

# FRIENDS OF RUSKIN PARK

England & Wales · Charity number 1166358

## Details

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**Other names** FORP

**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2016-04-05

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 17 De Crespigny Park  
London  
SE5 8AB

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**Email** [info@friendsofruskinpark.org.uk](mailto:info@friendsofruskinpark.org.uk)

**Website** <https://www.friendsofruskinpark.org.uk/>

## Activities

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**Objects:** THE FRIENDS OF RUSKIN PARK (FORP) IS ESTABLISHED TO PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE ENJOYMENT OF RUSKIN PARK (A PUBLIC PARK SITUATED ON DENMARK HILL IN CAMBERWELL, LONDON) FOR THE BENEFIT, NOW AND IN THE FUTURE, OF ALL PARK USERS.

**Activities:** The Friends of Ruskin Park is established to protect and promoted the enjoyment of Ruskin Park (a public park situated on Denmark Hill in Camberwell, London) for the benefit, now and in the future, of all park users

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

## Geography

- Lambeth
- Southwark

## Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-08-31	£47,696	£46,643	-	-
2024-08-31	£30,684	£50,885	-	-
2023-08-31	£69,359	£60,531	-	-
2022-08-31	£89,379	£87,314	-	-
2021-08-31	£30,536	£22,017	-	-

## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
<b>Kate Elizabeth Malleson</b>	Chair	2021-01-12
Celine Jeanne Gilbert		2022-05-25
Jemima Kathleen Kelly Ashdown		2025-03-05
Joanna Clare Broadbent		2024-01-16
Katherine Amanda Millward		2021-01-12
Sarah Salter		2023-01-17

**FRIENDS OF RUSKIN PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166358

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# Accounts

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25

A review of our activities  
and achievements, and  
our priorities for the year  
ahead

The Friends of Ruskin Park (FoRP) has been operating as a community group since 1996. We established a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) in 2016.

This annual report relates to the charity's accounting year from 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025.

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*“The Friends of Ruskin Park was established to protect and promote the enjoyment of Ruskin Park (a public park situated on Denmark Hill in Camberwell, London) for the benefit of all park users - now and in the future.”*

# Our objectives and aims

1. To work collaboratively with Ruskin Park’s managers, Lambeth Council, and other partners to maximise the quality of Ruskin Park, as desired by park users and within available resources.
2. To engage park users and the wider community in maintaining and improving the park for their own health and wellbeing, for now and in the future, balancing different interests.
3. To run, sponsor or support where appropriate 1) events and activities for and with park users and 2) physical improvements that would not otherwise happen.
4. To ensure we have the resources to achieve the above aims – financial, people, communications and governance.



# Review of 2024-25

2024-25 was a year of transition for FoRP, as long-serving trustees and committee members stepped down, with our grateful thanks for their dedication over the years. We recruited a new trustee and continue to encourage volunteers to join the committee to help deliver FoRP's core activities.

We made progress in many areas. Gardening activities remain an important focus, supported by our City Bridge Foundation funding. We recruited a new gardener to support community groups in the Willow Garden and maintained fortnightly gardening sessions in the Labyrinth Garden. The Community Garden Saturday sessions are increasingly well attended, with several new regular volunteers.

FoRP volunteers worked tirelessly to keep the paddling pool open during a hot, dry summer. We ran a full bandstand programme over the summer and autumn, as well as our popular summer fete, reflecting our commitment to providing events that are open to all. Our playground "little library" is a much-loved and well-used resource for local families.

We continue to work in partnership with Lambeth to support and develop our park at a time of financial constraint.

Kate Malleson and Céline Gilbert  
**Co-Chairs**





## Volunteers

- Trustees
- Committee members
- Gardeners
- Litter pickers
- Paddling pool volunteers
- Events volunteers, performers and partners
- GoodGym volunteers
- Employee volunteering groups

Additional thanks go to Rupert Maas, Max Pappenheim and Claire Summers for their work on the paddling pool, to Liv Chester for her work on the community orchard, and to Maddalena Amato for her contribution to the Rose Garden this year.

Above all, we pay tribute to Julie Simpson for her many years of service to FoRP and her role in organising/ managing the Summer Fete - a huge commitment which she has carried out with dedication and apparently effortlessly, although we know that's not the case.

