

FRIENDS OF QUANTOCK

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF FRIENDS OF QUANTOCK

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Friends of Quantock charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31st December 2020 which are set out on pages 3 and 4.

Responsibilities of trustees and examiner and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

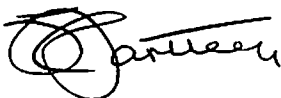
My examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and the seeking of explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters.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

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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



Mrs S Cartledge FCA
Sully & Co
Chartered Accountants
18-22 Angel Crescent
Bridgwater

12th April 2021



Protecting the Quantock hills since 1949

Mr Robin Stamp, Treasurer,
Mickleton House, 18 Tower Hill, Williton, Taunton TA4 4NT
Tel: 01984 633535: info@friendsofquantock.com

Charity accounts YEAR ENDING 31st December 2020

<i>President:</i>	Lady Gass DCVO
<i>Vice President:</i>	Mrs Laetitia Kelly
<i>Chairman:</i>	Mr Philip Comer
<i>Vice Chairman:</i>	Mr Alan Hughes
<i>Hon. Treasurer:</i>	Mr Robin Stamp
<i>Hon. Secretary:</i>	Mrs Mary ter Braak
<i>Trustees:</i>	Mr Philip Comer Mr Alan Hughes Mrs Laetitia Kelly Mr Ian Kett Mr David Lloyd Mrs Barbara Shaw Mrs Mary ter Braak Mr Tim Whittingham
<i>Committee:</i>	The Trustees Mr John Andrews Rev Stephen Campbell Mrs Jasmine Lucas Mr Mike Pitcher Mr Ben Bartlett (Quantock Commoners) Mr Chris Edwards (AONB service)
<i>Bankers:</i>	HSBC / 17 North Street / Taunton Somerset TA1 1NA
<i>Principal Address:</i>	Dodhill Firs / Nailbourne / Taunton Somerset TA2 8AT

Friends of Quantock

Report of the Trustees and Chairman's Report 2020

This has been a strange year for Friends of Quantock as it has for all of us. Early in January we became aware of a new infectious disease in China, and watched as cases started to spread around the world, appear in Europe and then the UK. It soon became apparent that Covid 19 was going to impact on all our lives, as cases increased and restrictions on movement and activities came in. This has meant that we were not able to hold our AGM in March and most of our planned activities had to be cancelled. The AGM was eventually held by proxy

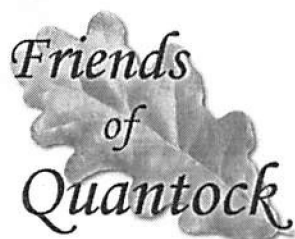
When the first lockdown came into effect in March, there was an immediate impact. The roads were suddenly almost empty, people were discouraged from travelling any distance, even for their daily exercise. The AONB service decided to close their car parks on the Quantocks; FoQ followed the example and closed the ones on our land as well (Dead Woman's Ditch and Sandy Beds). For those of us who live close enough to walk up onto the hills they were eerily quiet.

When lockdown was eased, people were eager to get back out into open country and the car parks rapidly became overcrowded. It was good to see people out and enjoying the hills, but one downside was that many were parking on the grass opposite Crowcombe Park Gate and along the road at other locations. We did try to manage this along with the Quantock AONB Rangers, but it was not possible without having people up there most of the time. We had not seen so many people up enjoying the Quantocks before. We took the view that we would have to live with the situation and wait until the new car park at Crowcombe Park Gate had been completed.

The new car park at Crowcombe Park Gate is of course part on the Quantocks Landscape Partnership Scheme which won funding from the National Heritage Lottery Fund. Luckily the recruitment process for the manager of the QLPS was able to be completed before lockdown and we were pleased that Bill Jenman, who had managed the bid process, was appointed as manager of the QLPS. Recruitment for the other members of the team was delayed but they were all in place by November 2020. Bill has reported on the Landscape Partnership Scheme elsewhere in the Newsletter.

It was necessary to get approval under the Commons Act for the proposed new car park at Crowcombe Park Gate, and it was expected to get approval within December 2020, but as of January 2021 we still wait to hear. It had been hoped that work could start early in 2021, but with additional delays due to Covid it is now likely to be in the autumn after the busy summer period. The one event we were able to hold this year was the walk in the Cothelstone estate to see the Jupiter Statue and the Grotto in the old Terhill Park, and then Cothelstone Church and St Agnes Well. We had a good group who enjoyed the walk down and a smaller group that carried on and walked back up to Lydeard Hill car park via Cothelstone Hill. Many had not seen either the Jupiter Statue or the Grotto before and the weather was kind. Our thanks to Hugh Warmington for his permission to walk through his estate.

