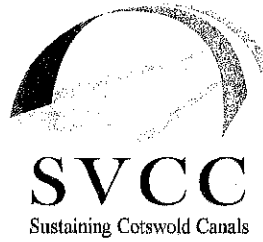
16 CONTROL

The charitable company is controlled by its Board of Trustees.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

England & Wales - Charity number 1130051

Accounts



STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2023

Company Number 06860375 (England & Wales)

Charity Number 1130051

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT For the year ended 31 March 2023

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STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT For the year ended 31 March 2023

The Directors/Trustees submit their Annual Report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019). As an incorporated charity this Trustees Annual Report also includes the Director's report as required by company law.

1 LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

COMPANY NUMBER	06860375 (England and Wales)	limited by guarantee
CHARITY NUMBER	1130051	
REGISTERED OFFICE and PLACE OF BUSINESS	Bell House Wallbridge Lock Wallbridge Stroud Gloucestershire GL5 3JS	
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS	Randall & Payne LLP Chartered Accountants Chargrove House Shurdington Road Cheltenham GL51 4GA	
SOLICITORS	BPE Solicitors LLP St James St James Cheltenham GL50 3PR	
BANKERS	NatWest George Street Stroud GL5 3DT	
TRUSTEES	As per list of Directors in Section 3	
KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL	Chair of the Board, plus Directors	

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd) For the year ended 31 March 2023

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Stroud Valleys Canal Company's aim is:-

To work with Stroud District Council, Gloucestershire County Council, the Cotswold Canals Trust and the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation to effect the restoration of the Cotswold Canals.

The objects of the Charity are to preserve, maintain and improve the Cotswold Canals and their surrounding areas for the benefit of the public.

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the information contained in the Charity Commission's General Guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Board's objectives, activities and plans for the

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

3 THE BOARD

The Stroud Valleys Canal Company is both a charity and a company limited by guarantee.

The Company was constituted under Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1 March 2009 and amended in 2 resolutions dated 6 May 2009 and 13 December 2018 which sets out the Company's objects and how it may operate.

The Company was registered as a charity with the Charities Commission on 9 June 2009

The Board of Directors fulfils the dual role of Trustees of the Charity and Directors of the Limited Company.

The Directors/Trustees who served during the year were:

Kenneth Burgin

Geoffrey Dyer

Martin (Fod) Barnes

John Beatty

Colin Hygate

David Groom

John Twydell

Michael Lambert

Robin Layfield (appointed 19 October 2022)

Peter Rogol

Matthew Lee

David Swinburne

Nicholas Housden (appointed on 19 October 2022, resigned on 11 April 2023)

Stephen Davies was appointed after the year end, on 11 April 2023.

4 MEETINGS

The Board of Directors/Trustees, which manages the business of the Charity, meets regularly, usually monthly.

5 MEMBERSHIP

The Company had 4 members at the Balance Sheet date:

Stroud District Council

The Cotswold Canals Trust

Gloucestershire County Council

The Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2023

6 DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Lisa Mant, Company Secretary of Cotswold Canals Trust, undertakes day to day Management and Administration of the Charity. Administration is now undertaken by staff of Cotswold Canals Trust

Advice and support has been provided by the Canal Project Team and the Asset Management Team of Stroud District Council.

7 METHODS ADOPTED FOR RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

Trustees who are appointed by member organisations are chosen by that organisation according to their own internal systems.

Independent Trustees are nominated by existing Trustees as having particular skills, expertise or knowledge which is considered useful to the Board as a whole.

The appointment of an independent Trustee must be agreed by all Members.

There are currently no personnel employed by the Charity.

8 INDUCTION AND TRAINING POLICY FOR TRUSTEES

Trustees are provided with copies of current business plans and project plans.

A tour of the geographical area of the Canals is provided, if required.

New Trustees are advised to read the Charity Commission guidance for Trustees.

9 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The organisation consists of the Board of Directors/Trustees and a Company Secretary.

All decisions are made at the monthly Board meeting, with information and advice provided by the Canal Project Team and Asset Management Team, both of Stroud District Council, where appropriate.

Exceptionally, decisions may be agreed electronically, and in emergencies, one Director may make decisions and seek approval as soon as is possible.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2023

10 IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR RISKS

The Charity, Stroud Valleys Canal Company (SVCC), is involved with the restoration of the Cotswold Canals. It is responsible for the maintenance and operation of a six mile stretch of recently restored canal (Phase 1A) and partnered with Stroud District Council (SDC), the Cotswolds Canal Trust (CCT), Gloucester County Council (GCC) and the Canal & River Trust (C&RT) in their successful bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for a £9 million grant to permit the restoration of a further 4.5 miles of canal (Phase 1B) which would provide a connection into the 2500 mile national canal network. Currently the maintenance of Phase 1A is being predominately funded by annual grants from SDC and CCT augmented by self generated income. Until a connection into the national network is achieved there will be no substantial income from craft licences and mooring fees and reliance on the annual grants will be crucial. Maintaining close relations with SDC and CCT is therefore extremely important and both organisations work closely with the SVCC Board.

The SVCC Board comprises professional volunteers who bring a wide and comprehensive set of knowledge and commercial experience to the table. Each Director is allocated a specific aspect for attention and management. One Director has extensive experience in risk assessment and management.

Whilst SVCC is not committed to contribute any cash to the Phase 1B work other than in regard to Bonds Mill Bridge for which a Restricted Fund is maintained, they are a full Partner in the project and contribute through the application of professional expertise and time to both the day to day operation, and longer term planning, of the 1B project.

A major part of the grant application to NLHF is the SVCC Business Plan. This considers the twenty-five year operational period after connection to the national network is achieved. The plan has been subjected to extensive probabilistic risk assessment. However, in the light of developments over the last few years the details of this plan now need to be reviewed, with a view to ensuring that the long term plan for the reconnect canal remains fit for purpose

FINANCIAL REVIEW

11 MAJOR GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Charity acknowledges the major grants received from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), and from South West Regional Development Agency (succeeded by Homes & Communities Agency, now Homes England), Stroud District Council, Cotswold Canals Trust and others towards the canal project.

Without these funds and donations the Restoration project would be unable to proceed.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd) For the year ended 31 March 2023

12 RESERVES POLICY

The Reserves of a charity are that part of a charity's income funds that is freely available for its general purposes. This excludes Restricted Funds (funds donated for a specific purpose).

The Balance Sheet of the Charity on 31 March 2023 shows Total Funds of £1,636,499 (2022 as restated - £1,656,783) of which £136,163 (2022 - £146,153) is restricted.

The General fund at 31 March 2023 amounted to £1,420,604 (2022 as restated - £1,448,306).

Designated Funds are funds which the Board has earmarked for particular projects.

The Board's Designated Infrastructure fund £4,482 (2022 - £11,324) is being applied to the investigation of opportunities to derive value from silt extracted from the canal.

A further Designated Fund has been set up to mitigate against future costs which might be incurred at Dudbridge Hydro as a result of irrecoverable accidental losses. [2023- £6,250, 2022- £5,000]

A further Designated Fund has been established to build up reserves needed to cover the programme of lock gate replacements anticipated to be required until the mid 2060's. [2023 -£69,000, 2022 -£46,000]

Free Reserves are the amount of General Funds (including Designated Funds, but excluding Fixed Assets) which are available for the Board to spend. The Free Reserves at 31 March 2023 are £175,452 (2022 - £143,520)

The Board is aware of the need to:

- a. Secure the viability of the Charity beyond the immediate future.
- b. Absorb any financial setbacks and to take advantage of change and opportunities.
- c. Secure unrestricted funding for the longer term to cover the running costs of the Charity and provide reserves.

The Charity's Annual Budget incorporates planned expenditure matched by reserves plus forecast income in respect of the day to day activities. The Board believes, however, that it is prudent to keep a minimum reserve of £20,000 in the General Fund to cover unforeseen eventualities.

The Board will review its Reserves Policy once a year and will do its best to ensure that reserves are maintained at the agreed level.

13 FINANCIAL POSITION AT YEAR END

The financial position of the Charity remains healthy but this is largely due to the restrictions that have been imposed on the construction of moorings as a result of the population of water voles (and other wildlife) along the 1A section of the canal. The creation of the restored waterway through Stroud (section 1A - from Brimscombe/Thrup to Eastington) has been very successful in increasing the population of water voles (and other wildlife – for example otters), which in turn has required the introduction of new procedures and restrictions on the ability to install new moorings and other, canal side infrastructure. Generally this results in delay, rather than a need to abandon, infrastructure development. It is therefore anticipated that expenditure by the Charity will increase in the coming years as these new procedures and processes bed in. Income was derived primarily from grants and donations from Stroud District Council (£55k) and Cotswold Canals Trust (£36k), from electricity generation (£18K) and from water discharge fees (£19K). £86k was spent on acquiring equipment and boats, £65K of which was covered by specific grants, and £18K on canal improvements in the form of winding holes, moorings and etc, as part of the programme of preparing the canal for its reconnection to the National network.

14 GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies section.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

15 THE CHARITY'S ROLE WITHIN THE RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP

The Cotswold Canals Partnership comprises a large number of organisations including all the local authorities along the line of the canal, the Environment Agency, The Canal & River Trust, Natural England, the Inland Waterways Association and the Cotswold Canals Trust. The Charity continues to play an important role within the Partnership.

