

Trustees' report and accounts

for the year ending 30th November 2023



Over 500m of connected waterway fully restored in 2023

- ✓ *Section one linked to main Grand Union*
- ✓ *Piling continues along section one*

- ✓ *A5 underpass is viable.*
- ✓ *Trees and biodiversity continue to thrive.*



Agenda

Saturday 2nd March 2024 at Buckingham Community Centre from 7pm

- 1) Introductions
- 2) Apologies
- 3) Minutes
- 4) Matters Arising
- 5) Trustee's Report
- 6) Treasurer's Report Year ending 30.11.2023
- 7) Adoption of Accounts
- 8) Election of Trustees
- 9) Resolutions
- 10) Members' questions.
- 11) Any Other Business
- 12) Closing Remarks

All photographic copyright is acknowledged.



Above – farm crossing “narrows” 500m along section one now “full”; Front cover – Left – Section one now open! ; top right – “DIANA” approaching the bridge; right middle – Mike Freeman (one of the original trustees of BCS) cuts the cake; right bottom, David Suchet “opens” section one with Tim Coglán after naming “DIANA” in memory of his wife

Introduction

Cosgrove Section One - Open! Done! Finished! Complete!

We thank all the many current and past volunteers over the years as we celebrate opening 500m (plus) of canal at Cosgrove linked under Bridge One to the main Grand Union Canal. Our gratitude must also go to the nay sayers for motivating us to this collective success.

As we write this just before Christmas, there is still some work to complete before we can moor boats here, but it will enable BCS to have an income stream which won't be grant nor donation based. Restoration has to be sustainable at financial, environmental, hydrological and several other "dimensions". Having this income stream will be vital for BCS to stand up as a viable restoration business.

We also start 2024 with a number of changes in personnel as four of our trustees have stepped down during 2023.

- Rob Morris, our chairman, stood down following health issues along with work pressures. We are grateful to his commitment over the years he has been involved.
- Amanda Robinson has also stood down for separate health issues.
- Paul Sayer has moved to be closer with his son and their young family near Cambridge and has stood down. Paul has been amazing to work with in his knowledge gained over years and years of "pouring concrete" across the world.
- Colin Levett has decided to stand down as Trustee and Grants Officer. His tenacity will be missed although he remains as an active volunteer.

Four newish faces join us as trustees being:

- Steve Morley
- Mandy Morley
- Ruth Millard
- Paul Rodgers

More information about these folk further in this annual report alongside their nominations for re-election following co-option in January.

This annual report

This document has been produced, printed, and published by the Trustees of the Buckingham Canal Society which is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation registered number 1156662.

The Society's registered address is 2 Staters Pound, Pennyland,
Milton Keynes, Bucks, MK15 8AX

Agenda item 3

Minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 18th March 2023

- 1 Introductions Terry Cavender welcomed those present.
Trustees Present: Terry Cavender (Exec Officer), Colin Levett (Grants Officer), Richard Dwight (Treasurer), Athina Beckett, Paul Sayer. Gerry Millard, Edima Inwang (co-opted).
- 2 Apologies Lord Boswell, Lord and Lady Scott, Ray & Margaret Titmus, Ian Orton, Martin Tett, Sharron Comerford, Margaret Gately, Mayor of Buckingham, Ros & Jeremy Woodford, Geoff & Marian Wheeler. Don & Jill Alison, Howard Mordue, Rob Morris, Amanda Robinson.
NB. As 31 people were present the meeting was deemed to be quorate.
- 3 Minutes The minutes of the AGM held on Friday 25th March 2022 were accepted as a correct record. (Proposed Gerry Millard, seconded Mandy Morley).
- 4 Matters Arising None.
- 5 Opening Comments Terry explained our chairman was unable to be present, due to work commitments.
- 6 Trustee Report This was presented by Terry as CEO, who walked through the report, adding comments on what other canal organisations were doing and what we might learn from them, explaining that BCS future plans are restricted by funding and land ownership issues, which we are ever hopeful of overcoming. Cosgrove lease was expected to be signed in next few weeks. Terry explained why we have acquired our boats and how they would be used as work tools and provide an income stream for third party works. Shivanshi was introduced as our new support worker. There were no questions from the floor.
- 7 Treasurer's Report for year ending 30th November 2022 The Treasurer gave a brief report on the year's finances, explaining some of the larger figures. There was one question from the floor on income from goods and services. Terry explained that it was a payment from CRT to provide assistance for works they were carrying out nearby on the Grand Union, an example of co-operative working.
- 8 Adoption of Accounts The accounts were presented, agreed and unanimously accepted. Proposed Alan Mynard, seconded Dianne Witts.
- 9 Election of Trustees Terry Cavender for re-election, proposed Colin Levett, seconded Paul Sayer.
Edima Inwang for election (previously co-opted), proposed Colin Levett, seconded Paul Sayer.
18 members voted for, none against.
- 10 Resolutions There were no resolutions.
- 11 Members Questions There was a question on whether the river could be used for navigation. There was a short discussion on how this had been the case in the past but was no longer suitable.
- 12 A.O.B. None
- 13 Closing Remarks Terry thanked everyone for coming and their continued support and closed the formal part of the meeting, inviting all attendees to remain for the buffet and the talk on the historical impact of the Buckingham Canal.