Another achievement this year was the completion of the fence around Ranscombe Mire. This is also reported elsewhere in this Newsletter. The contractors did an excellent job on the fencing and we had positive support from the commoners. Our thanks to John Andrews for organising this. Friends of Quantock continue to be active members of the Joint Advisory Committee, and are members alongside the local authority representatives. In recent years FoQ have provided £1000 of funding to the Quantocks AONB Service; this has now been formalised and we have completed a donation agreement to maintain this level of funding over a 3 year period from April 2020. Both Philip Comer and Alan Hughes represent FoQ on the Board of the Quantocks Landscape Partnership Scheme.



RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2020

	2020	2019
Receipts:		
Annual subscriptions	3,986	3,780
5 year subscriptions	1,518	975
Gift membership	78	-
Business subscription	<u>1,090</u>	<u>1,295</u>
sub-total	6,672	6,050
Donations	100	602
Legacy		15,976
Events		-
Sales		22
Tax repayment	1,705	1,245
Interest on Investments	<u>1,953</u>	<u>1,801</u>
Total income:	<u>10,430</u>	<u>25,696</u>
Payments:		
AONB contribution	1,000	1,000
AONB bird box contribution	105	125
Independent examiners costs	240	240
Clerical expenses	400	400
Print, post, stationery & sundry expenses	1,906	2,149
Bank Charges	17	
Insurances	505	484
Event costs		412
Land maintenance costs	2,184	4,739
Project costs		<u>240</u>
Total expenditure:	<u>6,357</u>	<u>9,789</u>
Surplus for the year:	4,073	15,907
Balances brought forward:	151,902	135,995
<u>Total funds at year end:</u>	<u>155,975</u>	<u>151,902</u>



Protecting the Quantock hills since 1949

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2020**

	2020	2019
£	£	
Land on Quantocks:		
Custom Common/Halsway Hill & Thorncombe Hill	2	
	=====	=====
Monetary Funds:		
HSBC Community Account:	24,971	27,728
Paypal account	12	-
Cambridge & Counties Bank:		
45 day notice:	21,007	20,716
120 day notice	21,360	20,996
2 year fixed rate	-	21,160
1 year fixed rate	42,545	-
Shawbrook Bank:		
CAF Instant access (was 1yr fixed rate)	21,080	20,788
CAF 1 year fixed rate	-	40,514
United Trust bank:		
12 month fixed rate	25,000	-
Total Monetary Funds:	£155,975	£151,902
	=====	=====
Allocation of funds:		
Tree & Scrub clearance	3,000	
Footpath at Kilve	2,500	
Archives	1,000	
Crowcombe Park Gate car park	20,000	
Hedgebank project	20,000	
Crowcombe Park Gate car park, 10yr maintenance	10,000	
Legal fighting fund	50,000	
Allocated funds	106,500	
Unallocated funds	49,475	
Total	£155,975	

Philip Comer (Chairman)

Robin Stamp (Treasurer)

On behalf of the Trustees

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*Protecting the Quantock hills since
1949*

SUMMARY ACCOUNTS FOR 2020

	2020 £	2019 £		2020 £	2019 £
INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
Subscriptions	6,672	6,050	Administration	2,323	2,549
Tax repayment	1,705	1,245	Audit costs	240	240
Events	0	0	Insurance	505	484
Sundry	<u>0</u>	<u>22</u>	Event costs	-	412
			Land maintenance	<u>2,184</u>	<u>4,739</u>
Total Income	8,377	7,317			
Less Expenditure	<u>5,252</u>	<u>8,424</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>5,252</u>	<u>8,424</u>
Surplus (deficit)	3,125	(1,107)			
Donations & Interest	2,053	2,403	FUNDS brought forward	151,902	135,995
Legacy	<u>0</u>	<u>15,976</u>	Surplus for year	<u>4,073</u>	<u>15,907</u>
Total available for			FUNDS AT YEAR END	<u>155,975</u>	<u>151,902</u>
Charitable Purposes	5,178	17,272			
Less: Projects	- 0	240	Allocation of funds:		
AONB contribution	- 1,000	1,000	Tree & Scrub clearance	3,000	
AONB bird boxes	- <u>1 05</u>	<u>125</u>	Footpath at Kilve	2,500	
			Archives	1,000	
Surplus for year	<u>4,073</u>	<u>15,907</u>	Crowcombe Park Gate car park	20,000	
			Crowcombe Park Gate c/p maint	10,000	
			Hedgebank project	20,000	
			Legal fighting fund	50,000	
			Unallocated funds	<u>49,475</u>	
				<u>£155,975</u>	

A full copy of the accounts with the examiner's report and notes will be available at the AGM or on request from the Hon. Treasurer.