Phase 1A of the restoration of the navigation between the Ocean and Stroud Brewery is almost complete, with some additional infrastructure required before reconnection. Phase 1B is being led by Stroud District Council and Cotswold Canals Trust, the timetable for which has slipped. At reconnection the Charity believes that both of Phases 1A and 1B will enable a fully operational canal from Saul Junction to the Stroud Brewery. (Further progress has been made on the restoration of the canal basin at Brimscombe Port through the appointment of developers with detailed plans being developed to enable permanent and residential moorings to be provided in line with the requirements of the planning permission. When complete, this new canal asset will be handed back to SVCC.)

The charity has continued to be actively involved in the Partnership's work of designing the new canal and related infrastructure as the 1B project is rolled out, in dealing with the administrative issues that come up within the 1B project and generally playing the appropriate role on the Project Board.

As restoration continues and usage of the restored canal and towpath increases the demands on the various organisations that look after the canal also increases. Serious thought is now being given to the necessary administrative resource infrastructure needed to ensure that the operation of the reconnected canal will be efficient and effective. To this end discussions are ongoing between CCT, SVCC and SDC to streamline the organisation of maintenance and resources, including volunteers. In addition, the organisation of the communication routes with the public (which currently span at least three organisations) is also being looked at, as feedback has indicated that the current set up leads to significant confusion. Changes to the organisational structures to achieve these improvements are expected within the next year or so, and before reconnection.

16 SUMMARY

Over the year the Trustees have worked closely with our partners on the 1B restoration project, as well as maintaining and operating the restored canal (1A). Key areas of involvement in the 1B project include Technical Input, Management and Maintenance, Risk Evaluation and Land Acquisition.

We are currently able to fund equipment and materials needed for canal preservation and maintenance, while placing reliance on volunteers from CCT and SDC for the majority of the necessary work. Members of the Waterway Recovery Group also provide working parties and carry out valuable tree cutting work, contributing to the ongoing health of the waterway.

During the year the Board has been re-structured with a number of additional Directors. In particular two Members (GCC and SDC) appointed Directors to the Board. The team currently consists of 13 Directors. Directors are drawn from appropriate backgrounds such that they can take responsibility for defined areas of activity. The Charity is thus well organised to take handle the challenges and take advantage of opportunities as they develop. This furthers long term viability and will lead to the ability to run the waterway successfully as it develops into an important addition to the national network.

Essential maintenance work is being carried out in order to protect public rights of way. The Board is reviewing the situation regularly, and taking all steps to protect the volunteers and the public who use our canal.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)

For the year ended 31 March 2023

18 STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

Company Law requires the Directors/Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which will give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Company for that year.

The Trustees consider that these Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity for this period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Directors/Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Directors/Trustees are responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company
- ensuring that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006;
- safeguarding the assets of the Charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

19 ADVANTAGE HAS BEEN TAKEN OF EXEMPTIONS FOR SMALL COMPANIES

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Chairman



Fod Barnes

Date: 22/8/2023

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stroud Valleys Canal Company

I report to the Charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023 which are set out on pages 11 to 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of Company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006
3. Act 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; or
the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the
4. Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard

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.

Ryan Moore

*Ryan Moore CA (Independent Examiner)
For and on behalf of Randall & Payne LLP*

*Chartered Accountants & Independent Examiners
Chargrove House
Shurdington Road
Cheltenham
GL51 4GA*

Date: 24 August 2023

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 2023

				2023	2022 as restated
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income	2				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		95,274	66,300	161,574	112,470
Charitable activities		44,948	-	44,948	41,573
Other trading activities		-	-	-	-
Investments		279	-	279	91
Other		-	-	-	-
Total		140,501	66,300	206,801	154,134
Expenditure	5				
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds		-	-	-	-
Charitable Activities		184,765	9,990	194,755	156,234
Other		32,330	-	32,330	35,025
Total		217,095	9,990	227,085	191,258
Net income/(expenditure) before tax for the reporting period		(76,594)	56,310	(20,284)	(37,124)
Net movement in funds		(76,594)	56,310	(20,284)	(37,124)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,490,630	146,153	1,636,783	1,693,907
Prior year adjustment		20,000	-	20,000	-
As restated		1,510,630	146,153	1,656,783	-
Transfer of Funds		66,300	(66,300)	-	-
Total funds carried forward		1,500,336	136,163	1,636,499	1,656,783

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	2023 Total £	2022 as restated
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Assets	6	1,324,884	86,153	1,411,037	1,453,263
Total fixed assets		1,324,884	86,153	1,411,037	1,453,263
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	45,486	-	45,486	42,834
Cash at bank and in hand		145,719	50,010	195,729	174,420
Total current assets		191,205	50,010	241,215	217,254
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year					
	8	(15,753)	-	(15,753)	(13,734)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		175,452	50,010	225,462	203,520
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,500,336	136,163	1,636,499	1,656,783
TOTAL NET ASSETS		1,500,336	136,163	1,636,499	1,656,783
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted Income Funds	13	-	136,163	136,163	146,153
Unrestricted Funds		1,500,336	-	1,500,336	1,510,630
TOTAL FUNDS		1,500,336	136,163	1,636,499	1,656,783

For the year ended 31 March 2023 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 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/Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These 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.

Signed by two trustees/directors on behalf
of all the trustees/directors

Chairman Fod Barnes

Date 22/8/2023

Director/Trustee

Date 22/8/23

Signature of one director authenticating accounts
being sent to Companies House

Chairman Fod Barnes

Date 22/8/2023

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements for year end 31 March 2023

1. Statutory

Stroud Valleys Canal Company is a private limited company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number, registered office and principal place of business can be found on the legal and administrative page. The Director's/Trustee's report contains more information regarding the company's principal activities.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is in Pound Sterling (£).

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (issued in October 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 1a for small entities, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2.2 Incoming resources

Grants and donations are recognised in the accounts when the Charity has the rights to those funds and all external conditions are met. Where funds are subject to external conditions which have not been met at year end these have been dealt with as deferred income.

Where the nature of the grant is in substance a loan, in that it is potentially repayable and carries interest, then it is accounted for as a loan.

Other income is accounted for on an accruals basis so far as it is prudent to do so.

Rental income is included in Incoming Resources on an accruals basis, and is recognised in the year to which it relates.

2.3 Restricted income

Where donors or funders specify that grants or donations, including capital grants are for a particular purpose, this income is included in incoming resources as restricted funds, and the relevant expenditure included in resources expended as restricted expenditure.

2.4 Donated Assets and Services

Donated Assets and Services received are included in the accounts at a reasonable estimate of their open market value provided by either the donor or the Trustees. The services provided by volunteers are not given a value or included in the accounts.

2.5 Income

The income shown includes assets donated to the Charity, such as canal structures which have been completed, e.g. new bridges. Transfers of freehold parcels of land are also included.

2.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recorded on the accruals basis.

Governance costs are those costs incurred in the governance of the Charity and its assets and are primarily associated with administrative, constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants made are recognised when payments are made to the recipient.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements for year end 31 March 2023

2.7 Tangible Fixed Assets

The freehold property owned by the Charity is considered to be a programme asset as it is held directly in pursuit of the organisation's charitable activities and is therefore included in the accounts at cost, or estimate of market value on acquisition where donated but not depreciated.

Where a value is provided in a funding agreement under which the asset is acquired, the asset is included in the accounts at that value.

Further purchases have been made using either funding grants provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund or the charity's own funds and are included at cost.

Dudbridge Hydro scheme is depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 10% per annum.

Assets which cost, or are valued at, in excess of £250 are capitalised where they are expected to have a useful life in excess of 1 year. However, items of expenditure to improve property which the Charity plans to demolish in the short to medium term will not be capitalised, and will instead be recognised as an expense in the year in which the costs are incurred. Equipment and Motors are depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 20% per annum. Boats are depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 10% per annum.

Canal structures are depreciated on a straight line basis over either 10 years in the case of mooring and landing stages or 25 years in the case of bridges.

Assets in the course of construction are not depreciated until brought into use.

2.8 Prior year adjustment

Accumulated depreciation brought forward on equipment and motor vehicles included £20,000 of excess depreciation charged in the prior year. This adjustment has had the effect of increasing the Tangible Fixed Assets and the General Fund brought forward by £20,000.

2.9 Heritage Assets

The charitable company owns the line of the Thames and Severn Canal, from its junction with the Stroudwater Canal to the basin at Brimscombe Port, together with the towpath, locks and the fixed bridges which have primarily been in existence since the eighteenth century. These were gifted to the Charity at no cost, and it is considered that they should not be included as a Heritage Asset on the Balance Sheet. It is not considered that the cost of obtaining a valuation would be justified by the usefulness of this information to the users of the accounts. Our Heritage Assets are accessible to the public at all times.

It is our policy only to acquire Assets which are an integral part of the Canal system. We aim to preserve and maintain all our Assets in order to provide a functional Waterway for the use of the public.

However, those structures which are new-built or where costs are associated in a complete repair are capitalised according to the costs involved. Thus new bridges are depreciated over 25 years.

2.10 Taxation

As a registered Charity, the Company is generally exempt from Corporation Tax in connection with its direct charitable purpose, but not from VAT. The Charity is registered for VAT and relevant income and expenditure is included net of VAT. Where VAT is irrecoverable it is included within the expense item to which it relates.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements for year end 31 March 2023

2.11 Going concern

The trustees have considered the financial risks that are relevant to the going concern, which are considered to be: the inability to meet its maintenance covenants under a lease. The Trustees believe that the Charity should be able to meet its commitments as they fall due, having considered a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts. Therefore the Trustees consider the going concern basis to be appropriate for the preparation of the accounts.