## Thank yous

### Funders, partners and donors

- Regular and one-off donors
- Aviva Community Fund
- Camberwell Society
- City Bridge Foundation
- Community Sauna Baths
- Herne Hill Forum
- Herne Hill Society
- Lambeth Council
- Lambeth Parks Forum
- London Friends of Green Spaces Network
- Myatt's Fields Park Project
- SE5 Forum
- South London and Maudsley NHS Trust
- Steel Warriors
- Urban Canopy
- Urban Village



# Treasurer's report

As demonstrated in our report, FoRP has been active this year with events, projects and fundraising.

	2024/25			2023/24
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
Income	24,244	23,452	47,696	30,684
Expenditure	(24,052)	(22,591)	(46,643)	(50,885)
Net movement	192	861	1,053	(20,201)
Balance	35,031	16,178	51,209	50,156

We are very grateful for the generous donations we receive from park users and other supporters, as well as to the bodies that have provided us with grants in the past year.

Our funding from the City Bridge Foundation allowed us to continue to run our fortnightly park gardening sessions, led by Urban Canopy, in the Labyrinth Garden, and to engage a gardener to support groups in the Willow Garden. This funding allows us to continue this work in the medium term. We were also able to complete the edging project in the Labyrinth Garden, with an additional contribution from our general funds.

A grant from Lambeth Council again allowed us to run a successful bandstand concert programme over the summer and autumn.

# Treasurer's report (cont.)

The paddling pool remained open during the hot summer months, with financial support from our paddling pool fund. We continue to hold a substantial balance in the fund to allow us to undertake any essential maintenance work that might be necessary. FoRP made a contribution from its general funds to buy replacement picnic tables for the paddling pool area, which are ready to be installed.

Other significant purchases from general funds included the “little library” by the playground, which we are committed to maintaining and stocking with children’s books as needed. We also ran several volunteer workshops and provided funds for planting carried out by corporate volunteers. The summer fete, on one of the hottest days of the year, was very successful thanks to the efforts of our organiser and volunteers.

Our reserves policy continues to be to hold 6 months of operating costs and the annual costs of providing regular events and activities. We continue to focus on reducing our general fund to the level required under our reserves policy. This year we made a small surplus but we continue to prioritise allocating funds to park improvements. Our key challenge in this respect is capacity amongst the existing committee to identify and manage suitable new projects.

**The full financial statements can be found at the end of this report.**

Jo Broadbent  
Treasurer



# Achievements and priorities (1)

## Volunteering, events and activities

	Achievements	Future priorities
<b>Community and Willow Gardens</b>	<p>Our Community Garden continued to have high levels of engagement this year. We transitioned to growing plants from seeds and were more strategic about our planting.</p> <p>The Willow Garden supported existing groups in partnership with South London and Maudsley NHS Trust and worked with Urban Canopy and King's to facilitate a healthy eating project for young gardeners, including a pollinator workshop.</p>	<p>Work with Lambeth to re-establish water supply to the Gardens and areas of the park as a matter of urgency.</p> <p>Expand the Community Garden committee to maintain weekly opening and refine our cropping plan in light of our experience last year.</p> <p>Maintain our work with existing groups and any new groups who may benefit from access to therapeutic sessions in the garden as opportunities arise.</p>
<b>Park gardening and litter picking</b>	<p>Our volunteers, working with Urban Canopy, finished the edging project in the Labyrinth Garden and continue to maintain the space.</p> <p>We worked with Lambeth Council to run two sessions to maintain the wildlife garden and pond. A core volunteer team provided regular litter picking throughout the year.</p>	<p>Plant bulbs and perennials and restore areas of grass within the Labyrinth Garden.</p> <p>Seek funding for a new project to maintain and develop the community orchard outside the sauna area.</p>
<b>Concerts at the bandstand</b>	<p>A new team organised and ran a full programme of enjoyable concerts, supported by grant funding from Lambeth.</p>	<p>Organise a concert programme next year, subject to the availability of grant funding.</p>

