



*Nature walk on the sea front*

# **Friends of Combe Valley**

## **Annual Report for the Year October 2021 to September 2022**



*Volunteers after some path clearing*

**Friends of Combe Valley**

Combe Valley Countryside Park

Café & Discovery Centre

Freshfields, Bexhill,

East Sussex, TN38 8FB

email: [team@friendsofcombevalley.co.uk](mailto:team@friendsofcombevalley.co.uk)

website: <https://friendsofcombevalley.co.uk/>

correspondence to  
William Ackroyd  
501 Bexhill Road  
St Leonards on Sea TN38 8AT  
01424 539 73

Friends of Combe Valley is a Registered (in England) Charity Number: 1163581

## 1. Introduction

- (a) At the beginning of the year we were still under COVID so our AGM in December was held partly in person but also on line. Since then we have held all our meetings in person and been developing our work.
- (b) We continue to have good relations with the Combe Valley Countryside Park CIC (CIC), for whom our chair Pete Clarke is the vice-chair and their agents for the park of Groundwork South (GWS), in particular Emma Ramsden who is also one of our trustees
- (c) Our membership has continued to increase and is now around 90, with both active members and subscribers on the website.

## 2. Activities

### (a) Conservation work



*1066 path  
before*

In November 2021 with help from Crowhurst Environment Group and Dean Morrison who operated a chain saw we cleared back the willows overhanging and blocking the 1066 path between MP 13 and Three Bridges.



*During*



*After*

- (b) In January we worked again with Crowhurst Environment Group on the footpath from MP 14, by the Greenway to Combe Haven: in the process we discovered a few old Harvest Mouse nests and it is great news to know they are living here. Unfortunately, we had to stop due to the discovery of a dormouse nest which makes it a protected area.

At other times we worked clearing overgrown vegetation on the disused railway line and paths in the Filsham Reed Bed, and indeed where ever in the park the paths needed clearing for access, sharing this work with ESCC who regularly clear the paths for which they are responsible and also with the GWS' trainees under the Greener Recovery Project.



*Crowhurst path*

### (c) Litter picks



Litter is a perennial problem and any outing will result in some litter being collected, there were specific litter picking outings on 19 March in the



woods and recreation grounds round the Discovery Centre and on 17 September along the coastal walk.

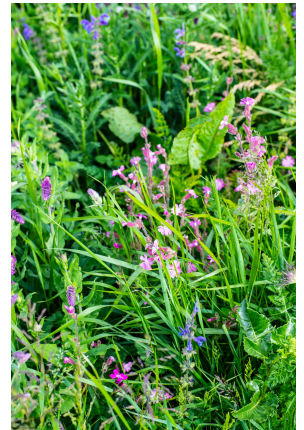
In July and August following the occupation of the land round the Discovery Centre by travellers there was a lot of rubbish to collect, helped by Hastings Council.

The major work of the last two years has been the removal of tree guards, used when the trees were planted, but unfortunately not removed whilst the trees were small. A substantial number were accumulated in the car park at the Discovery Centre and GWS arranged for two skips which we helped fill.

#### **(d) Wild flower mound:**



Work on the flower mound has continued successfully with much admiration for the beautiful flowers. The grass was scythed at various times through the year and plugs grown by Julie were planted out in the spring. In September more areas were cleared and covered to inhibit the growth of grass and prepare the land for wild flower seeds in the spring.



#### **(e) Nature Detectives: *Helping local communities connect with nature***

This project started in the summer of 2021, supported by funding from the Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner and there was an autumn session on 23 October 2021. Since then the project has been continued in partnership with GWS led by Emma Ramsden, who had helped with the initiation of the programme in 2021 and Jill Tyson, funded by the Greener Recovery Project. There were sessions on 19 March 2022 with a local cub group and on 3 August 2022, on the beach at Glyne Gap. A further session had to be cancelled because of warnings of lightening.



#### **(f) Container and equipment**



A major event of the year was the purchase and installation of a container in the car park at the Discovery Centre: this project had been proposed in 2020 and finally came to fruition with the support of the CIC and GWS.