Meeting closed at 8:15pm

Agenda Item 5 - Buckingham Canal Society Trustees Report

Overview

2023 was another great year. Restoration work has been progress as well as maintenance at our other locations.

Site by site - Cosgrove

- At Cosgrove, the stop planks under Bridge One have been removed and allowed the rewatered and restored Section One to become connected to the mainline of the Grand Union
- Bridge One continues to be in use for the farm traffic and astound people at the achievement.
- Buggingham Palace, a bug hotel for our creepy crawly residents is increasing its population with each season.
- Hedge laying along the bridge ramps and the community orchard on the land adjacent to the bridge ramp continue to mature.
- When you visit Bridge One (and please do visit), you will see that the wooden stop planks are now stored at the side of the towpath. These await their final storage being build net to the bridge
- There is some minor dredging work to be completed along with bank profiling to bring this section to be suitable for mooring and fully remediate the leaks. Following reviews with CRT engineering staff, there are 3 places that we are preparing to add sheet piles.
- At the farm crossing we have formed a “narrows” with stop planks which enabled the connection at Bridge One in September. The last of the piling work here on the towpath side is in progress should be completed in first quarter of 2024.

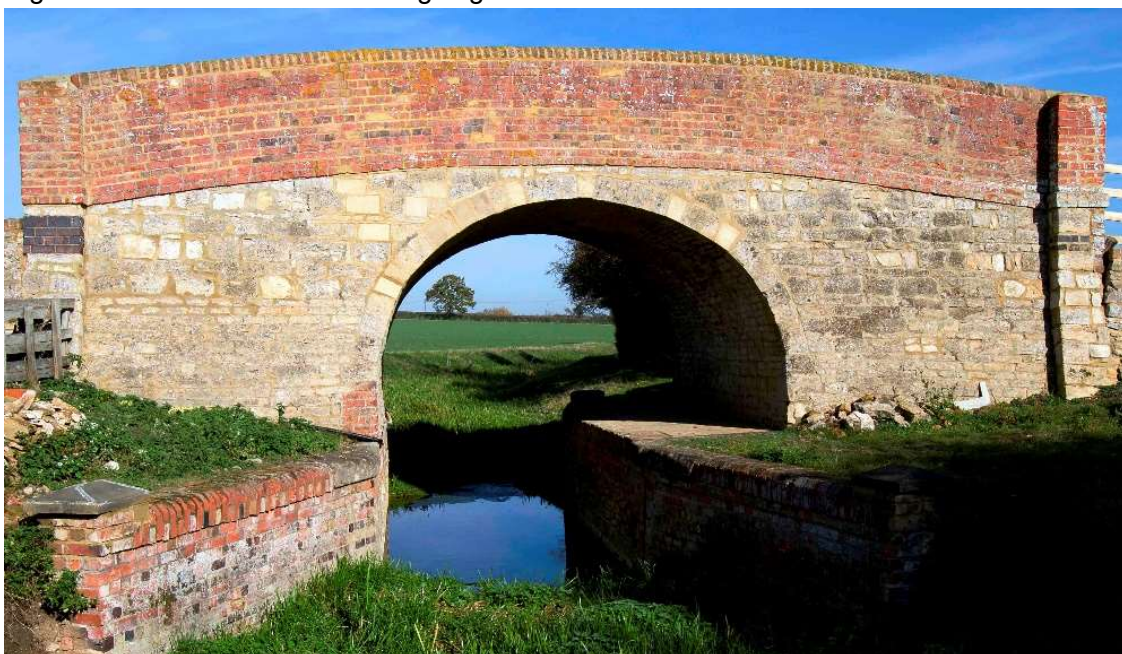


Top left: Volunteers from Arriva. Top right: Wildlife in the rewatered section at Cosgrove. Middle left: Wildlife in the rewatered section at Cosgrove. Middle right: work at the landing stage,