2.12 Financial Instruments

Financial Instruments are classified by the trustees as basic or advanced following the conditions in FRS 102 Section 11. Basic financial instruments are recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.13 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the year of the lease.

2.14 Capital Commitments

As at the balance sheet date there were no current Capital Commitments

	2023	2022
3 EXAMINATION OF ACCOUNTS	£	£
Net incoming funds are stated after charging:		
Independent Examiners' remuneration	2,600	2,600

4 JOINT ARRANGEMENTS

As disclosed in the Director's report, the Charity is part of the Cotswold Canals Partnership and has entered into funding agreements with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and South West Regional Development Agency (SWRDA), succeeded by Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), now Homes England, jointly with Stroud District Council for the purpose of restoring the Cotswold Canal. Funding has been received by the Charity in the form of freehold land from SWRDA under these arrangements, with the Charity taking joint responsibility for certain of the obligations to HLF and HCA.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements
for year end 31 March 2023

5 TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	2023			2022 as restated
	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Charitable activities				
Lease costs	2,250	-	-	2,250
Canal repair & maintenance	55,034	-	9,990	65,024
Depreciation in year	127,481	-	-	127,481
	<u>184,765</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,990</u>	<u>194,755</u>
Other				
Insurance	6,531	-	-	6,531
Solicitors fees	-	-	-	-
Examiners' remuneration	2,600	-	-	2,600
Other Professional fees	-	-	-	-
Administration services	10,321	-	-	10,321
Other costs	12,878	-	-	12,878
	<u>32,330</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,025</u>

No Trustees received remuneration during the period ended 31 March 2023 (2022: £nil). Details regarding reimbursement of expenses can be found within note 15.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements
for year end 31 March 2023

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS
Programme Assets

Total

	Equipment & Motors £	Boats £	Structures £	Dudbridge Hydro scheme £	Land and Buildings £	Assets in the course of construction £	£
<u>At cost or valuation</u>							
At 1 April 2022	117,612	80,953	1,590,123	264,834	109,153	24,354	2,187,028
Additions	10,353	58,347	17,546	-	-	-	86,246
Transfers	-	-	12,468	-	-	(12,468)	-
Disposals	(9,915)	-	-	-	-	-	(9,915)
At 31 March 2023	118,050	139,300	1,620,137	264,834	109,153	11,886	2,263,359
Accumulated Depreciation at 1 April 2022 as previously stated	(99,313)	(29,793)	(397,543)	(227,117)	-	-	(753,765)
Prior year adjustment	20,000	-	-	-	-	-	20,000
At 1 April 2022 as restated	(79,313)	(29,793)	(397,543)	(227,117)	-	-	(733,765)
Depreciation in year	(18,502)	(12,572)	(69,913)	(26,483)	-	-	(127,471)
Eliminated on disposal	8,915	-	-	-	-	-	8,915
Total Depreciation	(88,900)	(42,365)	(467,456)	(253,600)	-	-	(852,321)
Net Book Value as at:							
31 March 2023	29,149	96,935	1,152,681	11,234	109,153	11,886	1,411,037
31 March 2022 as previously stated	18,300	51,160	1,192,580	37,717	109,153	24,354	1,433,263
31 March 2022 as restated	38,300	51,160	1,192,580	37,717	109,153	24,354	1,453,263

8 DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	9,696	11,797
Prepayments and accrued income	26,474	19,875
Other taxation and social security	9,316	11,163
	<u>45,486</u>	<u>42,834</u>

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements for year end 31 March 2023

9 CREDITORS	2023	2022
Amounts falling due within one year	£	
Trade creditors	13,173	-
Accruals and deferred income	2,580	5,629
Other creditors	-	8,105
	<u>15,753</u>	<u>13,734</u>
Deferred income		
Balance brought forward	5,505	5,282
Released in the year	(5,505)	(5,282)
Deferred in the year	-	5,505
Balance carried forward	<u>-</u>	<u>5,505</u>

The deferred income relates to income received in the current financial year but which relates to the following financial year.

10 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS	2023	2022
	Land & Buildings	Land & Buildings
	£	£
The Charity had the following annual commitments under non cancellable operating leases:		
Expiring within one and five years	-	-
Expiring after more than five years	<u>2,250</u>	<u>2,250</u>

The Charity has an obligation to maintain the canal under the lease. The future minimum lease obligations amount to £1,968,000.

This valuation policy will be revisited once navigability has been restored.

11 MEMBERS' LIABILITY

Each member of the Charitable Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Charitable Company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

12 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Charity has entered into joint arrangements for funding with Stroud District Council as described in note 4 which subjects the Charity to joint and severable liability for obligations of and funds received by Stroud District Council in connection with these arrangements.

These liabilities are not quantifiable.

13 STAFF COSTS

The Charity does not employ any staff.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements for year end 31 March 2023

14 FUNDS

2023

	As at 1 April 2022 as restated £	Incoming resources for year £	Outgoing resources for year £	Funds transferred during year £	Funds as at 31 March 2023 £
General Fund	1,448,306	140,501	(217,095)	48,892	1,420,604
Designated Funds	62,324	-	-	17,408	79,732
Restricted funds contributions	-	66,300	-	(66,300)	-
Restricted Property Fund	86,153	-	-	-	86,153
Bonds Mill Bridge Fund	60,000	-	(9,990)	-	50,010
Total Funds	1,656,783	206,801	(227,085)	-	1,636,499

2023

Represented by:	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Current assets £	Current liabilities £	Total £
General Fund	1,344,884	111,473	(15,753)	1,440,604
Designated Fund	-	79,732	-	79,732
Restricted Property Fund	86,153	-	-	86,153
Bonds Mill Bridge Fund	-	50,010	-	50,010
	1,431,037	241,215	(15,753)	1,656,499

The Property Restricted fund arises from property which has been gifted to the Charity following acquisition using Heritage Lottery Funds.

The Bonds Mill Bridge Fund arises from income donated towards the future repair and maintenance costs of Bonds Mill Bridge.

The Board has three designated funds. The first has been designated for potential income generation from exploiting the value of extracted silt. The second is for funds to mitigate against unrecoverable accidental losses at Dudbridge Hydro Scheme. The third is a fund designed to build up sufficient funds over the next four decades to ensure the company has sufficient reserves to enable it to meet major outgoings on lock gate replacements.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements
for year end 31 March 2023

15 TRANSACTIONS WITH DIRECTORS AND RELATED PARTIES

During the year, the company reimbursed expenses to directors as follows:

John Beatty	£248.20	(2022 - £109.95)
John Twydell	£Nil	(2022 - £188.76)

Cotswold Canals Trust

Matthew Lee and Kenneth Burgin are both directors of Cotswold Canals Trust. Cotswold Canals Trust provides grants to the company to enable it to carry out its work.

The Trust is a Charitable organisation, and as such the Trustees do not gain from any transaction.

Voluntary services were provided by members of the Trust at no cost to the Charity, other than a small amount of petty cash expenditure required by volunteers which was reimbursed by Stroud Valleys Canal Company to the volunteers.

Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation.

Ken Burgin was a Director of the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation during the year.

16 PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Charity is a public benefit in that it is restoring the Thames & Severn Canal and the Stroudwater Canal for the benefit of canal users and towpath users.

17 CONTROL

The charitable company is controlled by its Board of Trustees.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

England & Wales - Charity number 1130051

Accounts



STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 March 2022

Company Number 06860375 (England & Wales)

Charity Number 1130051

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

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STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT For the year ended 31 March 2022

The Directors/Trustees submit their Annual Report together with the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019). As an incorporated charity this Trustees Annual Report also includes the Director's report as required by company law.

1 LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

COMPANY NUMBER	06860375	(England and Wales)	limited by guarantee
CHARITY NUMBER	1130051		
REGISTERED OFFICE and PLACE OF BUSINESS	Bell House Wallbridge Lock Wallbridge Stroud Gloucestershire GL5 3JS		
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS	Randall & Payne LLP Chartered Accountants Chargrove House Shurdington Road Cheltenham GL51 4GA		
SOLICITORS	BPE Solicitors LLP St James St James Cheltenham GL50 3PR		
BANKERS	NatWest George Street Stroud GL5 3DT		
TRUSTEES	As per list of Directors in Section 3		
KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL	Chair of the Board, plus Directors and Company Secretary		

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2022

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Stroud Valleys Canal Company's aim is:-

To work with Stroud District Council, Gloucestershire County Council, the Cotswold Canals Trust and the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation to effect the restoration of the Cotswold Canals.

The objects of the Charity are to preserve, maintain and improve the Cotswold Canals and their surrounding areas for the benefit of the public.

General Guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Board's objectives, activities and plans for the future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

3 THE BOARD

The Stroud Valleys Canal Company is both a charity and a company limited by guarantee.

The Company was constituted under Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1 March 2009 and amended in 2 resolutions dated 6 May 2009 and 13 December 2018 which sets out the Company's objects and how it may operate.

The Company was registered as a charity with the Charities Commission on 9 June 2009

The Board of Directors fulfils the dual role of Trustees of the Charity and Directors of the Limited Company.

The Directors/Trustees who served during the year were:

Kenneth Burgin
Geoffrey Dyer
Martin (Fod) Barnes (appointed 7 May 2021)
John Beatty
Colin Hygate
David Groom
John Twydell
Paul Winstanley (resigned 19 January 2022)
Michael Lambert
Neil Cathie (resigned 15 June 2021)
Peter Rogol
Matthew Lee
David Swinburne (appointed 16 March 2022)

4 MEETINGS

The Board of Directors/Trustees, which manages the business of the Charity, meets regularly, usually monthly.