Planning permission was obtained from Rother DC in December 2021 and the container arrived in January. The project involved a considerable input of time from



volunteers, in particular Pete and Cliff, with foundations being prepared in November and December and then fitting out being carried out



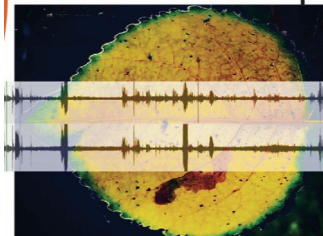


in the first half of 2022. The inside was insulated and lined with boarding, and electric lighting, working with photovoltaic panels, was installed. Then racks and shelving were built for tools and materials, with the space being shared with GWS for the Greener Recovery Project. Two work benches at the front complete the inside and outside an area has been cleared and fenced for use as a workspace.

The project was funded by the Police with a contribution from The Green Recovery Fund.

### (g) Art Project

#### sound workshop



David Rogers

This project also started in 2021. In the summer a sound workshop was held on 7 May. This was followed by a series of audio walks round Combe Valley Countryside Park being prepared and they can currently be found on [https://soundcloud.com/eliseandmary\\_2015](https://soundcloud.com/eliseandmary_2015). They should be available on our website in the near future. The titles are:

Bulverhythe History walk David Dennis - Bulverhythe Medieval Harbour with David Dennis

Early history of Combe Valley Julian Porter Bexhill Museum - Old Railway Line Birdsong

Nature walks in Combe Valley David Rogers - A naturalist's shoreline in Bexhill-on-Sea Peter Hunnisett.

### 3. Events

#### (a) Walks with Peter Hunnisett

Pete led two interesting and informative walks in April and May, down to Pebsham Lake and along the sea front; he also did a walk as part of the Great Big Green Day on September 25, identifying local flowers and



Boundary Stone

fauna.



#### (b) Queen's Platinum Jubilee June 5



Members and local people celebrated the Queen's Jubilee with a picnic party at the Discovery Centre on June 5, with many cakes and games.

#### (c) Eco fair with Community Supporters June 25

We welcomed Community Supporters from Bexhill for their AGM on June 25, which was an opportunity for FCV to showcase our work and achievements in the park.

#### (d) Great Big Green Day September 25

We responded to the national environmental campaign "The Great Big GreenWeek" by planning a day of introduction to the Combe Valley Countryside Park. The day was a collaboration between FCV, the



CIC through GWS, and Community Supporters. We received grants from the Big Green Week and the Chalk Cliff Trust to cover expenses. There was an exhibition of photographs taken in the Park and of animals and plants which can be found there at different seasons in the year. As mentioned above Pete Hunnisett did a guided walk to Pebsham Lake, there was a workshop on recycling paper as plant pots, seed and seedling planting and another on woodworking, with bird boxes being constructed. In the afternoon there was a foraging walk along Pebsham Lane. Emma from GWS offered a Nature Detectives craft event for children. There were also outdoor games for children, including croquet played with mallets made from recovered tree branches.



We offered free transport to and from the park, and were very pleased to be able to hire Happy Harold, a renovated trolley bus from the 1920s with an open top. The buffet lunch, based on plant food, included Uzbek snacks and bread, also home made cakes as well as juices and fruit which were donated by Tesco's.



#### 4. Wardens and Security in the park

(a) Currently the wardens are Pete Clarke, Chris Dadswell, Will and Heather Kemp, William Ackroyd, Cliff Willard, Heide Roberts, Lindsay Lycett and they have been making regular patrols in the park and reporting on problems. The Sussex Police Commission Safety Fund have financed the purchase of hi-vis jackets for the wardens, so that they are more visible in the park.