- Additionally, we have continued rewatering the bed in section two at Cosgrove and beyond the oil pipeline into section three taking us towards the bund created at bridge two. We have also commenced work to harvest the ground water from the field drain which will be lifted into the canal using a solar pump.
- All the sections in water to varying depths continue to thrive in terms of vegetation and wildlife. Discussions continue to form a winding hole at section two near the wooded area combined with recreation of a slipway at this location when funds re available. Meanwhile, the water level is being maintained whenever water is available, and restoration works allow.
- At Bridge 2, the equipment and materials are relocated from bridge one compound to bridge two. We continue to enjoy the formal access licence from the gate near the bus stop to enable us to work at Bridge Two thanks to Frontier Developments. We still await the final signatures on the CRT lease which is at version 6 following input from Richard Smith of Sandstone Law for whom we are extremely grateful for his pro-bono assistance. The flood sluice has been reinstated and is pending a CCTV survey of the culvert which is discharges through.
- Discussion with CRT and the Inland Drainage Board along with landowners are still ongoing for exactly where and how we route the descent channel to the A5.
- Design work has continued to progress with National Highways (NH) for the canal passing under the A5 bridge structure. NH have confirmed structural teams and geotechnical team approved the concept design work and we now await the criteria for next round of funding. It's a government process so the timeline is beyond our control but still getting positive updates from the NH team.
- At the risk of repeating previous overviews, it has again been another wonderful year for the Society. All the "in water" parts continue to flourish as a mature canal section with a rich range of aquatic related biodiversity now fully established. Indeed, our work at the Cosgrove bridge continues to be used by farm traffic throughout all the seasons. Many conversations continue with various councils and landowners to enable our restorations plans to proceed.

- ***Site by site - Little Hill Farm***

- A mile of the canal has previously been cleared and the bridge restored. No work has been undertaken this past year at Little Hill Farm although we hope to return there soon to clear vegetation and discussions are ongoing to facilitate this.



Above: the farm bridge restored by BCS at Little Hill Farm

Site by site - Hyde Lane Nature Reserve

The solar panel, pump, and control system continue to successfully bring water into the old canal section, maintaining levels according to the depth of water in the reservoir and amount of sunlight available. The rewatering process is being intentionally carried out at a slow pace as we make efforts to repair any damage caused by tree roots and animal burrows to the clay, with the ultimate goal of maintaining the water level once rewatered. The slow rewatering process also allows wildlife to gradually adapt to the changes. Over the year, several trees have fallen, and our volunteers have worked to clear them to keep the right of way open whenever possible. While most of the channel is ready for rewatering, leak remediation will still be required as the clay fully rehydrates to prevent any wash through. At Hyde Lane the lock gates have been painted, foliage cleared from both inside and outside lock chamber, canal towpath trimmed, and canal bank cleared.



Clearing the lock at Hyde Lane

The BCS Fleet!

The BCS "fleet" currently comprises of four vessels.

- Diana the dredger has joined us and is in active operational service
- Louise, the crane boat, was acquired by the BCS in Christmas 2020, thanks to Rob Locatelli of Canal and River Services. This 55ft long wide beam 100-year-old iron and concrete beet barge from the fens was converted by the National Trust in the 1980s and fitted with a HIAB crane, powerpack with pallet grab, grab bucket and a hook option.
- Rob also facilitated the acquisition of another dredger, PERSEVERANCE II, which is moored at in stages to Cosgrove. Previously used for dredging on the Basingstoke Canal, PERCY is a 50ft long

wide beam steel boat fitted with an excavator mounted with a grab bucket and on boat mud hopper. It also has a large rake that can be put on the end of the arm.

- Since October 2021, we have had use of SHOVELER, a long-term loan bantam class pusher tug from CRT, to aid the Cosgrove operations. The vessel, which has a twin-cylinder lister engine, is named after a duck.



Above Left: CRT Tug SHOVELER moored at Cosgrove with "Harvey" the Hopper waiting to start unloading more dredgings (TC). Above Right: Tug SHOVELER bringing PERSERVERANCE II north to Cosgrove where she will help us with dredging works whilst being restored and painted. Bottom left LOUISE (TC) and bottom Right: DIANA at the opening of Section One at Cosgrove

Our thanks to the CRT East Midlands Operations Team who have kindly arranged for the licence fees on both workboats to be discounted by 100% in recognition of the work we are able to do in assisting the Ops team and other voluntary groups in the Southern Area of the East Midlands Region. Additional thanks for the ongoing loan of Shoveler the tug to help us with dredging and other movements of vessels.

Site by site - Bourton Meadow

Work parties have continued at our sites at Bourton Meadow and Hyde Lane Nature Reserve on alternative Thursdays and on the second Sunday of each month throughout the year.