5 MEMBERSHIP

The Company had 4 members at the Balance Sheet date:

Stroud District Council

The Cotswold Canals Trust

Gloucestershire County Council

The Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2022

6 DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Sheila Harris, who had served as Company Secretary until her resignation on 30 June 2021, had undertaken day to day Management and Administration of the Charity. Administration is now undertaken by staff of Cotswold Canals Trust.

Advice and support has been provided by the Canal Project Team and the Asset Management Team of Stroud District Council.

7 METHODS ADOPTED FOR RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

Trustees who are appointed by member organisations are chosen by that organisation according to their own internal systems.

Independent Trustees are nominated by existing Trustees as having particular skills, expertise or knowledge which is considered useful to the Board as a whole.

The appointment of an independent Trustee must be agreed by all Members.

There are currently no personnel employed by the Charity.

8 INDUCTION AND TRAINING POLICY FOR TRUSTEES

Trustees are provided with copies of current business plans and project plans.

A tour of the geographical area of the Canals is provided, if required.

New Trustees are advised to read the Charity Commission guidance for Trustees.

9 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The organisation consists of the Board of Directors/Trustees and a Company Secretary.

All decisions are made at the monthly Board meeting, with information and advice provided by the Canal Project Team and Asset Management Team, both of Stroud District Council, where appropriate.

Exceptionally, decisions may be agreed electronically, and in emergencies, one Director may make decisions and seek approval as soon as is possible.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2022

10 IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR RISKS

The Charity, Stroud Valleys Canal Company (SVCC), is involved with the restoration of the Cotswold Canals. It is responsible for the maintenance of a six mile stretch of recently restored canal (Phase 1A) and partnered with Stroud District Council (SDC), the Cotswolds Canal Trust (CCT), Gloucester County Council (GCC) and the Canal & River Trust (C&RT) in their successful bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for a £9 million grant to permit the restoration of a further 4.5 miles of canal (Phase 1B) which would provide a connection into the 2500 mile national canal network.

Currently the maintenance of Phase 1A is being predominately funded by annual grants from SDC and CCT augmented by self generated income. Until a connection into the national network is achieved there will be no substantial income from licence and mooring fees and reliance on the annual grants will be crucial. Maintaining close relations with SDC and CCT is therefore extremely important and both organisations work closely with the SVCC Board.

The SVCC Board comprises professional volunteers who bring a wide and comprehensive set of knowledge and commercial experience to the table. Each Director is allocated a specific aspect for attention and management. One Director has extensive experience in risk assessment and management.

Whilst SVCC is not committed to contribute any cash to the Phase 1B work, they are a full Partner in the project. A major part of the grant application to NLHF is the SVCC Business Plan. This considers the twenty-five year operational period after connection to the national network is achieved. The plan has been subjected to extensive probabilistic risk assessment, the results of which provide great confidence in the future financial prospects of the Charity once Phase 1B is completed.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

11 MAJOR GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Charity acknowledges the major grants received from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), and from South West Regional Development Agency (succeeded by Homes & Communities Agency, now Homes England), Stroud District Council, Cotswold Canals Trust and others towards the canal project.

Without these funds and donations the Restoration project would be unable to proceed.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd) For the year ended 31 March 2022

12 RESERVES POLICY

The Reserves of a charity are that part of a charity's income funds that is freely available for its general purposes. This excludes Restricted Funds (funds donated for a specific purpose).

The Balance Sheet of the Charity on 31 March 2022 shows Total Funds of £1,636,783 (2021 - £1,693,907) of which £146,153 (2021 - £146,153) is restricted.

The General fund at 31 March 2022 amounted to £1,428,306 (2021 - £1,509,860).

Designated Funds are funds which the Board has earmarked for particular projects.

The Board's Designated Infrastructure fund (2022 and 2021 - £11,324) will be applied in the coming year to the investigation of opportunities to derive value from silt extracted from the canal.

A further Designated Fund has been set up to mitigate against future costs which might be incurred at Dudbridge Hydro as a result of irrecoverable accidental losses. [2022- £5,000, 2021- £3,750]

A further Designated Fund has been established to build up reserves needed to cover the programme of lock gate replacements anticipated to be required until the mid 2060's. [2022 -£46,000, 2021 -£23,000]

Free Reserves are the amount of General Funds (including Designated Funds, but excluding Fixed Assets) which are available for the Board to spend. The Free Reserves at 31 March 2022 are £143,520 (2021 - £125,627)

The Board is aware of the need to:

- a. Secure the viability of the Charity beyond the immediate future.
- b. Absorb any financial setbacks and to take advantage of change and opportunities.
- c. Secure unrestricted funding for the longer term to cover the running costs of the Charity and provide reserves.

The Charity's Annual Budget incorporates planned expenditure matched by reserves plus forecast income in respect of the day to day activities. The Board believes, however, that it is prudent to keep a minimum reserve of £20,000 in the General Fund to cover unforeseen eventualities.

The Board will review its Reserves Policy once a year and will do its best to ensure that reserves are maintained at the agreed level.

13 FINANCIAL POSITION AT YEAR END

Due to the Covid pandemic, the financial position of the Charity appears better than originally anticipated, but only because of severe constraints on the amount of work that could be undertaken by Cotswold Canal Trust volunteers. As Covid restrictions are lifted, an expanded programme of activity is being introduced, which will inevitably absorb all the accumulated funds surplus achieved in the past two years. Income was derived primarily from grants and donations from Stroud District Council (£50k) and Cotswold Canals Trust (£39k), from electricity generation (£23K) and from water discharge fees (£16K). £28k was spent on acquiring equipment and boats and £33K on canal improvements in the form of winding holes, moorings and etc, as part of the programme of preparing the canal for its reconnection to the National network.

14 GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies section. The effect of the Covid 19 Lockdown has been taken into account and is being closely monitored.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

15 THE CHARITY'S ROLE WITHIN THE RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP

The Cotswold Canals Partnership comprises a large number of organisations including all the local authorities along the line of the canal, the Environment Agency, The Canal & River Trust, Natural England, the Inland Waterways Association and the Cotswold Canals Trust. The Charity continues to play an important role within the Partnership.

Phase 1A of the restoration programme is almost complete, and Phase 1B is being led by Stroud District Council and Cotswold Canals Trust.

The charity has continued to be actively involved in the Partnership's work of making an application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund to enable the second phase (1B) of the project to go ahead. The bid was approved in principle in September 2020 and Permission to Start is expected in due course.

The electronic Asset Register and Maintenance Plan has gone live and will prove over time to enable costed regular maintenance of the restored areas of canal to be included in future budgets as part of cost control measures. It provides an invaluable link between lengthsmen, volunteers and Managers from all organisations.

The Charity's website has been updated to provide canal users with full and timely information on using the canal. We are indebted to volunteers for working on this and the Asset Register on our behalf.

16 SUMMARY

Over the year the Trustees have worked closely with our partners on the Heritage Lottery Fund grant application. Key areas of involvement include Management and Maintenance, Risk Evaluation and Land Acquisition.

Whilst the lottery bid took up a lot of time, the task of keeping the assets of the canal in good order and managing our resources has continued. Much good progress has been achieved. Two parcels of additional land have been purchased with a view to providing moorings and manoeuvring facilities. A joint mooring venture has been established with one landowner.

We are able to fund equipment and materials needed for canal preservation and maintenance, placing reliance on volunteers from CCT and SDC for the majority of the necessary work. Members of the Waterway Recovery Group also provide working parties and carry out valuable tree cutting work, contributing to the ongoing health of the waterway.

During the year the Board has been re-structured with a number of additional Directors. The team currently consists of 11 Directors. Directors are drawn from appropriate backgrounds such that they can take responsibility for defined areas of activity. The Charity is thus well organised to take handle the challenges and take advantage of opportunities as they develop. This furthers long term viability and will lead to the ability to run the waterway successfully as it develops into an important addition to the national network.

The full effects of the Covid 19 lockdown are still being assessed. Essential maintenance work is being carried out in order to protect public rights of way. The Board is reviewing the situation regularly, and taking all steps to protect the volunteers and the public who use our canal.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the year ended 31 March 2022

18 STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

Company Law requires the Directors/ Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which will give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Company for that year.

The Trustees consider that these Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity for this period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Directors/Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Directors/Trustees are responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company
- ensuring that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006;
- safeguarding the assets of the Charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

19 ADVANTAGE HAS BEEN TAKEN OF EXEMPTIONS FOR SMALL COMPANIES

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Chairman

Fod Barnes

Date: 14/October/2022



STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stroud Valleys Canal Company

I report to the Charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are set out on pages 11 to 19.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of Company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006
3. Act 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; or
the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of
4. the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities

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.