##### (b) Problems

i. The use of trail bikes continues to be an issue, although much reduced as a result of kissing gates being installed which inhibit access



ii. Sewage leak at Pebsham Lake: this appeared in April and involved a lot of discussion with the Environment Agency and Southern Water, because it was not clear whether the leak was a run-off of leachate from the landfill site or a broken sewer pipe. In the end it was determined that there was a leaking sewer pipe and Southern Water promised to investigate. During the dry summer the earth

dried up, and in the Autumn Southern Water started their investigation: the outcome is currently unknown.

iii. The biggest disturbance in the park was at the end of June when a group of Travellers broke the barriers into the car park at the Discovery Centre and installed caravans on the field in front of the centre. They remained for several weeks, but were finally evicted towards the end of July 2022, leaving a lot of rubbish which was cleared by Hastings BC and FCV volunteers.



- iv. There have also been smaller problems, for example the damaging of the kissing gate on Pebsham Lane by the riding centre, and the some partying, which is generally fine, if all rubbish is removed at the end.

### (c) Solutions

#### i. Kissing gates



After much discussion kissing gates, with access for wheel chairs, using a radar key, were installed at the Crowhurst Road entrance, MP19, also MP 22 on the path along side the railway and at the entrance to Filsham Reed Bed off Reedwood Road, MP81. The materials were funded by FCV, with a grant from the Police and installation carried out by ESCC, with some funding from the Green Recovery Fund.

#### ii. Information and Interpretation Boards

This is an on-going project and during the year, Annie Brown a landscape designer has been employed by GWS under the Green Recovery Project. She is working on designs for the information boards for the entrances to the park as well as information boards. Funding has been obtained for at least the replacement of some of the existing boards and one or two information boards and we hope these will be finally installed in the current year.

#### iii. Round the Discovery Centre

The visit by the travellers showed how easy vehicle access is onto the recreation ground from car park at the Discovery Centre: there are three routes and now after a very successful salvage of wood from skips by Pete and Chris, two substantial raised beds have been constructed with posts which have concreted into the ground. For the access by the Discovery Centre, two removable posts have been installed. This was all done by the FCV volunteers with financial support for materials from the Chalk Cliff Trust.



### 5. Café

An attempt was made to restart the café with a trial run from Easter to the end of June on Friday and Saturday afternoon. Although there were customers, business was very limited except when it was linked to an event, such as the Community Supporters day and also the Primary Schools football competition run by Hastings Sierra Leone Friendship Link. There were also insufficient volunteers and so the decision was made to close it except for specific events.

One aspect of the use of the café is the car park at the Discovery Centre, which is kept locked except when the café is open or there is some activity at the centre or in the park. This is unlike the car park on the other side of the recreation ground, with its entrance from Bexhill Road. Many visitors to the park will come by car and they need to have somewhere to park which is reliably accessible at least during the day: if the car park was open more then the café might be more viable.

### 6. Fundraising:

We are very grateful for the support we have received for our work:





- (a) Tesco Community Fund: who have provided funds to buy outside furniture to use at the Discovery Centre, specifically for the café.
- (b) Great Big Green Week: who contributed towards the funding of the Great Big Green Day.
- (c) The Chalk Cliff Trust: who have provided funds for the Great Big Green Day, security measures at the Discovery Centre and the painting of the Discovery Centre, which should be happening this year
- (d) The Sussex Police Commission Safety Fund: many of the projects outlined above have been supported by the police with funding provided in earlier years. This year they have also funded the hi-vis jackets for the wardens. We were pleased to welcome the PCC Katie Bourne at the Discovery Centre and to show her the work we had been doing.

## 7. Planning

We have had to be involved on a number of planning proposals affecting the park:

### (a) Bulverhythe Recreation Ground

The proposal by Hastings to build housing on the lower tier, which is both owned by Hastings and within Hastings Borough, has been around for several years. The council persisted in pursuing the plans, although opposed by the Environment Agency, because the field is a flood zone and Sports England, because it is a recreation ground. Many other bodies objected and we have been involved in helping with that opposition. All these efforts finally paid off in March when Hastings withdrew the planning application.



*The recreation ground in March 2020*

Since then we have worked with the CIC and GWS and others to develop ideas for the improvement of the lower tier, by improving its capacity to take in flood water as well providing a natural environment for exercise.