At Bourton Meadow the tow path has strimmed as well as hedges maintained and adjacent areas of the public space. Massive amounts of weed and reeds removed from the canal by both our own volunteers and helped by outside company visits and we already have more outside companies booked for 2024. Wildflowers have been planted on canal offside and about seventy saplings planted in hedge next to tow path and seating area cleared of stinging nettles.



Above Bourton Meadow volunteers clearing the waterway to keep it an open space

We also have a camera at Bourton Meadow which is linked to Youtube. Take a look and see at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UfbomsVilyQ> or search Youtube for Buckingham canal cameras

Thanks to our people.

As always, a massive thank you to all our partners, volunteers, members, supporters, neighbours, and many others. We would like to highlight a few examples of some of the less visible works that we have been involved in:

- Keith Rawlings – ongoing as our structural engineer. Keith is a seconded volunteer via the IWA and BCS fund the professional indemnity insurance for this secondment.
- Colin Levett - has done an amazing job in managing the various grants. You will see in the accounts the income generated from grants. We believe that this averages out to about 5 hours of effort for every £1,000 of grant income, which is a significant amount of time and money. Colin has now stood down as grants officer but continues to support the grants team in what we hope will be a successful year of applications.
- Ian Matson - is our newsletter editor who continues to do an excellent job despite working remotely. Ian helps us with producing the excellent Navigator and various other posters.
- Alan Mynard, Gerry Millard and Matt Lane for their hours of patient work behind the scenes repairing and restoring engines and boats and all things mechanical

Partnerships

Our many great partnerships continue to firmly position the society for the short and medium term. Our financial health allows us to remain viable, but we are always looking for new ideas and folk to join the team. Thanks to our members, donors, grantors, and other benefactors for allowing us to keep our financial head above water. Thousands of hours of hard work have once again been given to the society by current and past trustees, volunteers, members, partners, and supporters. The current trustees thank you all for your time, energy, and funding to keep us on track towards the restoration.

BCS continues to enjoy support from MKDons, a significant adjacent landowner, and we are



formalizing the access track to the canal at Cosgrove following the granting of planning permission. This will ensure BCS has unrestricted access to the bridge and the canal channel, making materials and equipment access much easier. We are grateful to the commercial team at MKDons for supporting us through the planning discussions for this.

We are ***also*** fully engaged with the new owners of the land adjacent to the canal from bridge two to the A5, Frontier Developments. They have been kind enough to facilitate the land access license, allowing us to get vehicles, ***equipment***, and machinery to Bridge two and the channel.

We have continued to enjoy an outstanding partnership with CRT, who have helped us with various training aspects, technical guidance, providing materials including clay and stone, and of course, the loan of the tug Shoveler. BCS has, in return, assisted with signage and a number of maintenance tasks around Cosgrove, as well as the ongoing dredging. The trustees collectively express their thanks to Linny Beaumont and her regional team for their support and tolerance as we strive to achieve the restoration.

Membership

Membership numbers have remained steady, although we have sadly lost a few older members. However, we have been able to attract some new members during the year through the aid of our online payment system. This is now provided via Sum-Up through the BCS online shop and can be used by people wishing to join for the first time or by existing members to renew their membership. For more information, please visit: <https://www.shop.buckinghamcanal.org.uk>

The marketing team have revamped our information and membership leaflets. Increasing our membership numbers remains a continuing priority, and we extend our thanks to Jean and Chris for their work supporting the membership administration.

Community Engagement – Goodbye Shivanshi

Shivanshi has left BCS employment to take full time employment after finishing her master's course. The funding for this role has now concluded its 5 years and we are in process of re-applying to the Lottery for a further 5-year funding stream to be able to appoint a successor

During her time with us, Shivanshi has driven several initiatives, and this have helped us advance in a number of new ways all resulting in Community Engagement. We wish her good luck and are pleased that she has agreed to remain with us as a member and volunteer.



Five-year grant 2019-2024



Strategic Plan

We are fortunate to have the help from Geoff Lambert who has helped BCS develop a Strategic Plan. This sets out the eleven themes we are pursuing in re-creating the waterway to Buckingham. The plan is a living document and sets out the progress we expect to make in a rolling 2-3-year window with a focus on the progress we want to make in the next 12 months. This is designed to ensure we have a clearer understanding of the range of tasks we need to undertake and who we need to partner with in achieving our goals; the order in which events need to take place and ensure that we obtain the necessary authorities to proceed; protect the environment and biodiversity of the route; maximise landowner and Community involvement, and plan for appropriate income streams in the future.

If you would like a copy of the Strategic Plan or feel able to help in its maintenance as an important part of the restoration, please contact any of the trustees preferably by email to

Trustees@buckinghamcanal.org.uk

Publicity & Fundraising Stall

Since Covid the stall has resumed its role of publicising the work of the society, recruiting new volunteers and raising funds for the BCS. Over the last few years, the stall has raised over £11,00 to support the work of the society.