Randall & Payne LLP

Ryan Moore CA
For and on behalf of Randall & Payne LLP
Chargrove House
Shurdington Road
Cheltenham
GL51 4GA

17 October 2022

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 2022

				2022	Period ended 31 March 2021
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income	2				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		87,040	25,430	112,470	103,415
Charitable activities		41,573	-	41,573	8,573
Other trading activities		-	-	-	26,146
Investments		91	-	91	1,335
Other		-	-	-	1,500
Total		128,704	25,430	154,134	140,968
Expenditure	5				
Expenditure on:					
Charitable Activities		176,234	-	176,234	164,458
Other		35,025	-	35,025	19,913
Total		211,258	-	211,258	184,371
Net income/(expenditure) before tax for the reporting period		(82,554)	25,430	(57,124)	(43,403)
Net movement in funds		(82,554)	25,430	(57,124)	(43,403)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,547,754	146,153	1,693,907	1,737,310
Transfer of Funds		25,430	(25,430)	-	-
Total funds carried forward		1,490,630	146,153	1,636,783	1,693,907

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2022

Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	2022 Total £	31 March 2021 Total £
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible Assets	6 1,347,110	86,153	1,433,263	1,508,279
Total fixed assets	1,347,110	86,153	1,433,263	1,508,279
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	7 42,834	-	42,834	22,919
Cash at bank and in hand	114,420	60,000	174,420	172,507
Total current assets	157,254	60,000	217,254	195,425
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	8 (13,734)	-	(13,734)	(9,798)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	143,520	60,000	203,520	185,627
TOTAL NET ASSETS OR LIABILITIES	1,490,630	146,153	1,636,783	1,693,907
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY				
Restricted Income Funds	13 -	146,153	146,153	146,153
Unrestricted Funds	1,490,630	-	1,490,630	1,547,754
TOTAL FUNDS	1,490,630	146,153	1,636,783	1,693,907

For the period ended 31 March 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 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/Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These 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.

Signed by two trustees/directors on behalf
of all the trustees/directors

Chairman Fod Barnes
Date 14/04/22

Director/Trustee

Date 14/10/22

Signature of one director authenticating accounts
being sent to Companies House

Chairman Fod Barnes
Date 14/04/22

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements for year end 31 March 2022

1. Statutory

Stroud Valleys Canal Company is a private limited company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number, registered office and principal place of business can be found on the legal and administrative page. The Director's/Trustee's report contains more information regarding the company's principal activities.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is in Pound Sterling (£).

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (issued in October 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 1a for small entities, 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2.2 Incoming resources

Grants and donations are recognised in the accounts when the Charity has the rights to those funds and all external conditions are met. Where funds are subject to external conditions which have not been met at year end these have been dealt with as deferred income.

Where the nature of the grant is in substance a loan, in that it is potentially repayable and carries interest, then it is accounted for as a loan.

Other income is accounted for on an accruals basis so far as it is prudent to do so.

Rental income is included in Incoming Resources on an accruals basis, and is recognised in the year to which it relates.

2.3 Restricted income

Where donors or funders specify that grants or donations, including capital grants are for a particular purpose, this income is included in incoming resources as restricted funds, and the relevant expenditure included in resources expended as restricted expenditure.

2.4 Donated Assets and Services

Donated Assets and Services received are included in the accounts at a reasonable estimate of their open market value provided by either the donor or the Trustees. The services provided by volunteers are not given a value or included in the accounts.

2.5 Income

The income shown includes assets donated to the Charity, such as canal structures which have been completed, e.g. new bridges. Transfers of freehold parcels of land are also included.

2.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recorded on the accruals basis.

Governance costs are those costs incurred in the governance of the Charity and its assets and are primarily associated with administrative, constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants made are recognised when payments are made to the recipient.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements for year end 31 March 2022

2.7 Tangible Fixed Assets

The freehold property owned by the Charity is considered to be a programme asset as it is held directly in pursuit of the organisation's charitable activities and is therefore included in the accounts at cost, or estimate of market value on acquisition where donated but not depreciated.

Where a value is provided in a funding agreement under which the asset is acquired, the asset is included in the accounts at that value.

Further purchases have been made using either funding grants provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund or the charity's own funds and are included at cost.

Dudbridge Hydro scheme is depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 10% per annum.

Assets which cost, or are valued at, in excess of £250 are capitalised where they are expected to have a useful life in excess of 1 year. However, items of expenditure to improve property which the Charity plans to demolish in the short to medium term will not be capitalised, and will instead be recognised as an expense in the year in which the costs are incurred. Equipment and Motors are depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 20% per annum. Boats are depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 10% per annum.

Canal structures are depreciated on a straight line basis over either 10 years in the case of mooring and landing stages or 25 years in the case of bridges.

Assets in the course of construction are not depreciated until brought into use.

2.8 Heritage Assets

The charitable company owns the line of the Thames and Severn Canal, from its junction with the Stroudwater Canal to the basin at Brimscombe Port, together with the towpath, locks and the fixed bridges which have primarily been in existence since the eighteenth century. These were gifted to the Charity at no cost, and it is considered that they should not be included as a Heritage Asset on the Balance Sheet. It is not considered that the cost of obtaining a valuation would be justified by the usefulness of this information to the users of the accounts. Our Heritage Assets are accessible to the public at all times.

It is our policy only to acquire Assets which are an integral part of the Canal system. We aim to preserve and maintain all our Assets in order to provide a functional Waterway for the use of the public.

However, those structures which are new-built or where costs are associated in a complete repair are capitalised according to the costs involved. Thus new bridges are depreciated over 25 years.

2.9 Taxation

As a registered Charity, the Company is generally exempt from Corporation Tax in connection with its direct charitable purpose, but not from VAT. The Charity is registered for VAT and relevant income and expenditure is included net of VAT. Where VAT is irrecoverable it is included within the expense item to which it relates.

2.10 Going concern

The trustees have considered the financial risks that are relevant to the going concern, which are considered to be: the inability to meet its maintenance covenants under a lease. The Trustees believe that the Charity should be able to meet its commitments as they fall due, having considered a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts. Therefore the Trustees consider the going concern basis to be appropriate for the preparation of the accounts.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements for year end 31 March 2022

2.11 Financial Instruments

Financial Instruments are classified by the trustees as basic or advanced following the conditions in FRS 102 Section 11. Basic financial instruments are recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.12 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the year of the lease.

2.13 Capital Commitments

As at the balance sheet date there were no current Capital Commitments

3 EXAMINATION OF ACCOUNTS

2022
£

2021
£

Net incoming funds are stated after charging:

Independent Examiners' remuneration

2,600

2,600

4 JOINT ARRANGEMENTS

As disclosed in the Director's report, the Charity is part of the Cotswold Canals Partnership and has entered into funding agreements with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and South West Regional Development Agency (SWRDA), succeeded by Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), now Homes England, jointly with Stroud District Council for the purpose of restoring the Cotswold Canal. Funding has been received by the Charity in the form of freehold land from SWRDA under these arrangements, with the Charity taking joint responsibility for certain of the obligations to HLF and HCA.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements
for year end 31 March 2022

5 TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	2022			Year ended 31 March 2021	
	General Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities					
Lease costs	2,250	-	-	2,250	2,250
Canal repair & maintenance	37,681	-	-	37,681	41,280
Depreciation in year	136,302	-	-	136,302	120,928
	<u>176,234</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>176,234</u>	<u>164,458</u>
Other					
Insurance	4,573	-	-	4,573	5,034
Solicitors fees	-	-	-	-	-
Examiners' remuneration	2,600	-	-	2,600	2,600
Other Professional fees	-	-	-	-	949
Administration services	11,386	-	-	11,386	8,987
Other costs	16,465	-	-	16,465	2,343
	<u>35,025</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,025</u>	<u>19,913</u>

No Trustees received remuneration during the period ended 31 March 2022 (2021: £nil). Details regarding reimbursement of expenses can be found within note 15.

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS
Programme Assets

	Equipment & Motors £	Boats £	Structures £	Dudbridge Hydro scheme £	Land and Buildings £	Assets in the course of construction £	Total £
<u>At cost or valuation</u>							
At 31 March 2021	125,385	65,580	1,557,319	264,834	109,153	23,472	2,145,743
Additions	12,227	15,373	32,804	-	-	882	61,285
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(20,000)	-	-	-	-	-	(20,000)
At 31 March 2022	<u>117,612</u>	<u>80,953</u>	<u>1,590,123</u>	<u>264,834</u>	<u>109,153</u>	<u>24,354</u>	<u>2,187,028</u>
Accumulated							
Depreciation at 31 March 2021	(81,604)	(24,595)	(330,631)	(200,633)	-	-	(637,463)
Depreciation in year	(37,709)	(5,198)	(66,912)	(26,483)	-	-	(136,302)
Eliminated on disposal	20,000	-	-	-	-	-	20,000
Total Depreciation	<u>(99,313)</u>	<u>(29,793)</u>	<u>(397,543)</u>	<u>(227,117)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(753,765)</u>
Net Book Value as at:							
31 March 2022	<u>18,299</u>	<u>51,160</u>	<u>1,192,580</u>	<u>37,717</u>	<u>109,153</u>	<u>24,354</u>	<u>1,433,263</u>
31 March 2021	<u>43,781</u>	<u>40,985</u>	<u>1,226,688</u>	<u>64,201</u>	<u>109,153</u>	<u>23,472</u>	<u>1,508,279</u>

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements for year end 31 March 2022

	2022 £	Period ended 31 March 2021 £
8 DEBTORS		
Trade debtors	11,797	5,618
Prepayments and accrued income	19,875	12,515
VAT	11,163	4,785
	<u>42,834</u>	<u>22,919</u>
9 CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade creditors	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	5,629	8,945
Other creditors	8,105	853
	<u>13,734</u>	<u>9,798</u>
Deferred income		
Balance brought forward	5,282	7,545
Released in the year	(5,282)	(7,545)
Deferred in the year	5,505	5,282
Balance carried forward	<u>5,505</u>	<u>5,282</u>

The deferred income relates to income received in the current financial year but which relates to the following financial year.

	2022 Land & Buildings £	2021 Land & Buildings £
10 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS		
The Charity had the following annual commitments under non cancellable operating leases:		
Expiring within one and five years	-	-
Expiring after more than five years	<u>2,250</u>	<u>2,250</u>

The Charity has an obligation to maintain the canal under the lease. The future minimum lease obligations amount to £1,970,000.