# Achievements and priorities (2)

## Volunteering, events and activities

	Achievements	Future priorities
<b>Summer Fete and other seasonal events</b>	<p>The Summer Fete was very successful. We ran a gardening workshop aimed at children and families during the Fete, as well as a half term family workshop in the Willow Garden and supported the Boule d'Or petanque tournament.</p>	<p>Encourage volunteers outside the core committee to be involved in organising the Summer Fete.</p> <p>Support a small number of other suitable events, including a foraging workshop and a seasonal event for volunteers in December.</p>
<b>Park improvements sponsored or managed by FoRP</b>	<p>FoRP continued to support the tree and bench donation programme this year, funded trees for the community orchard by the sauna, and launched outdoor chess tables in March.</p> <p>We paid for and planted new roses for the Rose Garden and installed a "little library", predominantly for children's books, outside the playground.</p>	<p>Improving maps and notice boards remains a priority.</p> <p>FoRP has funded new picnic tables for the paddling pool area and these should be installed this year. We will continue to source and fund donations of children's books to the "little library".</p> <p>A new FoRP project will focus on how to improve biodiversity within the park.</p>
<b>Engaging park users with the heritage of the park</b>	<p>We continue to discuss work needed to preserve the heritage bandstand and the portico with Lambeth.</p>	<p>Organise a volunteer day with Lambeth to repaint areas of the bandstand and continue to press for repairs to the poor condition of the portico.</p>
<b>Bring the heritage Coach House back into use</b>	<p>We continued to work with Lambeth to restore and revitalise the historic Coach House, creating a publicly accessible, sustainably managed asset.</p>	<p>Remain an active voice on the Coach House steering committee, engaging with potential partners for the space and funding opportunities as appropriate.</p>

# Achievements and priorities (3)

## Projects and partnership working with Lambeth

### Achievements

### Future priorities

#### Paddling pool

A team of volunteers worked extremely hard in difficult circumstances to keep our historic paddling pool open. The hot, dry summer emphasised what an asset the pool is to our community.

Ensure more consistent lines of communication and support through Lambeth's facilities management contracts to ensure the pool's future. Ensure volunteers feel properly supported in and valued for their work with the paddling pool.

#### Opening the disused depot area

The community sauna is open in the old depot area and we have a good working relationship with the sauna team. FoRP volunteers worked with Lambeth to plant a new community orchard outside the sauna area.

Obtain funding for a regular education and maintenance programme for the community orchard over the next two years, to develop and enhance the public space outside the sauna.

#### Regular liaison with Lambeth Parks

We have liaised closely with Lambeth during the year, particularly in light of current financial constraints.

The park retained its Green Flag and its Gold London in Bloom award.

Continue to liaise with Lambeth through regular meetings to monitor projects and proposals that impact the park, including events.

Continue to press Lambeth to restore the water supply to the kiosk/ toilets/ Willow and Community Gardens.

Plans to redevelop the sports pitches/ redgra area were delayed but we will remain involved in responding to any proposals.

# Achievements and priorities (4)

## Charity governance and management

	Achievements	Future priorities
<b>Governance and membership</b>	<p>Trustees and non-trustee committee members held regular meetings throughout the year to review activities, priorities and risks.</p> <p>We held a detailed review of the paddling pool operation alongside Lambeth and implemented recommendations before the paddling pool opened for the season.</p> <p>Our membership numbers remain stable.</p>	<p>Our co-chairs remain in place, ensuring stability of leadership. Continue to hold regular committee/trustee meetings and ensure all essential paperwork is compiled and maintained.</p> <p>To ensure we can run our existing range of activities and develop new ones we continue to need new main committee members.</p> <p>Build resilience by recruiting new members for a Summer Fete committee and to the Community Garden committee.</p>
<b>Funding and finance</b>	<p>We continued to maintain a healthy financial balance. We are in the second year of our five year City Bridge Foundation funding, which gives gardening activities stability in the medium-term.</p>	<p>Maintain good financial control, operate in accordance with our reserves policy, and bid for specific grant funding where appropriate to do so in light of our overall financial position.</p> <p>Apply for funding for the community orchard project.</p>
<b>Communications and engagement</b>	<p>We have continued to communicate with the membership and park users through newsletters, social media and notices.</p>	<p>Maintain core communications and continue to try to engage more park users e.g. by more extensive use of social media to promote activities and generate new volunteers and participants for activities such as the Labyrinth Garden sessions.</p>

# Structure, governance and management

## Membership

Membership is open to anyone who is interested in furthering our purposes. The trustees have decided not to charge a membership fee. As of 31st August 2025, FoRP had 363 members.

## Governance

We are governed by a constitution adopted in March 2016 and approved by the Charity Commission in April 2016. This can be viewed on our website.