### (b) Pebsham Farm

Pebsham Farm was sold by Hastings to a family many years ago and it has now become the Pebsham Rural Business Centre, with the old farm house being converted into smaller housing units which have been sold off. All of this land is within the countryside park. The original owners were left with just the field running down from the business centre to Pebsham Lake, which was put on the market in April 2021. It was sold to Trafalgar Properties, a property development company based in Dubai. We have had contact with their agent in the UK and at the moment they do not appear to have any plans for the land, but clearly their hope is that they will be able to obtain planning permission for development of the land, which would be contrary to the policies of both Rother and Hastings for the park.



*Pebsham Farm Field*

### **(c) Biffa Site**



*The Biffa site soon after it had been sold*

This unoccupied site which was owned by Biffa is behind the recycling and refuse transfer centre and runs along side Pebsham Lane, where it becomes a footpath, going down to Freshfields. Biffa have sold it to a local developer who is thinking about trying to obtain planning permission for a light industrial unit or storage facility. The site along with the recycling area are excluded from the park although these sites are all within the park. Rother Planning Department have indicated that they would oppose the development

and so far no planning application has been made.

### **(d) Beach below Galley Hill - beach huts**

This is a proposal by Rother DC to install 20 beach huts on the beach below Galley Hill, where the Coast Guard station is situated. It is an environmentally important site for insects and plants, in particular kale and horned poppy; the cliffs are unstable and it is an inappropriate development within the park. We have lodged an objection in the preplanning consultation procedure and since then no further action has been taken. Hopefully the council will accept that the project should not go ahead.



*Galley Hill Cliffs*

### **(e) Upper tier of Recreation Ground - golf academy**

In September we heard about a proposal to use the top tier of the recreation ground, where the 1066 Model Aircraft Club operate and in a field used by walkers for a golf driving centre, with other related activities. The plans would involve forcing the club to relocate, and access would be obtained across the car park of the Discovery Centre and also require the relocation of the Southern Oval Model Car Club. Hastings BC own the land, but it is within Rother DC and Rother have made it clear that they do not consider the proposed development is appropriate. Again it remains to be seen whether a planning application will be made.

## **8. Volunteers**

- (a) Volunteers are the life blood of our organisation and it is through their contributions over the year that we have been able to achieve so much. We have a register of 36 volunteers.
- (b) Regular Thursday work mornings have continued together with activities on the third Saturday of each month, largely regardless of the weather. The mornings end with savoury treats and cakes, prepared by Teresa Clarke, which are very much appreciated. This has brought in a number of new members and volunteers with, on average, groups of 10 to 15 at the sessions.
- (c) All the other activities outlined in this report rely on volunteers and this year we have continued to keep a record of the time spent by volunteers on work for the park. The following are the totals, from those records and also estimates of time spent on other activities:

- i. Thursday mornings and Third Saturdays about 1600 hours over 56 sessions
- ii. Additional work on the container and security, about 300 hours shared by Pete, Chris and Cliff
- iii. Other events – about 430 hours over 8 events, including events in partnership with GWS for the CIC
- iv. Wardens – about 940 hours over the year with 6 wardens until September when we were joined by Lindsay Lycett
- v. The café: 210 hours over 21 sessions, with 5 volunteers
- vi. Administration, including dealing with calls about security etc about 1100 hours

**(d)** Overall about 4,500 hours during the year, with a comparatively small band of volunteers

## **9. Administration**

### **(a) Trustees**

The twelve trustees are headed by Pete Clarke, our chair, with Cliff Willard, Will Kemp, Karl Beaney, Chris Dadswell, William Ackroyd, Elise Liversedge, Anna Sabin, Emma Ramsden, Virginia Vilela, Stevie Collins and Jay Brewerton. Julie Willard assists and attends our meetings and other members are welcome to join us. We were pleased that Rother Voluntary Action recognised Pete's work with an award as a volunteer of the year.



