



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' annual report (including Directors' report) for the period

From: 1.4.2020 To: 31.3.2021

Charity name: LOVE HAMBROOK MARSHES CIO

Charity registration number: 1156473

Company number:

Objectives and activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The Objects of Love Hambrook Marshes CIO are: "To protect, manage and preserve the Hambrook Marshes for the benefit of wildlife and for the public benefit." These are delivered through the following detailed aims: 1. to ensure that the land remains open, undeveloped marshland; 2. to ensure conservation of the area through application of effective land management; 3. to protect existing vegetation and wildlife; 4. to guarantee controlled public access to the area, including free access to the cycle path; 5. to encourage participation of the local community.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The Trustees, having regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission and the objects of the CIO, have managed and developed the land in conformity with Natural England requirements to protect and conserve it as wetland, protect wildlife, ensure continuity of grant income, and maintain public access.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Yes.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A

Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	Volunteers from the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership have continued to provide help with site maintenance. We have also recruited more volunteers to help with social media, and with clearance of litter.
Other		

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p>This review provides a summary of what has been achieved during 2020-21 against each of the aims.</p> <p>AIM 1: Ensure that Hambrook Marshes remain open, undeveloped marshland</p> <p>(a) The continuing existence of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation ensures that, for the foreseeable future, this aim will be met.</p> <p>(b) Site insurance is in place for basic public liability, and for problems arising from contamination.</p> <p>(c) Trustees ensure that the site is managed as farm land in order to claim the annual Natural England Basic Payment Scheme to fund maintenance and infrastructure work on the site.</p> <p>(d) A 5-year Natural England Countryside Stewardship Higher Tier grant scheme which terminated on 31 December 2020 was renewed for a year, and the site was managed to meet the requirements of the scheme to maintain the site as wet grassland, but the future of this funding stream remains uncertain.</p> <p>(e) A long-term partnership continues with the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership to provide advice and manage groups of volunteers to work on the land.</p> <p>AIM 2 Ensure conservation of the site through effective land management</p> <p>(a) A small herd of cattle were again on the site between April and October for grazing as required by Natural England grant conditions in order to maintain the site as wet grassland.</p> <p>(b) Maintenance work included the renewal of sections of fencing.</p> <p>(c) No hay harvest was taken in 2020 but arrangements were made for mowing the hay meadow in 2021.</p> <p>(d) Mowing of the riverside and cycle path margins was</p>
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again undertaken, including the cutting back of nettles along the riverbank to give visitors a better view of the river in the summer months.

(e) A large poplar tree was blown down in a summer storm and contractors were brought in to clear the timber, at the same time cutting back a neighbouring tree for safety reasons. Most of the timber was left in situ to encourage wildlife.

(f) Clearance of litter continued two or three times a week.

AIM 3 Protect and encourage plant and wild life

(a) One of the trustees who has specialist knowledge of wildlife continued to perform the role of monitoring wildlife habitats and exploring opportunities for environmental improvement.

(b) Work parties organised by the Kentish Stour Countryside Partnership again removed scrub from the old railway embankment to maintain a mosaic of bushy and open habitats for birds, reptiles and insects.

(c) The snake's head fritillaries planted in October 2019 flowered again in March 2021.

(d) The 18 trees planted near the river path in February 2020 were regularly watered throughout the hot summer weather and all have survived.

(e) Willow was harvested by local basket weavers.

(f) Fauna observed on site included a green sandpiper, a crossbill, collared doves, stonechats, a large flock of fieldfares, and a record count of marbled white butterflies. There were two brief sightings of otters in December 2020 and otter footprints were also found.

AIM 4 Guarantee the existing public access to the site

(a) The agreement with Kent County Council and Canterbury City Council for the operation and maintenance of the Great Stour Way as a permissive path for pedestrians and cyclists continued in place, and there were further discussions with CCC officers to clarify maintenance responsibilities and the provision and clearance of litter bins.

(b) Permissive public access across the site via footpaths was maintained.

(c) The popular sculpted picnic table by the riverside path was repaired by the artist who had originally created it. The structure was strengthened and new sculpted features were added. The table continues to be frequently used by members of the public.