## Trustees

We have a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 11 trustees. They are appointed at our AGM, with a third standing down or being re-appointed each year. At other times the existing trustees may appoint trustees until the next AGM. The following people were trustees during 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025:

Kate Malleson	Co-Chair
Céline Gilbert	Co-Chair
Jemima Ashdown	Appointed 05.03.25
Joanna Broadbent	
Lucy Hadfield	Resigned 05.03.25
Mandy Millward	
Chris Norris	Resigned 05.03.25
Sarah Salter	

## Committee

Additional committee members are appointed by the trustees to assist with the management of our activities. This year they included Kathy Erasmus, Abimbola Oke, Kay O'Neill, Sara Robertson-Jonas, Julie Simpson and Claire Vinycomb. Lucy Hadfield and Chris Norris continued to be active members of the committee following their retirement as trustees.

Friends of Ruskin Park

Registered Charity number 1166358

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025**

**Friends Of Ruskin Park**  
**Accounts for the period from 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025**

Charity Name Friends of Ruskin Park

Working Name FORP

Charity Number 1166358

Registered Office 17 De Crespigny Park  
London  
SE5 8AB

<u>Board of Trustees</u>		Appointed	Resigned
Lucy Hadfield		01/06/2017	05/03/2025
Kate Malleson (Co-Chair)		12/01/2021	
Sarah Salter (Treasurer till 5/3/25)		23/01/2023	
Celine Gilbert (Co-Chair)		25/05/2022	
Katherine Amanda Millward		12/01/2021	
Christopher Norris		01/09/2016	05/03/2025
Joanna Broadbent (Treasurer from 5/3/25)		16/01/2024	
Jemima Ashdown		05/03/2025	

Independent Accountant Crest Accounting Ltd, 49 Verdayne Avenue, Shirley, Croydon. CR0 8TW.

Bank Lloyds Bank PLC

**Friends of Ruskin Park**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
For the period from 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31st August 2025 £	Restricted Funds Period Ended 31st August 2025 £	TOTAL FUNDS Period Ended 31st August 2025 £	TOTAL FUNDS Period Ended 31st August 2024 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b> (Note 3)				
Donations/Grants	10,538	23,452	33,990	21,714
Events	8,124		8,124	6,683
Interest/other	2,741		2,741	1,426
Gift Aid	2,841		2,841	861
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b><u>24,244</u></b>	<b><u>23,452</u></b>	<b><u>47,696</u></b>	<b><u>30,684</u></b>
<b>Costs of Providing Charitable Activities</b> (Note 4)				
Cost of providing Charitable Activities	1,744		1,744	1,897
Charitable Activities	22,308	22,591	44,899	48,988
<b>Total Resources expended</b>	<b><u>24,052</u></b>	<b><u>22,591</u></b>	<b><u>46,643</u></b>	<b><u>50,885</u></b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b><u>192</u></b>	<b><u>861</u></b>	<b><u>1,053</u></b>	<b><u>(20,201)</u></b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total Funds brought forward	<u>34,839</u>	<u>15,317</u>	<u>50,156</u>	<u>70,357</u>
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>	<b><u>35,031</u></b>	<b><u>16,178</u></b>	<b><u>51,209</u></b>	<b><u>50,156</u></b>

**Friends of Ruskin Park**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2025**

		At 31st August 2025	At 31st August 2024
		£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	(Note 5)	0	0
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors		4,443	5,615
Cash at bank and in hand		54,423	58,607
<b>Total Current assets</b>		<u>58,866</u>	<u>64,222</u>
Creditors falling due within one year	(Note 6)	(7,657)	(14,066)
Prepaid Income		0	0
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>51,209</u>	<u>50,156</u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>			
Unrestricted Funds		35,031	34,839
Restricted Funds	(Note 7)	16,178	15,317
<b>Total Funds</b>		<u>51,209</u>	<u>50,156</u>

Chair

*E. Marshall*

Date:

*18/11/25*

**Friends of Ruskin Park  
Notes to the Accounts**

**Note 1: Accounting Policies**

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently

**Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005.

**Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability. Grants and donations are included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources. Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included at the same time as they are received. Investment income is included when receivable.

**Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income. Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its members. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SoFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are directly allocated.

**Fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost useful life as follows:-

Computer equipment - 33.33% straight line basis  
Fixtures & Fittings - 33.33% straight line basis

## Friends of Ruskin Park

### Note 2: Trustees Remuneration

No remuneration was paid to the trustees in the 12 month period ended 31st August 2025

### Note 3: Analysis of incoming resources

	Total Funds 12 month period to 31st August 2025 £
<i>Voluntary income:</i>	
Unrestricted donations/income	18,662
Restricted donations/grants	23,452
Gift Aid	2,841
<i>Investment income:</i>	
Bank Interest	1,781
Other Income	960
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>47,696</u></b>

### Note 4: Analysis of costs of providing charitable activities

	12 month period to 31st August 2025 £
AGM	463
Fundraising	397
Admin/Insurance	265
Database/IT Support	269
Governance	350
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>1,744</u></b>

### Note 5 Fixed assets

No assets are owned by the charity

### Note 6 : analysis of Creditors

Accruals	6,847
Accounts Payable	<u>810</u>
	<b><u>7,657</u></b>

### Note 7: Analysis of Restricted Funds

Balance B/F	15,317
Donations/Grants	<u>23,452</u>
	38,769
Expenditure	(22,591)
<b>Balance C/F</b>	<b><u>16,178</u></b>

**Friends of Ruskin Park**  
**Profit and Loss for the year to 31st August 2025**

<u>Turnover</u>	<u>£</u>
Donations/Grants	33,990
Events	8,124
Interest/other	2,741
Gift Aid	<u>2,841</u>
<b>TOTAL TURNOVER</b>	<b><u>47,696</u></b>
<u>Costs</u>	
General Admin	728
Fundraising	397
IT Costs	269
Charitable Activities	44,899
Legal & Governance	<u>350</u>
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b><u>46,643</u></b>
<b><u>OPERATING PROFIT</u></b>	<b><u><u>1,053</u></u></b>



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

<b>Report to the trustees/ members of</b>	FRIENDS OF RUSKIN PARK (FORP)		
<b>On accounts for the year ended</b>	31 AUGUST 2025	<b>Charity no (if any)</b>	1166358
<b>Set out on pages</b>	1 to 7		

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's 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,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of independent examiner's statement**

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 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; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

**Signed:**  **Date:** 31.10.2025

**Name:** Patricia Jane Ward

**Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):** FCMA, CGMA, MiP.

**Address:** 49 Verdayne Avenue, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey CR0 8TW


**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

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

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying most of the page. It is intended for the user to provide details of items for disclosure, as indicated by the text to its left.

**FRIENDS OF RUSKIN PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166358

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# Accounts

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

A review of our activities  
and achievements, and  
our priorities for the year  
ahead

The Friends of Ruskin Park (FoRP) has been operating as a community group since 1996. We established a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) in 2016.

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# Our objectives and aims

1. To work collaboratively with Ruskin Park’s managers, Lambeth Council, and other partners to maximise the quality of Ruskin Park, as desired by park users and within available resources.
2. To engage park users and the wider community in maintaining and improving the park for their own health and wellbeing, for now and in the future, balancing different interests.
3. To run, sponsor or support where appropriate 1) events and activities for and with park users and 2) physical improvements that would not otherwise happen.
4. To ensure we have the resources to achieve the above aims – financial, people, communications and governance.



# Review of 2023-24

Kate Malleson and Céline Gilbert lead FoRP as co-chairs.

FoRP's programme this year was designed to build on progress in 2022-23. It included working with Lambeth to complete the capital programme for the park, culminating in the successful opening of the redeveloped playground. Our gardening activities enjoyed high levels of engagement and we secured grant funding to support this work over the next five years. Keeping the paddling pool open was a significant achievement and we ran a full programme of summer events. See pages 8-11 for greater detail of our achievements this year and future priorities.

Progress would not be possible without the tremendous contributions of volunteers working for Ruskin Park in so many different ways across all of our activities. Each one deserves our grateful thanks.

Although FoRP has a strong volunteer base, we face challenges as long-serving trustees step down. To run our current range of activities and develop new ones, we need to recruit new committee members. We encourage anyone who loves the park to join our committee to help us improve it for current and future generations.