### **(b) Website and communication:**

We have reworked our website during the year and our website address is [www.friendsofcombevalley.co.uk](http://www.friendsofcombevalley.co.uk). It includes our email address [team@friendsofcombevalley.co.uk](mailto:team@friendsofcombevalley.co.uk)

and we are on facebook as Friends of Combe Valley News at <https://www.facebook.com/CombeValley/>

and instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/friendsofcombevalleyarttrail/>

## **10. The future**

(a) We intend to continue to develop our relationship with the CIC and GWS in expanding our work in the park.

(b) In particular we will continue with the work of landscaping round the Discovery Centre and hope that we will be able to start the wilding of the lower tier recreation ground. We also expect to start making benches for the park, first by the wild flower mound and then on the board walk in Filsham Reedbed.

## **11. Conclusion**

Thanks for all the hard work of our members, our volunteers, the wardens as well as the committee and Pete Clarke our chair, which have made it a successful year.

William Ackroyd and other trustees





*Path Clearance*



# **Friends of Combe Valley**

**Registered Charity Number: 1163581**

## **Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**For the year ended**

**30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

Blue Ridge Accounting Services Ltd  
The Old Court House  
North Trade Road  
Battle  
East Sussex  
TN33 0EX

**CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

| CONTENTS                            | Page    |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Organisational Information          | 2       |
| Report of the Trustees              | 3 to 5  |
| Independent Examiner's Report       | 6       |
| Receipts and Payments Account       | 7       |
| Statement of Assets and Liabilities | 8       |
| Notes to the Accounts               | 9 to 10 |



**ORGANISATIONAL INFORMATION**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Charity:</b>           | Friends of Combe Valley   |
| <b>Principal Address:</b>         | 501 Bexhill Road, St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN38 8AT  |
| <b>Registered Charity Number:</b> | 1163581   |
| <b>Governing Document:</b>        | Constitution adopted 15/09/2015 Amended on 03/04/2019<br>Amended 23/02/2021   |
| <b>Trustees:</b>                  | Peter Clarke (Chair) (appointed 13/12/2019)<br>William Ackroyd (Treasurer) (appointed 18/12/2020)<br>Christopher Dadswell (Vice Chair) (appointed 08/12/2021)<br>Will Kemp (appointed 13/12/2019)<br>Karl Beaney (appointed 13/12/2019)<br>Cliff Willard (appointed 18/12/2020)<br>Elise Liversedge (appointed 18/12/2020)<br>Anna Sabin (appointed 08/12/2021)<br>Emma Ramsden (appointed 08/12/2021)<br>Virginia Vilela (appointed 08/12/2021)<br>Stephanne Collins (appointed 08/12/2021)<br>Joanna Brewerton (appointed 08/12/2021) |
| <b>Bankers:</b>                   | The Co-operative Bank   |
| <b>Independent Examiners:</b>     | Lorraine Brown<br>Blue Ridge Accounting Services Ltd<br>The Old Court House<br>North Trade Road<br>Battle<br>East Sussex TN33 0EX   |

## **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

The trustees submit their annual report and financial statements for Friends of Combe Valley for the period ended 30th September 2022.

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Friends of Combe Valley (FCV) has a committee of Trustees governed by a constitution adopted 19/09/2015, Amended 03/04/2019 and 23/02/2021. Day to day management of the Charity is vested in the Trustees, who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the constitution.

The Committee of Trustees shall have no less than three and no more than twelve members. Trustees are appointed on a 3-year rotational basis at the Annual General Meeting. The names of the Trustees are shown on page 2 of this document.

The method adopted for the recruitment and appointment of new trustees is contained within the constitution.

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The objects of FCV are to work within the Combe Haven Valley and in particular within the boundaries of the Combe Valley Countryside Park:

- a. To promote the conservation, protection, and improvement of the physical and natural environment, including biodiversity. In particular but not exclusively by, encouraging the public to use and enjoy the area and its fauna and flora.
- b. To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection, and improvement of the physical and natural environment.