(d) The two arson attacks in March 2020, on the boardwalk and the pond-dipping platform, were followed by a third arson attack in February 2021 which destroyed the remainder of the boardwalk. The debris was cleared, the opportunity was taken to create a new pond, and although nothing remains of the boardwalk, public access to that field and the ponds continues to be possible by means of existing footpaths. Access to some sections of the footpaths tends to be difficult during the winter because of flooding, an inevitable consequence of the nature of the site as water meadows. Further consideration will be given to whether any improvement of

		<p>the paths is desirable or feasible.</p> <p>(e) Use of the site and the cycle path and footpaths for outdoor recreation increased hugely during the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown. It has been immensely popular for walking, running and cycling, and has provided great benefits to the local community. The greatly increased use brought with it inevitable challenges, in particular the increased amount of litter, and additional arrangements were put in place to deal with this.</p> <p>AIM 5 Encourage community involvement in the site</p> <p>(a) Monthly Newsletters containing updates on all site activities including wildlife reports, together with an Annual Report, were circulated electronically and published on the CIO web-site by one of the trustees.</p> <p>(b) The good working relationship established with the KSCP volunteer group continued to give members of the public the opportunity to contribute towards the maintenance and development of the site.</p> <p>(c) A new volunteer was recruited in July 2020 to act as Website administrator. The website has been redesigned, the use of Facebook has been revitalised, and a second volunteer is also helping with social media. A quarterly photographic competition was been set up, which has attracted considerable interest from members of the public, and the best photograph of the Marshes, as judged by the trustees, is displayed on the front page of the website. The website is at www.lhmcio.org and includes pages on news, current developments, birds seen, plants seen, volunteer work etc. The Facebook group is at https://www.facebook.com/groups/LoveHambrookMarshes and is well used.</p> <p>(d) In response to the two arson attacks in March 2020, a fund-raising concert was organised in April 2020 by local people. Because of the Covid-19 restrictions in place, the concert was on-line. 22 local musicians, singers, photographers and poets contributed, and attracted a large audience which was a demonstration of how much the site is appreciated and the benefit it provides to the local community.</p> <p>(e) In October a guided walk was organised for members of the public and was attended by 15 people, who were taken on a tour of the Marshes and told about the history and wildlife of the site.</p>
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	See previous section.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	Fundraising is not one of the objectives of the CIO, but see the reference above to the fundraising concert in April 2020.

Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		N/A

Financial review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The charity has sufficient funds to continue for the foreseeable future which is important as it is dependent on grants and donation.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The charity tries to keep a reserve higher than its annual expenditure as the repairs and improvements that are needed periodically are considerable and the income is limited.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	£39,497
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	None

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	

Other		
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Structure, governance and management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document:	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted?	Para 1.25	As a CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Trustee vacancies are publicly advertised, and appointments are made by the existing trustees. Election to specific roles (e.g. Chair) is by the votes of the trustees.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	One new trustee appointment, to the role of Land Manager, was made during this period. Induction was conducted primarily by his predecessor.
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

Reference and administrative details

Charity name	Love Hambrook Marshes CIO
Other name the charity uses	LHM
Registered charity number	1156473
Charity's principal address	26 Orchard Street, Canterbury CT2 8AP

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Jon Winder	Chair		
2	Hilary Adams	Treasurer		
3	Margaret Love	Trustee		
4	Richard Norman	Secretary		
5	Sian Pettman	Trustee		
6	Michael Walter	Trustee		
7	Jack Goodhew	Land Manager	To 3.9.2020	
8	Paul Roberts	Land Manager	From 3.9.2020	
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10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name	
N/A	

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year
N/A	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

N/A

Other optional information

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Declarations

The company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report (including directors' report) above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees/directors

Signature(s)	<i>J Winder</i>	<i>Richard Norman</i>
Full name(s)	Jon Winder	Richard Norman
Position (for example Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	<i>Secretary</i>
Date	6.7.21	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name LOVE HAMBROOK MARSHES CIO	No (if any) 1156473
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Receipts and payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date 01-Apr-20	To	Period end date 31-Mar-21
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	17,571	-	-	17,571	13,855
Grants	6,834	-	-	6,834	6,445
Grazing	525	-	-	525	525
Interest	11	-	-	11	15
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	24,941	-	-	24,941	20,840
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	24,941	-	-	24,941	20,840
A3 Payments					
Maintenance	11,824	-	-	11,824	2,747
Insurance	388	-	-	388	364
Administration	127	-	-	127	60
Legal fees	-	-	-	-	469
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	12,339	-	-	12,339	3,640
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	12,339	-	-	12,339	3,640
Net of receipts/(payments)	12,602	-	-	12,602	17,200
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	26,895	-	-	26,895	9,695
Cash funds this year end	39,497	-	-	39,497	26,895

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	-	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreement Error	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			J Winder	6.7.21
			R Norman	6.7.21