This valuation policy will be revisited once navigability has been restored.

11 MEMBERS' LIABILITY

Each member of the Charitable Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Charitable Company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements
for year end 31 March 2022

12 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Charity has entered into joint arrangements for funding with Stroud District Council as described in note 4 which subjects the Charity to joint and severable liability for obligations of and funds received by Stroud District Council in connection with these arrangements.

These liabilities are not quantifiable.

13 STAFF COSTS

The Charity does not employ any staff.

14 FUNDS

2022

	As at 31 March 2021 £	Incoming resources for year £	Outgoing resources for year £	Funds transferred during year £	Funds as at 31 March 2022 £
General Fund	1,509,680	128,704	(211,258)	1,180	1,428,306
Designated Funds	38,074	-	-	24,250	62,324
Restricted funds contributions	-	25,430	-	(25,430)	-
Restricted Property Fund	86,153	-	-	-	86,153
Bonds Mill Bridge Fund	60,000	-	-	-	60,000
Total Funds	1,693,907	154,134	(211,258)	-	1,636,783

2022

Represented by:	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Current assets £	Current liabilities £	Total £
General Fund	1,347,110	94,929	(13,734)	1,428,305
Designated Fund	-	62,324	-	62,324
Restricted Property Fund	86,153	-	-	86,153
Bonds Mill Bridge Fund	-	60,000	-	60,000
	1,433,263	217,254	(13,734)	1,636,783

The Property Restricted fund arises from property which has been gifted to the Charity following acquisition using Heritage Lottery Funds.

The Bonds Mill Bridge Fund arises from income donated towards the future repair and maintenance costs of Bonds Mill Bridge.

The Board has three designated funds. The first is for providing infrastructure to enable future income generation, for example, for the building of moorings and landing stages. The second is for funds to mitigate against unrecoverable accidental losses at Dudbridge Hydro Scheme. The third is a fund designed to build up sufficient funds over the next four decades to ensure the company has sufficient reserves to enable it to meet major outgoings on lock gate replacements. There was another designated fund in respect of repairs to Dudbridge Lower Lock, now completed.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements
for year end 31 March 2022

15 TRANSACTIONS WITH DIRECTORS AND RELATED PARTIES

During the year, the company reimbursed expenses to directors as follows:

Neil Cathie	£16.07	(2021 - £Nil)
John Beatty	£109.95	(2021 - £Nil)
John Twydell	£188.76	(2021 - £Nil)

Cotswold Canals Trust

Matthew Lee and Kenneth Burgin are both directors of Cotswold Canals Trust. Cotswold Canals Trust provides grants to the company to enable it to carry out its work.

The Trust is a Charitable organisation, and as such the Trustees do not gain from any transaction.

Voluntary services were provided by members of the Trust at no cost to the Charity, other than a small amount of petty cash expenditure required by volunteers which was reimbursed by Stroud Valleys Canal Company to the volunteers.

Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation.

Ken Burgin was a Director of the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation during the year.

16 PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Charity is a public benefit in that it is restoring the Thames & Severn Canal and the Stroudwater Canal for the benefit of canal users and towpath users.

17 CONTROL

The charitable company is controlled by its Board of Trustees.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

England & Wales - Charity number 1130051

Accounts



STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the period from 2 April 2020 to 31 March 2021

Company Number 06860375 (England & Wales)

Charity Number 1130051

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

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Notes to the Financial Statements	13 to 20

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT For the period ended 31 March 2021

The Directors/Trustees submit their Annual Report together with the financial statements for the period 2 April 2020 to 31 March 2021. The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019). As an incorporated charity this Trustees Annual Report also includes the Director's report as required by company law.

1 LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE

COMPANY NUMBER	06860375	(England and Wales)	limited by guarantee
CHARITY NUMBER	1130051		
REGISTERED OFFICE and PLACE OF BUSINESS	Bell House Wallbridge Lock Wallbridge Stroud Gloucestershire GL5 3JS		
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS	Randall & Payne LLP Chartered Accountants Chargrove House Shurdington Road Cheltenham GL51 4GA		
SOLICITORS	BPE Solicitors LLP St James House St James Square Cheltenham GL50 3PR		
BANKERS	NatWest George Street Stroud GL5 3DT		
TRUSTEES	As per list of Directors in Section 3		
KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL	Chair of the Board, plus Directors and Company Secretary		

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the period ended 31 March 2021

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Stroud Valleys Canal Company's aim is:-

To work with Stroud District Council, Gloucestershire County Council, the Cotswold Canals Trust and the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation to effect the restoration of the Cotswold Canals.

The objects of the Charity are to preserve, maintain and improve the Cotswold Canals and their surrounding areas for the benefit of the public.

General Guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Board's objectives, activities and plans for the future.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

3 THE BOARD

The Stroud Valleys Canal Company is both a charity and a company limited by guarantee.

The Company was constituted under Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1 March 2009 and amended in 2 resolutions dated 6 May 2009 and 13 December 2018 which sets out the Company's objects and how it may operate.

The Company was registered as a charity with the Charities Commission on 9 June 2009

The Board of Directors fulfils the dual role of Trustees of the Charity and Directors of the Limited Company.

The Directors/Trustees who served during the year were:

Kenneth Burgin (resigned 2 April 2020, reappointed 30 November 2020)

Geoffrey Dyer

Neville Nelder (resigned 27 November 2020)

John Beatty (appointed 9 November 2020)

Colin Hygate (appointed 8 July 2020)

David Groom

John Twydell

Paul Winstanley

Michael Lambert

Neil Cathie (resigned 15 June 2021)

Peter Rogol (appointed 6 May 2020)

Matthew Lee (appointed 2 April 2020)

Martin (Fod) Barnes was appointed to the Board after the year end.

4 MEETINGS

The Board of Directors/Trustees, which manages the business of the Charity, meets regularly, usually monthly.

5 MEMBERSHIP

The Company had 4 members at the Balance Sheet date:

Stroud District Council

The Cotswold Canals Trust

Gloucestershire County Council

The Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the period ended 31 March 2021

6 DAY TO DAY MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Sheila Harris was Company Secretary during the year, and undertook day to day Management and Administration of the Charity.

This post is remunerated by an Honorarium which is fixed by the Board from time to time.

Advice and support has been provided by the Canal Project Team and the Asset Management Team of Stroud District Council.

7 METHODS ADOPTED FOR RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

Trustees who are appointed by member organisations are chosen by that organisation according to their own internal systems.

Independent Trustees are nominated by existing Trustees as having particular skills, expertise or knowledge which is considered useful to the Board as a whole.

The appointment of an independent Trustee must be agreed by all Members.

There are currently no personnel employed by the Charity.

8 INDUCTION AND TRAINING POLICY FOR TRUSTEES

Trustees are provided with copies of current business plans and project plans.

A tour of the geographical area of the Canals is provided, if required.

New Trustees are advised to read the Charity Commission guidance for Trustees.

9 ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND DECISION MAKING

The organisation consists of the Board of Directors/Trustees and a Company Secretary.

All decisions are made at the monthly Board meeting, with information and advice provided by the Canal Project Team and Asset Management Team, both of Stroud District Council, where appropriate.

Exceptionally, decisions may be agreed electronically, and in emergencies, one Director may make decisions and seek approval as soon as is possible.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the period ended 31 March 2021

10 IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR RISKS

The Charity, Stroud Valleys Canal Company (SVCC), is involved with the restoration of the Cotswold Canals. It is responsible for the maintenance of a six mile stretch of recently restored canal (Phase 1A) and partnered with Stroud District Council (SDC), the Cotswolds Canal Trust (CCT), Gloucester County Council (GCC) and the Canal & River Trust (C&RT) in their successful bid to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) for a £9 million grant to permit the restoration of a further 4.5 miles of canal (Phase 1B) which would provide a connection into the 2500 mile national canal network.

Currently the maintenance of Phase 1A is being predominately funded by annual grants from SDC and CCT augmented by self generated income. Until a connection into the national network is achieved there will be no substantial income from licence and mooring fees and reliance on the annual grants will be crucial. Maintaining close relations with SDC and CCT is therefore extremely important and both organisations work closely with the SVCC Board.

The SVCC Board comprises professional volunteers who bring a wide and comprehensive set of knowledge and commercial experience to the table. Each Director is allocated a specific aspect for attention and management. One Director has extensive experience in risk assessment and management. Whilst SVCC is not committed to contribute any cash to the Phase 1B work other than its restricted fund re Bonds Mill Bridge, they are a full Partner in the project. A major part of the grant application to NLHF is the SVCC Business Plan. This considers the twenty-five year operational period after connection to the national network is achieved. The plan has been subjected to extensive probabilistic risk assessment, the results of which provide great confidence in the future financial prospects of the Charity once Phase 1B is completed.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

11 MAJOR GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Charity acknowledges the major grants received from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), and from South West Regional Development Agency (succeeded by Homes & Communities Agency, now Homes England), Stroud District Council, Cotswold Canals Trust and others towards the canal project.

Without these funds and donations the Restoration project would be unable to proceed.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd) For the period ended 31 March 2021

12 RESERVES POLICY

The Reserves of a charity are that part of a charity's income funds that is freely available for its general purposes. This excludes Restricted Funds (funds donated for a specific purpose).

The Balance Sheet of the Charity on 31 March 2021 shows Total Funds of £1,693,907 (2020 - £1,737,310) of which £146,153 (2020 - £146,153) is restricted.

The General fund at 31 March 2021 amounted to £1,509,680 (2020 - £1,584,245).