### **PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The Trustees have considered their duty to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission, and in their opinion the enclosed report on the achievements and performance demonstrates that they have complied therewith.

### **BACKGROUND**

FCV was registered as a charity with Trustees in 2015, it became inactive for a number of years, after which it was restructured in the Spring of 2019 and became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, a membership association with limited liability for its members.

In May 2019 FCV took over the running of the café at the Discovery Centre in the Combe Valley Countryside Park and started to recruit members. The café closed in March 2020. It re-opened for nearly three months in the spring of 2022 but was forced to close because of the lack of volunteers.

The Combe Valley Countryside Park CIC is responsible for the management of the park and does that through Groundwork South CIC (GWS).

**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 (Cont'd...)**

**ACHIEVEMENTS, PERFORMANCE AND FUTURE PLANS**

FCV's work and activities have expanded during the year as the difficulties created by the Covid pandemic decreased. Membership numbers have increased to 90, including both active members who are able to offer direct assistance with the work and informal members who offer support and assistance as and when they can.

It has participated in fund-raising activities, and it has received a number of grants, which are being used. Grants successfully applied for/received include:

- i. Sussex Police and Crime Commissioner: funds to buy hi-viz jackets for the Warden service in the park.
- ii. Tesco Community Grants: Funds to buy outside furniture for the cafe at the Discovery Centre.
- iii. The Great Big Green Week, part of the Climate Coalition: funding for an event on September 25 2022 as part of the Great Big Green Week
- iv. The Chalk Cliff Trust: funding for the Great Big Green Week event, security at the Discovery Centre and painting of the Discovery Centre and such other uses as the Trustees may decide

**Future Plans**

1. Continue to develop the relationship with the Combe Valley Countryside Park CIC and Groundwork South CIC in expanding its work in the park.
2. To continue conservation work within the park, in conjunction with Combe Valley Countryside Park CIC and Groundwork South CIC.
3. Continue discussions on the future development of the park, to protect its environment and as appropriate enable access, working with the Combe Valley Countryside Park CIC and Groundwork South CIC.
4. More information is contained in our full Annual Report for the year.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial Position**

FCV reported that the finances are in a stable and creditable condition.

Receipts in the year was £11,999 (2021 £11,879) and payments £16,754 (2021 £6,036) resulting in a deficit of (£4,755) (2021 £5,843 surplus) for the year, the increase in payments being due to expenditure of grant income received in earlier years. The net fund reserve at 30th September 2022 totalled £9,766 (2021 £14,521).

The above figures do not include an unrestricted net balance of £1,983 owed by Combe Valley Countryside Park CIC: £1,991 towards the cost of the container; £40 for plumbing cost; offset by £48 share of surplus on café takings due from FOCV.



**TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022 (Cont'd...)**

**RISKS, POLICIES AND SAFEGUARDS**

The Trustees have considered the major risks faced by the organisation to establish policies and systems to mitigate those risks.

**RESERVES AND INVESTMENT POLICIES**

In line with guidance by the Charity Commission, the trustees endeavour to build up its reserves to enable the charity to fulfil its objectives and financial plans.

**Trustees Responsibilities**

Laws applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare an annual report and a financial statement for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the Trust's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the Trust will continue in operation.

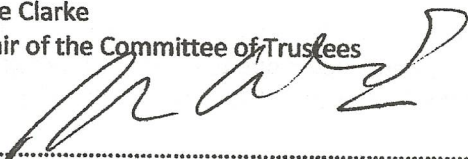
The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the Charity, and which enable them to both ascertain the financial position of the Charity and ensure that the financial statements comply with relevant legislation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are satisfied that working with advice from the group Accountants they have achieved these requirements in principle.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on TUESDAY 25 ENSEMBLE / 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Pete Clarke

Chair of the Committee of Trustees



William Ackroyd

Trustee and Treasurer

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FRIENDS OF COMBE VALLEY  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

I report on the accounts of Friends of Combe Valley for the period ended 30 September 2022 which are set out on pages 2 to 10.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An 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 seeking explanations from the 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**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act

have not been met; or

2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:  .....