Kate Malleson and Céline Gilbert  
**Co-Chairs**





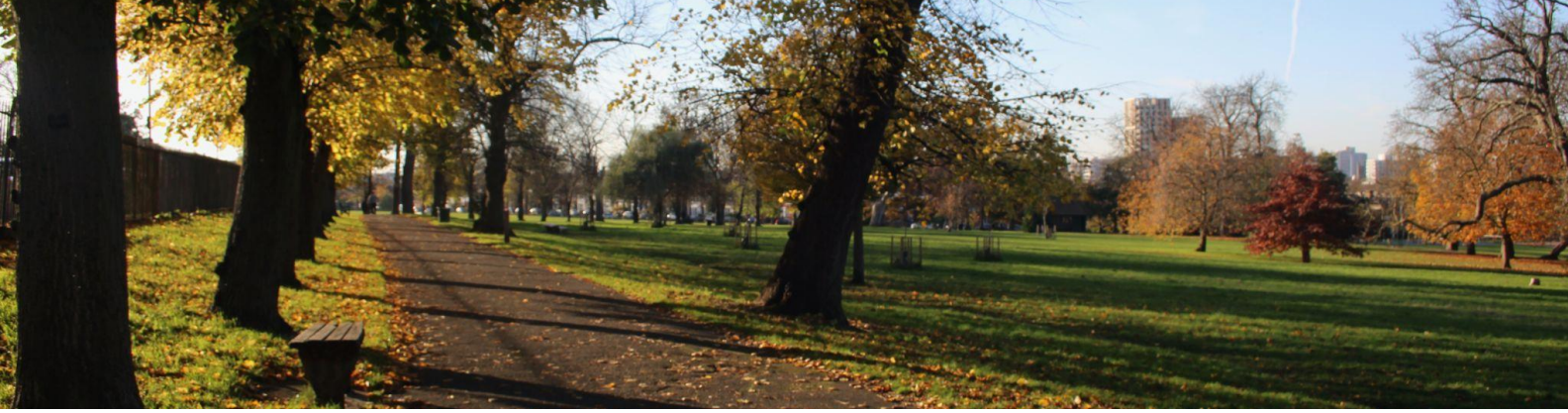
## Volunteers

- Trustees
- Committee members
- Gardeners
- Litter pickers
- Paddling pool volunteers
- Events volunteers, performers and partners
- GoodGym volunteers
- Employee volunteering groups

*We would like to pay particular tribute to Suzanne Vincent of Urban Village for her tireless work and financial support over many years to help keep the paddling pool open. Thank you!*

## Funders, partners and donors

- Regular and one-off donors
- Aviva Community Fund
- Camberwell Society
- City Bridge Foundation
- Herne Hill Forum
- Herne Hill Society
- Hunters
- Lambeth Council
- Lambeth Parks Forum
- London Friends of Green Spaces Network
- Myatt's Fields Park Project
- National Grid
- National Lottery Community Fund
- Postcode Society Trust
- SE5 Forum
- South London and Maudsley NHS Trust
- Steel Warriors
- Urban Canopy
- Urban Village



# Treasurer's report

As demonstrated in our report, FoRP has been active this year with events, projects and fundraising.

	2023/24			2022/23
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
Income	18,360	12,324	30,684	69,359
Expenditure	(23,155)	(27,730)	(50,885)	(60,531)
Net movement	(4,795)	(15,406)	(20,201)	8,828
Balance	34,839	15,317	50,156	70,357

We are very grateful for the generous donations we receive from park users and other supporters, as well as to the bodies that have provided us with grants in the past year.

This year we secured a five year grant from the City Bridge Foundation to support our gardening activities, including improvements and activities in the Willow, Labyrinth and Community gardens. This will allow us to take a longer-term approach to funding activities. Funding from the Aviva Community Fund also supported park gardening.

In addition to planned spending from these restricted funds, we used money raised from the paddling pool appeals for improvements and repairs over the summer, allowing the pool to remain open.

# Treasurer's report (cont.)

We continue to retain funds for maintenance/repairs to the pool as needed.

Lambeth Council provided a grant which enabled us to put on the bandstand concerts and provide music at the fete.

The general fund is unrestricted and is used to run events and projects in the park over the year. We funded improvements to the Rose garden and funded new benches at the Denmark Hill and Ferndene Road entrances. We also continue to receive donations for memorial benches and tree sponsorship.

The reserves policy is to hold 6 months of operating costs, as well as the annual costs of providing our regular events and activities for the benefit of new and existing park users. The key spend period is during the months of May to October. This year we have focused on reducing our general fund to the level required under our reserves policy by prioritising and allocating funds to park improvements and this will continue to be a focus in the next financial year.