Designated Funds are funds which the Board has earmarked for particular projects.

The Board has designated a fund for providing infrastructure to enable future income generation, for example, some of this has previously been used to build mooring and landing stages.

A further Designated Fund has been set up to mitigate against future costs which might be incurred at Dudbridge Hydro as a result of unrecoverable accidental losses.

A further Designated Fund has been established to build up reserves needed to cover the programme of lock gate replacements anticipated to be required until the mid 2060's.

Free Reserves are the amount of General Funds (including Designated Funds, but excluding Fixed Assets) which are available for the Board to spend. The Free Reserves at 31 March 2021 are £125,627 (2020 - £95,609)

The Board is aware of the need to:

- a. Secure the viability of the Charity beyond the immediate future.
- b. Absorb any financial setbacks and to take advantage of change and opportunities.
- c. Secure unrestricted funding for the longer term to cover the running costs of the Charity and provide reserves.

The Charity's Annual Budget incorporates planned expenditure matched by reserves plus forecast income in respect of the day to day activities. The Board believes, however, that it is prudent to keep a minimum reserve of £20,000 in the General Fund to cover unforeseen eventualities.

The Board will review its Reserves Policy once a year and will do its best to ensure that reserves are maintained at the agreed level.

13 FINANCIAL POSITION AT YEAR END

Due to the Covid pandemic, the financial position of the Charity appears better than originally anticipated, but only because of severe constraints on the amount of work that could be undertaken by Cotswold Canal Trust volunteers. As Covid restrictions are lifted, an expanded programme of activity will be introduced, which will inevitably absorb all the accumulated funds surplus achieved in this past year. Income was derived primarily from grants and donations from Stroud District Council (£50k) and Cotswold Canals Trust (£41k). Investment income has remained steady. £18k was spent on acquiring additional land, £21K on equipment and £8K on canal improvements in the form of winding holes, moorings and etc, as part of the programme of preparing the canal for its reconnection to the National network.

14 GOING CONCERN

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies section. The effect of the Covid 19 Lockdown has been taken into account and is being closely monitored.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the period ended 31 March 2021

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

15 THE CHARITY'S ROLE WITHIN THE RESTORATION PARTNERSHIP

The Cotswold Canals Partnership comprises a large number of organisations including all the local authorities along the line of the canal, the Environment Agency, The Canal & River Trust, Natural England, the Inland Waterways Association and the Cotswold Canals Trust. The Charity continues to play an important role within the Partnership.

Phase 1A of the restoration programme is almost complete, and Phase 1B is being led by Stroud District Council and Cotswold Canals Trust.

The charity has continued to be actively involved in the Partnership's work of making an application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund to enable the second phase (1B) of the project to go ahead. The bid was approved in principle in September 2020 and Permission to Start is expected Q3 of 2021.

The electronic Asset Register and Maintenance Plan has gone live and will prove over time to enable costed regular maintenance of the restored areas of canal to be included in future budgets as part of cost control measures. It provides an invaluable link between lengthsman, volunteers and Managers from all organisations.

The Charity's website has been updated to provide canal users with full and timely information on using the canal. We are indebted to volunteers for working on this and the Asset Register on our behalf.

16 SUMMARY

Over the year the Trustees have worked closely with our partners on the Heritage Lottery Fund grant application. Key areas of involvement include Management and Maintenance, Risk Evaluation and Land Acquisition.

Whilst the lottery bid has taken up a lot of time, the task of keeping the assets of the canal in good order and managing our resources has continued. Much good progress has been achieved. Two parcels of additional land have been purchased with a view to providing moorings and manoeuvring facilities. A joint mooring venture has been established with one landowner.

We are able to fund equipment and materials needed for canal preservation and maintenance, placing reliance on volunteers from CCT and SDC for the majority of the necessary work. Members of the Waterway Recovery Group also provide working parties and carry out valuable tree cutting work, contributing to the ongoing health of the waterway.

During the year the Board has been re-structured with a number of additional Directors. The team currently consists of 10 Directors plus our Company Secretary. Directors are drawn from appropriate backgrounds such that they can take responsibility for defined areas of activity. The Charity is thus well organised to take handle the challenges and take advantage of opportunities as they develop. This furthers long term viability and will lead to the ability to run the waterway successfully as it develops into an important addition to the national network.

The full effects of the Covid 19 lockdown will not be known for a considerable period. Essential maintenance work is being carried out in order to protect public rights of way. The Board is reviewing the situation regularly, and taking all steps to protect the volunteers and the public who use our canal.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

DIRECTORS' REPORT (cont'd)
For the period ended 31 March 2021

18 STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES

Company Law requires the Directors/Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which will give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the surplus or deficit of the Company for that year.

The Trustees consider that these Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity for this period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Directors/Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in operation.

The Directors/Trustees are responsible for:

- keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company
- ensuring that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006;
- safeguarding the assets of the Charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

19 ADVANTAGE HAS BEEN TAKEN OF EXEMPTIONS FOR SMALL COMPANIES

This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Chairman

John Twydell



Date:

23/9/21

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Stroud Valleys Canal Company

I report to the Charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the period ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages 13 to 20.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the Charity trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of Company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your company's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other
3. than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the
4. Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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.

Randall & Payne LLP

Ryan Moore CA
For and on behalf of Randall & Payne LLP
Chargrove House
Shurdington Road
Cheltenham
GL51 4GA

23 September 2021

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the period ended 31 March 2021

				2021	Period ended 1 April 2020
	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income	2.5				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies		72,165	31,250	103,415	362,813
Charitable activities		8,573	-	8,573	20,911
Other trading activities		26,146	-	26,146	29,334
Investments		1,335	-	1,335	1,650
Other		1,500	-	1,500	16,896
Total		109,718	31,250	140,968	431,604
Expenditure	5				
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds		-	-	-	479
Charitable Activities		164,458	-	164,458	204,882
Other		19,913	-	19,913	42,103
Total		184,371	-	184,371	247,464
Net income/(expenditure) before tax for the reporting period		(74,653)	31,250	(43,403)	184,140
Net movement in funds		(74,653)	31,250	(43,403)	184,140
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		1,591,157	146,153	1,737,310	1,553,170
Transfer of Funds		31,250	(31,250)	-	-
Total funds carried forward		1,547,754	146,153	1,693,907	1,737,310

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY (Limited by Guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET
as at 31 March 2021

Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	2021 Total £	1 April 2020 Total £
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible Assets	6 1,422,126	86,153	1,508,279	1,581,701
Total fixed assets	1,422,126	86,153	1,508,279	1,581,701
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	7 22,919		22,919	33,615
Cash at bank and in hand	112,507	60,000	172,507	163,538
Total current assets	135,425	60,000	195,425	197,153
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year				
	8 (9,798)		(9,798)	(41,544)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	125,627	60,000	185,627	155,609
TOTAL NET ASSETS OR LIABILITIES	1,547,754	146,153	1,693,907	1,737,310
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY				
Restricted Income Funds	13	146,153	146,153	146,153
Unrestricted Funds	1,547,754		1,547,754	1,591,157
TOTAL FUNDS	1,547,754	146,153	1,693,907	1,737,310

For the period ended 31 March 2021 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

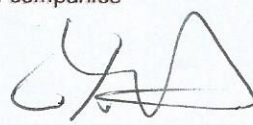
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Directors/Trustees acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These 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.

Signed by two trustees/directors on behalf
of all the trustees/directors

Chairman John Twydell
Date 23/9/21



Director/Trustee Geoff Dyer
Date 23 Sept 2021



Signature of one director authenticating accounts
being sent to Companies House

Chairman John Twydell
Date 23/9/21



1. Statutory

Stroud Valleys Canal Company is a private limited company, limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number, registered office and principal place of business can be found on the legal and administrative page. The Director's/Trustee's report contains more information regarding the company's principal activities.

The presentation currency of the financial statements is in Pound Sterling (£).

2. Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (issued in October 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 1a for small entities. 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable to the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2.2 Incoming resources

Grants and donations are recognised in the accounts when the Charity has the rights to those funds and all external conditions are met. Where funds are subject to external conditions which have not been met at year end these have been dealt with as deferred income.

Where the nature of the grant is in substance a loan, in that it is potentially repayable and carries interest, then it is accounted for as a loan.

Other income is accounted for on an accruals basis so far as it is prudent to do so.

Rental income is included in Incoming Resources on an accruals basis, and is recognised in the year to which it relates.

2.3 Restricted income

Where donors or funders specify that grants or donations, including capital grants are for a particular purpose, this income is included in incoming resources as restricted funds, and the relevant expenditure included in resources expended as restricted expenditure.

2.4 Donated Assets and Services

Donated Assets and Services received are included in the accounts at a reasonable estimate of their open market value provided by either the donor or the Trustees. The services provided by volunteers are not given a value or included in the accounts.

2.5 Income

The income shown includes assets donated to the Charity, such as canal structures which have been completed, e.g. new bridges. Transfers of freehold parcels of land are also included.

2.6 Expenditure

Expenditure is recorded on the accruals basis.

Governance costs are those costs incurred in the governance of the Charity and its assets and are primarily associated with administrative, constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants made are recognised when payments are made to the recipient.

2.7 Tangible Fixed Assets

The freehold property owned by the Charity is considered to be a programme asset as it is held directly in pursuit of the organisation's charitable activities and is therefore included in the accounts at cost, or estimate of market value on acquisition where donated but not depreciated.

Where a value is provided in a funding agreement under which the asset is acquired, the asset is included in the accounts at that value.