Lorraine Brown  
Blue Ridge Accounting Services Ltd  
The Old Court House  
North Trade Road  
Battle  
East Sussex TN33 0EX

Dated: 10/01/2023 .....

**Receipts and Payments account**  
**For the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

|                                    |             | <b>Unrestricted</b> | <b>Restricted</b> | <b>2022</b>    | <b>2021</b>   |
|------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------|
|                                    |             | <b>Funds</b>        | <b>Funds</b>      | <b>Total</b>   | <b>Total</b>  |
|                                    | <b>Note</b> | <b>£</b>            | <b>£</b>          | <b>Funds</b>   | <b>Funds</b>  |
|                                    |             |                     |                   | <b>£</b>       | <b>£</b>      |
| <b>RECEIPTS</b>                    |             |                     |                   |                |               |
| Grants                             | 4           |                     | 9,792             | 9,792          | 10,625        |
| Café takings                       |             | 223                 |                   | 223            | -             |
| Membership & donations             |             | 1,029               |                   | 1,029          | 845           |
| Centre hiring                      |             |                     |                   | -              | -             |
| Events                             |             | 354                 |                   | 354            | -             |
| Cost reimbursed by CIC             |             | 600                 |                   | 640            | 409           |
| <b>Total Receipts</b>              |             | <b>2,207</b>        | <b>9,792</b>      | <b>11,999</b>  | <b>11,879</b> |
| <b>PAYMENTS</b>                    |             |                     |                   |                |               |
| Grant disbursements                | 4           |                     | 5,451             | 5,451          | 4,547         |
| Café expenditure                   |             |                     |                   |                | -             |
| Materials                          |             | 22                  |                   | 423            | -             |
| volunteer expenses                 |             |                     |                   |                | -             |
| Food                               |             | 105                 |                   | 105            | -             |
| Hiring                             |             |                     |                   |                | -             |
| CIC share of café surplus          |             |                     |                   | 48             |               |
| <b>Administrative expenditure:</b> |             |                     |                   |                |               |
| Misc expenses                      |             |                     |                   | -              | 100           |
| Stationery                         |             |                     |                   |                | -             |
| Postage                            |             | 2                   |                   | 2              | 2             |
| Telephone                          |             |                     |                   |                | -             |
| Accountancy                        |             | 225                 |                   | 225            | -             |
| Insurance                          |             | 157                 |                   | 157            | 157           |
| Training                           |             |                     |                   |                | -             |
| Bank charges                       |             |                     |                   |                | -             |
| Travel                             |             |                     |                   |                | -             |
| Activities                         |             | 533                 |                   | 533            | 30            |
| CIC costs                          |             | 40                  |                   |                | -             |
| Equipment purchased                | 4           | 419                 | 9,800             | 10,219         | 1,200         |
| <b>Total Payments</b>              |             | <b>1,503</b>        | <b>15,251</b>     | <b>16,754</b>  | <b>6,036</b>  |
| <b>Net receipts/(payments)</b>     |             | <b>704</b>          | <b>(5,459)</b>    | <b>(4,755)</b> | <b>5,843</b>  |
| Funds at start of this period      |             | 2,780               | 11,741            | 14,521         | 8,678         |
| Transfers between funds            |             | (1,991)             | 1,991             | 0              | 0             |
| <b>Funds at end of this period</b> |             | <b>1,493</b>        | <b>8,273</b>      | <b>9,766</b>   | <b>14,521</b> |