Last year the stall visited several smaller local festivals and also travelled further afield to visit the Braunston Historic Boats festivals at Braunston, the Linford Canal festival as well as our own festival at Cosgrove.

One of the main attractions on the stall are the had made rag rugs made by Athina Beckett and sold on the stall for £25 and she is always looking for more old tee shirts that can be recycled and made into rag rugs again raising more funds for the BCS

Hours and Work Parties

With COVID restrictions lifted, people were able to meet outdoors again. Unfortunately, some offices had become accustomed to working from home and allowed most of their key staff to continue working remotely. This had a negative impact on the turnout of volunteers for work parties as staff numbers dwindled. Despite this, over 5,000 hours of volunteer work were recorded at Bourton Meadows in 2022. This time on site was made possible through the participation of companies, groups, and Waterway Recovery Group (WRG) visits, working alongside our own volunteers. Without their assistance, much of the work achieved during last year may not have been possible. In addition, the trustees and management team contributed over 4,000 hours of voluntary work outside of the project site. This is a remarkable achievement, given the disruptions caused by COVID, and amounts to over 9,000 hours of voluntary effort, equivalent to over 1,200 person days and a match funding value of over £100,000 in lottery terms.

We currently aim for over 150 planned workdays each year subject to weather etc. The work parties involve a range of tasks, and everyone is welcome to join any of them. The work parties are on Tuesdays Thursdays and on the second Sunday of each month. On alternate Thursdays and on the second Sunday Athina Beckett runs work parties at Bourton Meadow and Hyde Lanne focusing on conservation and the environment at these two sites. At Cosgrove, the teamwork Tuesday and Thursday with focus on dredging, bricklaying, construction work and equipment maintenance..



Above left - hedge planting at the bridge steps and right Hyde Lane after a bit of a tidy up!

BCS Talks

In 2023 the BCS Athina Beckett gave talks to various groups which include FOLIC, Winslow Library, Potterspurty History Group, Stony Stratford History group and Maids Moreton U3A .again raising more funds for the BCS

BCS Festival and Craft Fair

The 28th annual Cosgrove Canal Festival & Craft Fair was successful albeit a very wet Saturday afternoon. Once again, the hard work and rapid organization of the team ensured the festival was successful.

The excitement started building from Thursday onwards as colourful boats and traders arrived to set up their stalls. Visitors kept coming with estimates indicating that the festival again attracted over a thousand people. It was rewarding to see so many people enjoying themselves over the two-day festival. There were plenty of canal-themed activities, wonderful entertainment, delicious food and drink, making it a worthwhile event for everyone.

The Buckingham Canal Society's information tent was in prime position on the towpath, providing a platform to chat with festivalgoers, promote the canal, raise awareness, and recruit new volunteers (it's not too late to express an interest!). Visitors were also encouraged to take a stroll to view the bridge and the progress of all their other projects along the arm and surrounding area.

FESTIVAL HELP NEEDED

The 2023 festival was successful thanks to a small group of trustees and volunteers. In order to avoid the 2024 being the last festival, we need more help. It doesn't have to be all weekend! A few hours on Friday helping setup, or Sunday taking down would be welcomed as well as help on the Saturday and Sunday at the event itself. Help would also be welcomed in the planning of events.

Please contact any of the trustees or events team to find out more or offer your time

SAVE THE DATE: weekend of 20th July 2024

Social Media

We have increased our social media presence with almost 3,000 people following the society on Facebook. One recent post was seen by nearly 20,000 people. Even if we do not use social media in our personal lives, we all know people who are avid users, and it is a necessary outlet for information these days. Our reach has considerably increased, which is critical for sharing information about our activities and plans. Apart from Instagram and Twitter (now X), we have added LinkedIn to our list of social media accounts, hoping to attract more corporate volunteers and donors. Do you know anyone who can help keep our pages up to date? Please chat with a trustee!

To find us:

Search Facebook for "Buckingham Canal Society": or go direct to

<https://www.facebook.com/BuckinghamCanalSociety/>

for X (Twitter): @BCSocietyUK

on Instagram: BuckinghamCanalSociety

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/bcsocietyuk>

Youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/@BuckinghamCanalSociety>

We've been actively maintaining our website too, with Alan as our dedicated Webmaster. He's been doing a great job of keeping the website content up to date, reflecting the progress we've made so far and our future plans. Many thanks to Alan for his many hours of back-room projects as well as help with engines, painting and much, much more.