Further purchases have been made using either funding grants provided by the Heritage Lottery Fund or the charity's own funds and are included at cost.

Dudbridge Hydro scheme is depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 10% per annum.

Assets which cost, or are valued at, in excess of £250 are capitalised where they are expected to have a useful life in excess of 1 year. However, items of expenditure to improve property which the Charity plans to demolish in the short to medium term will not be capitalised, and will instead be recognised as an expense in the year in which the costs are incurred. Equipment and Motors are depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 20% per annum. Boats are depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 10% per annum.

Canal structures are depreciated on a straight line basis over either 10 years in the case of mooring and landing stages or 25 years in the case of bridges.

Assets in the course of construction are not depreciated until brought into use.

2.8 Heritage Assets

The charitable company owns the line of the Thames and Severn Canal, from its junction with the Stroudwater Canal to the basin at Brimscombe Port, together with the towpath, locks and the fixed bridges which have primarily been in existence since the eighteenth century. These were gifted to the Charity at no cost, and it is considered that they should not be included as a Heritage Asset on the Balance Sheet. It is not considered that the cost of obtaining a valuation would be justified by the usefulness of this information to the users of the accounts. Our Heritage Assets are accessible to the public at all times.

It is our policy only to acquire Assets which are an integral part of the Canal system. We aim to preserve and maintain all our Assets in order to provide a functional Waterway for the use of the public.

However, those structures which are new-built or where costs are associated in a complete repair are capitalised according to the costs involved. Thus new bridges are depreciated over 25 years.

2.9 Taxation

As a registered Charity, the Company is generally exempt from Corporation Tax in connection with its direct charitable purpose, but not from VAT. The Charity is registered for VAT and relevant income and expenditure is included net of VAT. Where VAT is irrecoverable it is included within the expense item to which it relates.

2.10 Going concern

The trustees have considered the financial risks that are relevant to the going concern, which are considered to be: the inability to meet its maintenance covenants under a lease. The Trustees believe that the Charity should be able to meet its commitments as they fall due, having considered a period of at least one year from the date of approval of these accounts. Therefore the Trustees consider the going concern basis to be appropriate for the preparation of the accounts.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements for period ended 31 March 2021

2.11 Financial Instruments

Financial Instruments are classified by the trustees as basic or advanced following the conditions in FRS 102 Section 11. Basic financial instruments are recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.12 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the year of the lease.

2.13 Capital Commitments

As at the balance sheet date there were no current Capital Commitments

	2021 £	2020 £
3 EXAMINATION OF ACCOUNTS		
Net incoming funds are stated after charging:		
Independent Examiners' remuneration	2,600	2,600

4 JOINT ARRANGEMENTS

As disclosed in the Director's report, the Charity is part of the Cotswold Canals Partnership and has entered into funding agreements with the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and South West Regional Development Agency (SWRDA), succeeded by Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), now Homes England, jointly with Stroud District Council for the purpose of restoring the Cotswold Canal. Funding has been received by the Charity in the form of freehold land from SWRDA under these arrangements, with the Charity taking joint responsibility for certain of the obligations to HLF and HCA.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements
for period ended 31 March 2021

5 TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	2021			Period ended 1 April 2020
	General Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Charitable activities				
Lease costs	2,250	-	-	2,250
Canal repair & maintenance	41,280	-	-	41,280
Depreciation in year	120,928	-	-	120,928
	<u>164,458</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>204,882</u>
Other				
Insurance	5,034	-	-	5,034
Solicitors fees	-	-	-	-
Examiners' remuneration	2,600	-	-	2,600
Other Professional fees	949	-	-	949
Administration services	8,987	-	-	8,987
Other costs	2,343	-	-	2,343
	<u>19,913</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>42,103</u>

No Trustees received remuneration during the period ended 31 March 2021 (2020: £nil). Details regarding reimbursement of expenses can be found within note 14.

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Programme Assets

	Equipment & Motors £	Boats £	Structures £	Dudbridge Hydro scheme £	Land and Buildings £	Assets in the course of construction £	Total £
<u>At cost or valuation</u>							
At 2 April 2020	108,576	65,580	1,535,000	264,834	91,153	37,528	2,102,671
Additions	21,244	-	-	-	18,000	8,263	47,507
Transfers	-	-	22,319	-	-	(22,319)	-
Disposals	(4,435)	-	-	-	-	-	(4,435)
At 31 March 2021	<u>125,385</u>	<u>65,580</u>	<u>1,557,319</u>	<u>264,834</u>	<u>109,153</u>	<u>23,472</u>	<u>2,145,743</u>
Accumulated							
Depreciation at 2 April 2020	(60,423)	(19,397)	(267,000)	(174,150)	-	-	(520,970)
Depreciation in year	(25,616)	(5,198)	(63,631)	(26,483)	-	-	(120,928)
Eliminated on disposal	4,435	-	-	-	-	-	4,435
Total Depreciation	<u>(81,604)</u>	<u>(24,595)</u>	<u>(330,631)</u>	<u>(200,633)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(637,463)</u>
Net Book Value as at:							
31 March 2021	<u>43,781</u>	<u>40,985</u>	<u>1,226,688</u>	<u>64,201</u>	<u>109,153</u>	<u>23,472</u>	<u>1,508,279</u>

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements
for period ended 31 March 2021

1 April 2020	48,153	46,183	1,268,000	90,684	91,153	37,528	1,581,701
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8 DEBTORS	2021 £	Period ended 1 April 2020 £
Trade debtors	5,618	3,767
Prepayments and accrued income	12,515	24,145
VAT	4,785	5,703
	<u>22,919</u>	<u>33,615</u>
9 CREDITORS		
Amounts falling due within one year		
Accruals and deferred income	8,945	32,691
Other creditors	853	8,853
	<u>9,798</u>	<u>41,544</u>
Deferred income		
Balance brought forward	7,545	10,621
Released in the year	(7,545)	(10,621)
Deferred in the year	5,282	7,545
Balance carried forward	<u>5,282</u>	<u>7,545</u>

The deferred income relates to income received in the current financial year but which relates to the following financial year.

10 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS	2021 Land & Buildings £	2020 Land & Buildings £
The Charity had the following annual commitments under non cancellable operating leases:		
Expiring within one and five years	-	-
Expiring after more than five years	<u>2,250</u>	<u>2,292</u>

The Charity has an obligation to maintain the canal under the lease. The future minimum lease obligations amount to £1,970,000.

This valuation policy will be revisited once navigability has been restored.

11 MEMBERS' LIABILITY

Each member of the Charitable Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Charitable Company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

STROUD VALLEYS CANAL COMPANY

Notes to the financial statements
for period ended 31 March 2021

12 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Charity has entered into joint arrangements for funding with Stroud District Council as described in note 4 which subjects the Charity to joint and severable liability for obligations of and funds received by Stroud District Council in connection with these arrangements.

These liabilities are not quantifiable.

13 STAFF COSTS

The Charity does not employ any staff.

14 FUNDS

2021

	As at 2 April 2020 £	Incoming resources for year £	Outgoing resources for year £	Funds transferred during year £	Funds as at 31 March 2021 £
General Fund	1,584,245	109,718	(184,371)	88	1,509,680
Designated Funds	6,912	-	-	31,162	38,074
Restricted funds contributions	-	31,250	-	(31,250)	-
Restricted Property Fund	86,153	-	-	-	86,153
Bonds Mill Bridge Fund	60,000	-	-	-	60,000
Total Funds	1,737,310	140,968	(184,371)	-	1,693,907

2021

Represented by:	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Current assets £	Current liabilities £	Total £
General Fund	1,422,126	97,351	(9,798)	1,509,679
Designated Fund	-	38,074	-	38,074
Restricted Property Fund	86,153	-	-	86,153
Bonds Mill Bridge Fund	-	60,000	-	60,000
	1,508,279	195,425	(9,798)	1,693,907

The Property Restricted fund arises from property which has been gifted to the Charity following acquisition using Heritage Lottery Funds.

The Bonds Mill Bridge Fund arises from income donated towards the future repair and maintenance costs of Bonds Mill Bridge.

The Board has three designated funds. The first is for providing infrastructure to enable future income generation, for example, for the building of moorings and landing stages. The second is for funds to mitigate against unrecoverable accidental losses at Dudbridge Hydro Scheme. The third, new this year, is a fund designed to build up sufficient funds over the next four decades to ensure the company has sufficient reserves to enable it to meet major outgoings on lock gate replacements. There was another designated fund in respect of repairs to Dudbridge Lower Lock, now completed.

15 TRANSACTIONS WITH DIRECTORS AND RELATED PARTIES

During the year, the company made reimbursements of £NIL to Neil Cathie for his directors' expenses. (2020 – £223)

Cotswold Canals Trust

Cotswold Canals Trust is a related entity by virtue of the appointment of Ken Burgin as a Director/Trustee while being an employee of the Cotswold Canals Trust.

The Trust is a Charitable organisation, and as such the Trustees do not gain from any transaction.

Voluntary services were provided by members of the Trust at no cost to the Charity, other than a small amount of petty cash expenditure required by volunteers which was reimbursed by Stroud Valleys Canal Company to the volunteers.

Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation.

Ken Burgin and Neville Nelder were both Directors of the Company of Proprietors of the Stroudwater Navigation at some point during the year.

Ken Burgin is the only Trustee who benefited from employment through a related entity. This employment had ceased by the year end.

16 PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Charity is a public benefit in that it is restoring the Thames & Severn Canal and the Stroudwater Canal for the benefit of canal users and towpath users.

17 CONTROL

The charitable company is controlled by its Board of Trustees.