

## **COBHAM CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE TRUST**

Charity No. 1158625

### **Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

#### **Summary of Objectives**

- To promote high standards of planning and architecture in or affecting Cobham
- To educate the public in the geography, history, natural history and architecture of Cobham
- To secure the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest of Surrey
- To develop our heritage and promote civic pride and community awareness in Cobham

#### **Officers serving as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

Sir Gerald Acher CBE, LVO, Sue Graves

#### **Treasurer's Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023**

At the year end, subscriptions plus donations were similar to 2022 levels, taking advance payments into account (see note to accounts). The duck race in September was a great success, and made a surplus of around £6,000, £2,000 of which was donated to the Cobham Combined Charities. Over the year, we had a small cash deficit, but our reserves are still above £50,000. Out of this total, we have reserved £3,000 for future maintenance of Riverhill and the riverside path, £20,000 for Green Belt and planning support, and £10,000 for other projects. This leaves a general reserve to cover other expenses and future project work. I would like to thank all of our members, supporters and donors for their continued generosity, which is much appreciated by your committee. The accounts are subject to scrutiny by an Independent Examiner, and will be submitted for approval at the AGM.

*Sue Graves – Treasurer*

*February 2024*

### **Notice of Annual General Meeting**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting will be held on tbc **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2024** at 8.00pm at Cobham Village Hall to transact the following business:

1. To receive the notice of the meeting and apologies
2. To receive and if thought fit adopt the minutes of the last AGM (these are on our website)
3. To receive the Chairman's report
4. To receive the Treasurer's report and if thought fit to adopt the Annual Report
5. To re-elect the following trustees retiring by rotation who have signified their wish to stand for re-election (note 1): Sally Ollett and Sue Prentice. Those also standing for election are Elaine Kingston, Ella Power and Richard Stott
6. To appoint the examiner of the accounts
7. To consider any other formal business

Note 1: Under our constitution 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of Trustees are required to retire and offer themselves for re-election each year.



# Cobham Heritage Annual Report – Our Achievements during 2023

The Trust has had another successful year, with 4 Open Meetings held including our AGM.

Our achievements of 2023 have included:

## ENSURING HIGH STANDARDS OF PLANNING AND ARCHITECTURE

- Continued monitoring regarding the Local Plan which was published in May 2022 and is now with the Government Inspector for review.
- Providing significant input to the Public Enquiry (Sept to Dec 2023), on the proposed development of the former **Wisley Airfield**, by Taylor Wimpey and others, which could result in over 2100 dwellings and seriously impact on Cobham and the surrounding villages.
- **Objecting to applications** that would lead to loss of character and increased density eg 1 French Gardens, 28 Leigh Hill Rd, 40 Fairmile Lane; and to retrospective applications eg at 32 Green Lane, 110 Fairmile Lane.



## PRESERVING, PROTECTING AND IMPROVING OUR HISTORY AND FEATURES OF PUBLIC INTEREST

- Installing **new tree collars** on the cherry trees on the Tilt, with the names of fallen WW2 servicemen and a QR code to access information about the servicemen.
- Taking a keen interest in the potential redevelopment of **Cedar House**, encouraging constructive discussions between the National Trust and the developers.
- Continuing maintenance of the bushes, trees and vegetation along the footpath by **Riverhill**, working closely with Elmbridge Borough Council.



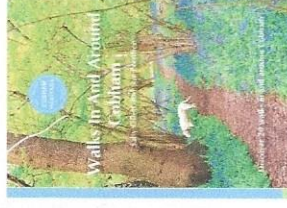
## DEVELOPING OUR HERITAGE AND PROMOTING OUR COMMUNITY'S CIVIC PRIDE AND SENSE OF BELONGING

- Organizing an **Armistice Day** service with the Royal British Legion on Saturday 11th November to rededicate the cherry trees war memorial on The Tilt
- Holding our annual **Duck Race** on Heritage Day in September, selling approximately 5000 tickets.
- Continuing support for **litter picking** working groups and other environmental activities.
- Continuing support and promotion of the sale of **duck food** in the Princess Alice Hospice shop at Riverhill.
- Conducting more **guided tours of Cobham** in conjunction with St Andrew's Church.
- Planting a **memorial tree and bench** on the Leg of Mutton field in memory of David Bellchamber.



## EDUCATING AND LIAISING WITH OUR COMMUNITY REGARDING OUR HERITAGE, NATURAL HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY

- Publishing a **Book of 20 Walks in and around Cobham**
- Continuing to sell our World War I and World War II Cobham **Remembers** books
- Producing an **exhibition** of Cobham in the 1920's, showcased at our Autumn Open Meeting.
- Sponsoring the **Elmbridge Museum Schools Scheme** for our 4 local schools
- Continued publication of our **Quarterly Magazine** covering local history, conservation, heritage and natural history topics
- **Fund raising and donations** to other local organisations eg British Legion Poppy Appeal, Cobham Combined Charities, Chatterbus, Cobham Foodbank and the Wisley Planning Appeal.
- **Working with other organisations** including Elmbridge BC, Surrey CC, our local Councillors and our MP, Dominic Raab, the Environment Agency re the river Mole, and Surrey Markets Ltd re Cobham Farmers' Market..





# COBHAM CONSERVATION AND HERITAGE TRUST

Registered Charity number 1158625

## RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Subscriptions and donations	8,327 # note		6,705 # note	
Other donations	4,643		2,540	
Duck Race receipts	8,603		19,255	
(2022 figures include Heritage Day receipts)				
Book sales	2,334		4,772	
Newsletter advertising	2,624		2,727	
Gift Aid	0		3,622	
Other receipts	1,581		1,080	
		<b>28,112</b>		<b>40,701</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Duck Race expenses and prizes	2,242		12,840	
(2022 figures include Heritage Day costs)				
Donation to Cobham Combined Charities	2,000		3,207	
Riverhill tree and path maintenance	4,550		900	
Book publishing and postage	2,764		3,224	
Newsletter printing and distribution	5,751		5,580	
Office, equipment, website and printing	1,543		1,187	
Liability Insurance	473		462	
Donations and subscriptions	2,915		795	
Projects	5,050		1,722	
Museum membership (4 schools)	585		390	
Other expenses	2,480		1,554	
		<b>30,353</b>		<b>31,861</b>
<b>Deficit / Surplus for period</b>		<b>-2,241</b>		<b>8,840</b>

# note: £944 relates to 2024 but £850 was received in 2022, making a net £8,233 in 2023

# note: £850 relates to 2023 but £2,214 was received in 2021, making a net £8,069 in 2022

## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2023

<b>Funds as at 31/12/23</b>	<b>51,610</b>	<b>53,851</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>		
Bank accounts, petty cash and PayPal	51,610	53,851
	<b>51,610</b>	<b>53,851</b>
<b>Analysis of reserves</b>		
Reserve for River path and Riverhill repairs	3,000	3,000
Local Plan, Green Belt and planning support	20,000	20,000
Other projects	10,000	10,000
Unallocated reserves	18,610	20,851
	<b>51,610</b>	<b>53,851</b>

Sue Graves, Treasurer  
July 2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Cobham Conservation & Heritage Trust

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 December 2023

Charity no  
(if any)

1158625

Set out on pages

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/12/2023**

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

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [ ] if not applicable.~~

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (~~other than that disclosed below \*~~) 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.

*\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date:

28 July 2024

Name:

Victor Eyles

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body

FCCA (retired)

(if any):

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Address:

17 Four Wents, Cobham, Surrey


## Section B

### Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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