Fancy a Natter? - Projects and Operational

The Projects group meets monthly to cover all operational aspects of BCS, including maintenance, events, and work party planning. We alternate between face-to-face meetings and conference calls each month, currently on the 3rd Monday, to work through multiple tasks related to each project and section of the canal. This ensures we are prepared when opportunities arise that will further the canal restoration work, while also ensuring focus around governance and strategy for trustee meetings. If you would like to be involved, please contact any of the trustees at Trustees@buckinghamcanal.org.uk.

Keith Rawlings, a structural engineer, is another much-valued member of our team. He kindly gives us his time "pro bono" in designing the structural elements, such as Bridge One at Cosgrove and the towpath wall.

We are always looking for further help, both on the ground and in "back office" roles. Please think of everyone you know and how they could help us as we continue the drive for restoration. That help might be on a work party, fundraising, becoming a member, lobbying local councillors, or joining in the management of the society to help guide us to the next stages. We all believe in the aim of restoration, and many discussions at preliminary stages are driving this to become very real.

BCS Grants and fundraising

Our grant income has been challenging this year mostly through grant bodies targeting different criteria such as cost of living and hardship.

However, we have been fortunate to receive two, including the following. We are especially grateful to Colin for his previous work as grants officer. Ruth Millard is now taking this role on going forward with support from all the trustees as well as Colin and Claire

Big Lottery	£5,000	Community Engagement Lead funding
Heart of Bucks	£5,000	Tools and equipment

We have also been very fortunate to receive a significant donation of £50,000 from Tim Coglan at Braunstone Marina. This has funded the piling work that has enabled section 1 to reopen as well as the purchase and restoration for DIANA our dredger named in memory of Tim's wife.

Please note that some of these figures are different to the grant funding amounts shown in the accounts. This is because not all awarded amounts have been processed &/or expended in our 2022/23 financial year.

GDPR

New data protection legislation came into force in May 2018. The law applies to all public bodies, businesses, and other organizations that process personal data, including the BCS.

Our GDPR principles are as follows:

- We will process all personal data fairly and lawfully.
- We will only process personal data for specified and lawful purposes.
- We will endeavour to hold relevant and accurate personal data, and where practical, we will keep it up to date.
- We will not keep personal data for longer than is necessary.
- We will keep all personal data secure.
- We will endeavour to ensure that personal data is not transferred to countries outside of the European Economic Area (EEA) without adequate protection.

BCS will comply with the GDPR as a controller and processor of data. We will implement relevant policies and practices to protect any data handled by the BCS, including data for our employees, customers, suppliers, partners, and stakeholders.

For further details, please visit our website.

Heritage and Archaeology

There has been no significant progress with regards to further progressing the archaeological work that is required including several geophysical surveys in the past 12 months.

If you or anyone you know would like to help develop this activity, please chat to any of the trustees.

Working closely with the local council's Heritage Department we have managed to start protecting several structures, including Thornton Bridge on a local level. We intend to progress these to potential restoration as soon as possible. Hopefully, we will be able to add them to a national list as well.



Thornton Bridge



Uncovering the landing stage remains at Cosgrove

Agenda item 6 and 7 –Treasurer’s Report and Accounts

Explanatory Notes

The report format follows the new look we adopted at the 2022 AGM. The figures are sorted first by income or expenditure type, the “what”, then by the “where”.

Income by General Ledger type shows how the income was generated.

Expenditure by General Ledger type shows what the money was spent on.

Income by Cost Centre shows where it came from.

Expenditure by Cost Centre shows where the funding came from.

The use of *Designated* and *Unrestricted* funds is controlled by the trustees.

The use of *Restricted* funds is dictated by the donor, for a specific project or use, and must be kept separate.

The General Picture

Income exceeded expenditure by £25,206. This leaves us with sufficient funds to cover our core costs, those expenses we cannot avoid, such as insurance and equipment maintenance, currently standing at around £25k p.a.

On the income side, the two big variables from year to year are grants and donations. With the current economic situation, it appears that many grants are now being focused more on improving the circumstances of individuals rather than project works. This makes searching-out new funding opportunities more complex and time consuming, reading all the small print. Any help in this area will be greatly appreciated.