**Statement of assets and liabilities  
at 30th September 2022**

|                         | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 2022<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ | 2021<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Cash funds</b>       |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Bank account            | 1,155                      | 8,273                    | 9,428                       |                             |
| Cash in hand            | 313                        |                          | 313                         | 118                         |
| Cash float at café      | 25                         |                          | 25                          | 25                          |
| <b>Total cash funds</b> | <b>1,493</b>               | <b>8,273</b>             | <b>9,766</b>                | <b>14,521</b>               |

|                              | Unrestricted<br>Funds<br>£ | Restricted<br>Funds<br>£ | 2022<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ | 2021<br>Total<br>Funds<br>£ |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Other monetary assets</b> |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| Debts owed to the charity    |                            |                          |                             |                             |
| CIC                          | 2,031                      | -                        | 2,031                       | -                           |

|  | Fund to which<br>asset belongs | Cost   | Current<br>value |
|--|--------------------------------|--------|------------------|
| <b>Assets retained for the charity's own use</b> |                                |        |                  |
| Equipment  | Various                        | 11,995 | 10,932           |

|                                 | Fund to which<br>liability<br>relates | Amount due<br>£ | When due |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>      |                                       |                 |          |
| Debts owed by the charity - CIC | Café                                  | 48              |          |

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the charity by:

*P. K. Clarke* ..... Date: *Dec. 6, 2022*  
Pete Clarke  
Chair of the Committee of Trustees

*William Ackroyd* ..... Date: *Dec. 6 2022*  
William Ackroyd  
Trustee and Treasurer

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

**1. Receipts and Payments accounts**

Receipts and payments accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context "cash" includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

**2. Trustees' remuneration and benefits**

Trustees received no remuneration or benefits in this period

**Trustees' expenses**

During the year reimbursable expenses were paid to the following Trustees:

Peter Clarke  
Cliff Willard  
William Ackroyd

Chris Dadswell  
Emma Ramsden

**3. Previous period comparison**

The financial year end of the charity is 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022. The previous period's figures have been included for comparison.

**4. Restricted fund**

These are funds given to the charity, subject to specific restrictions set by the donor, but still within the general objects of the charity.

|                          | 2020          |               |                |              |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|
|                          | Bfwd          | Incoming      | Outgoing       | Bal<br>cfwd  |
| <b>Grants</b>            |               |               |                |              |
| Police grant1 - wardens  | 1,635         | 2798          | -3,434         | 1000         |
| Police grant 2 – school  | 1,732         | -             | -1,438         | 294          |
| Police grant 3 - wardens | 2,000         | -             | -2,000         | 0            |
| Police grant 4- wardens  | 4,000         | -             | -4,000         | 0            |
| Police grant 5 – wardens | -             | 400           | -400           | 0            |
| Hastings Direct          | 2,700         | -             | -480           | 2,220        |
| Coop Community Fund      | -926          | 1,837         | -911           | 0            |
| Rother District Council  | -500          | 500           | -              | 0            |
| Art Project              | 400           | -             | -              | 400          |
| Beach Hut Project        | -             | 1,448         | -939           | 509          |
| Bexhill Town Council     | -             | 1,000         | -              | 1,000        |
| Tesco Community Grant    | -             | 500           | -100           | 400          |
| Great Big Green Week     | -             | 300           | -300           | 0            |
| Chalk Cliff CIC          | 700           | 3,000         | -1,249         | 2,451        |
| <b>Total</b>             | <b>11,741</b> | <b>11,783</b> | <b>-15,251</b> | <b>8,274</b> |

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

**5. Governance Costs**

|   | 2022 | 2021 |
|---|------|------|
|   | £    | £    |
| Independent Examination fee for year-end accounts | 350  | 225  |

**6. Assets retained for the charity's own use**

|                           | Equipment/<br>Tools<br>£ |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>COST</b>               |                          |
| Bfwd at 1st October 2022  | 2,195                    |
| Additions                 | <u>9,800</u>             |
| At 30th September 2021    | <u>11,995</u>            |
| <b>REDUCTION IN VALUE</b> |                          |
| Bfwd at 1st October 2022  | (331)                    |
| Charge for the year       | <u>(732)</u>             |
| At 30th September 2022    | <u>(1,063)</u>           |
| <b>CURRENT VALUE</b>      |                          |
| At 30th September 2022    | <u><u>10,932</u></u>     |
| At 30th September 2021    | <u><u>1,864</u></u>      |