Richard Dwight
Treasurer and Trustee

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Income by General Ledger type	£	£
Advertising	88	44
Bank Interest	209	18
Donations:General (includes expenses donated back)	58,158	25,699
Donations (Payroll & Local Giving)	572	280
Fundraising (excluding Raffles)	83	424
Fundraising (Lottery)	297	352
Grant Income	10,000	10,100
HMRC Gift Aid Refund	5,415	2,974
Insurance Claim	5,170	0
Membership Subscriptions	1,268	2,508
Sale of Goods & Services	3,236	2,035
Sales Stand (BCS) & Online Shop	1,083	1,294
Sales Stand (Third Party/Concessions)	1,525	975
	87,104	46,703

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023 (continued)

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Income by Cost Centre	£	£
Designated Income Funds:IWA Christopher Power Award 2	0	1,000
Designated Income Funds:Co-op LCF 2023	1,164	0
Designated Income Funds:Cosgrove Piling	18,000	0
Designated Income Funds: Contingencies	2,000	750
Restricted Income Funds:Big Lottery Fund:Reaching Communities	5,000	5,000
Restricted Income Funds:Cosgrove Marina	0	250
Restricted Income Funds:Member Restoration Works	180	165
Restricted Income Funds:Tim Coghlan "Diana" Fund (Dredger)	10,000	10,000
Restricted Income Funds:Tim Coghlan Bridge fund	10,000	0
Restricted Income Funds:BC Community Bd Wildlife Cameras	0	2,950
Restricted Income Funds:Bucks Heritage Trail	3,236	0
Restricted Income Funds:HoB - Tools & Equipment	5,000	0
Unrestricted Funds:Events & Functions	3,448	3,263
Unrestricted Funds:General income (includes expenses donated back)	27,808	20,817
Unrestricted Funds:HQ:Membership (includes life memberships)	1,268	2,508
	<u>87,104</u>	<u>46,703</u>

Expenditure by General Ledger type

Advertising	594	827
Computer, phone & internet charges	980	1,996
Event costs	115	20
Fuel, oil & sundries	2,808	2,021
General office expenditure	0	73
Grant-funded wages	3,815	4,565
Hire of premises	667	781
Insurance	6,837	5,346
Licences & permits	150	512
Materials	22,328	1,006
Plant & Equipment purchases	2,663	14,867
Plant & vehicle maintenance	9,264	5,759
Plant hire	801	222
Professional Fees	1,775	0
Refreshments & Hospitality	267	218
Road tax	320	290
Stationery, printing & postage	1,878	1,745
Stock for Online Shop	0	36
Subscriptions	167	89
Training & Development	470	1,200
Travel Expense:Mileage Claims (Mostly donated back)	5,999	7,745
	<u>61,898</u>	<u>49,318</u>

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 NOVEMBER 2023 (continued)

	2023	2022
Expenditure by Cost Centre	£	£
Designated Income Funds:Co-op LCF 2023	352	0
Designated Income Funds:Cosgrove Piling	12,806	0
Designated Income Funds:IWA Christopher Power Award 1	0	400
Designated Income Funds:IWA Christopher Power Award 2	0	395
Designated Income Funds:Van Purchase Fund	2,735	1,975
Restricted Income Funds:BC Community Board: Weed & Seed	147	0
Restricted Income Funds:Big Lottery Fund:Reaching Communities	4,573	5,076
Restricted Income Funds:Buckingham Town Council - Interpretation Board	1,150	0
Restricted Income Funds:Heart of Bucks Covid Grant J026	354	0
Restricted Income Funds:Bucks Heritage Trail	2,086	0
Restricted Income Funds:National Lottery:Cosgrove Lock Island Garden	5,354	66
Restricted Income Funds:BC Community Bd Wildlife Cameras	0	2,950
Restricted Income Funds:RadcliffeTrust (Craft Training) J019	470	1,200
Restricted Income Funds:Tesco Bags of Help 3/Hyde Lane Footbridge	626	235
Restricted Income Funds:Tim Coghlan "Diana" Fund (Dredger)	5,901	13,225
Restricted Income Funds:Tim Coghlan Bridge fund	60	0
Unrestricted Funds:Events & Functions	717	576
Unrestricted Funds:Navigator magazine	349	791
Unrestricted Funds:General Restoration works	19,316	18,888
Unrestricted Funds:Plant & Equipment	3,281	2,843
Unrestricted Funds:Vehicles	1,621	682
	61,898	49,318
Balance of Income over Expenditure	25,206	-2,615
Reconciliation		
Bank and cash balances at 01/12/2022	31,029	33,644
Income in excess of expenditure for the year	25,206	-2,615
Bank and cash balances at 30/11/2023	56,235	31,029
Designated/Restricted Funds Remaining	24,681	6,715
Unrestricted Funds Remaining	31,554	24,314
Total funds remaining	56,235	31,029



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Buckingham Canal Society

On accounts for the year
ended

30 November 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1156662

Set out on pages

Pages 1 & 2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30/11/2022.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

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

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:

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

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

Signed:

REDACTED

Date:

6/1/2024

Name:

DR JOHN P BARBER

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT (RETIRED)

Address:

ASH TREES, GREEN LANE, ASPLEY GROVE, MILTON KEYNES
MK17 8EN

We are grateful for the continued support of our patron Lord Boswell of Aynho as well as Lord and Lady Scott of Foscote

Discussions with relevant organisations are ongoing to establish further partnerships both formal and informal. We have existing partnerships with the following:

- Inland Waterways Association (IWA)
- Buckingham Town Council
- Buckinghamshire Council (BC)
- Canal & River Trust (CRT)
- Environment Agency (EA)
- West Northamptonshire Council
- Berkshire, Buckinghamshire & Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust (BBOWT)

We are grateful for the ongoing support of:

- Inland Waterways Association (IWA) Milton Keynes Branch
- Inland Waterways Association (IWA) Northampton Branch
- Waterway Recovery Group (WRG) and their regional volunteers

We have been recognised by the following:

- Cosgrove Parish Council
- Foscote Parish Meeting
- Maids Moreton Parish Council
- Old Stratford Parish Council
- Thornborough Parish Council
- Thornton Parish Meeting
- Milton Keynes Council
- Deanshanger Parish Council

We thank our corporate members for their continued support as well as WRG, IWA and Canal & River Trust for their ongoing support, help, and partnership.

Wyvern Shipping Co.



Nikon Optical UK. Ltd.



**Canal &
River Trust**

Making life better by water

Taverners Boat Club



**INLAND
WATERWAYS
ASSOCIATION**



LIONHEARTS CRUISING CLUB



**WATERWAY
RECOVERY
GROUP**

Donations in kind

We are pleased to record the following donations in kind, from organisations that have provided us with valuable services during the year rather than direct financial contributions:

<u>Organisation</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>value</u>
Buckinghamshire Council	Raster and vector map data for canal route	£20,000
Salesforce.com	Project Management software	£14,400
Canal & River Trust	Training, materials, and equipment	£15,000
Cosgrove Marina	Portacabins and materials storage facility plus mooring and Wi-Fi	£5,500
MKSET	Storage adjacent to bridge one and at canal side field at Cosgrove	£4,000
Microsoft via TT Exchange	Microsoft software	£44,000
	Total	£107,900

The trustees are pleased to confirm that the accounts have been reviewed and approved by an independent examiner and no issues of concern found. The examiner's statement above page is from the form which will be submitted to the Charity's Commission after the AGM. John's signature has been redacted for the purpose of this report.

Agenda item 8 – election of trustees

In accordance with our constitution, one third of the trustees must stand down each year and may stand for re-election. During 2023, Paul (Sayer), Colin, Rob and Amanda have stood down. Four new trustees were co-opted, and they stand for election at this AGM

Nominee	Proposer	Seconders	Comment
Paul Rodgers	Terry Cavender	Edima Inwang	Election as trustee
Mandy Morley	Terry Cavender	Edima Inwang	Election as trustee
Ruth Millard	Terry Cavender	Edima Inwang	Election as trustee
Steve Morley	Terry Cavender	Edima Inwang	Election as trustee

Full list of other trustees for completeness are:

Trustee	Role	(re)elected
Richard Dwight	Treasurer	March 2018
Terence (Terry) Cavender	Executive Officer	March 2018
Athina Beckett	Trustee talks volunteer contact and work party leader and loads of other stuff	March 2022
Gerry Millard	Trustee and construction manager	March 2019
Edima (Edi) Inwang	Trustee and Digital Marketing Lead	September 2022



Above left Parapet wall work on Bridge One. Above right Athina at the history festival in 2019 which we hope we will soon be able to attend again.



Above: left Hallam Land Management staff are one of the corporate groups to have helped seen at Bourton Meadow (AB).

Right: scraping the bed at section three near Bridge Two



Above: left Kingfisher mosaic at Bridge One (AB).

Right: BCS volunteers assisting CRT contractors to replace pumps at Cosgrove Lock 21



Do you dig canals? *We do!*

Thank you for joining us for our Annual Meeting. Do you feel you could help us further? Below are just some of the things we do that you can get involved in. Please come and have a chat with any of the members of the committee. If you already are part of it, then thank you and please show this to someone new so they can get involved as well.

Publicity	Planning	Projects	Event organiser
Fundraising	Become a trustee	Conservation	Restoration
Brickwork	Maintenance	Digging	Hedge Laying
Grant writing	Budgeting	Recruiting	Heritage
Lengths-person	Journalist	Editor	Project Manager
And many others!			

Please use this document, which incorporates a variety of information about some of our activities, to promote the work of the Buckingham Canal Society to a friend / neighbour / colleague / relative or other interested people.



Above left rewatering section 2 towards the oil pipeline crossing
Above right rebuild flood sluice near bridge two