**The full financial statements can be found at the end of this report.**

Sarah Salter  
Treasurer



# Achievements and priorities (1)

## Volunteering, events and activities

	Achievements	Future priorities
<b>Community and Willow gardens</b>	<p>Our Community garden had high levels of engagement this year, with many volunteers becoming regular attenders and an increased sense of community.</p> <p>Three groups use the Willow garden with guidance from a professional gardener, including supporting the groups to work independently. A City Bridge Foundation grant secures the project in the longer term.</p>	<p>We will need to become more self-sufficient in growing our own seeds this year. This is an opportunity to be more strategic about what we grow.</p> <p>Our gardener will help the existing groups to become more self-guided. We will work to identify other groups that would benefit from access to therapeutic sessions in the garden.</p>
<b>Park gardening and litter picking</b>	<p>The City Bridge Foundation grant secures Saturday gardening in the Labyrinth garden in the longer term. Working with Urban Canopy, we started to install metal edging around the beds and added new plants. Volunteers planted new roses and lavender in the rose garden.</p> <p>Regular litter picking continued throughout the year with a core team of volunteers.</p>	<p>Complete edging project in the Labyrinth garden and continue maintenance and planting.</p> <p>Work with Lambeth to organise volunteering sessions in the Wildlife garden.</p> <p>We need to recruit a new lead volunteer for litter picking.</p>
<b>Concerts at the bandstand</b>	<p>We ran a full programme of well attended concerts, supported by grant funding from Lambeth, including bands who had not performed previously.</p>	<p>Organise a concert programme next year.</p> <p>Recruit a new team of volunteers to organise and manage the concerts as the existing leads step down.</p>

# Achievements and priorities (2)

## Volunteering, events and activities

	Achievements	Future priorities
<b>Summer Fete and other seasonal events</b>	<p>The Summer Fete was successful despite inclement weather.</p> <p>We supported SE5 Forum's Feel Good Festival and the Boule d'Or petanque tournament.</p> <p>We held gardening workshops at the Fete and the Feel Good Festival.</p>	<p>Hold the Summer Fete and consider holding a Dog Show.</p> <p>Support a small number of other suitable events.</p>
<b>Park improvements sponsored or managed by FoRP</b>	<p>FoRP invested in new planting in the Labyrinth garden and sponsored 3 benches this year to supplement bench donations.</p> <p>Two chess tables are now in place for community use.</p>	<p>Improve maps and notice boards reflecting park developments.</p> <p>Continue to fund planting priorities and supplement individual bench and tree donations.</p>
<b>Engaging park users with the heritage of the park</b>	<p>We held a photography competition with the theme "Lights, Camera, Action".</p>	<p>Consider how to help preserve the heritage bandstand and work with Lambeth on plans to redevelop the Coach House as a community asset.</p>
<b>Bring the heritage Coach House back into use</b>	<p>We continued to work with Lambeth to restore and revitalise the historic Coach House, creating a publicly accessible, sustainably managed asset.</p>	<p>To remain an active voice on the Coach House steering committee, engaging with potential partners for the space and funding opportunities as appropriate.</p>

# Achievements and priorities (3)

## Projects and partnership working with Lambeth

	Achievements	Future priorities
<b>Paddling pool</b>	The paddling pool opened successfully again over the summer, with high levels of volunteer support, despite challenges inherent in maintaining a 1920s era structure.	Agree ways of working with Lambeth more formally to ensure the pool can operate again next year.  Recruit new lead volunteers to replace those stepping down.
<b>Opening the disused depot area</b>	The depot area has been opened up to allow access.	To continue to work with Lambeth on their plans.
<b>Regular liaison with Lambeth Parks</b>	We worked closely with Lambeth to finalise the completion of the playground redevelopment and have continued to liaise closely on proposals that affect the park, particularly in light of current financial constraints.  The park was again awarded a Green Flag in July 2024 and a Gold at the London in Bloom awards.	Continue to liaise with Lambeth through regular meetings to see projects completed effectively and monitor proposals and initiatives by others that impact the park, including events. There will be a focus on plans to redevelop the sports pitches/redgra area and depot.  Identify important improvements and work with Lambeth to deliver awaited repairs to pathways and potholes.
<b>Funding and finance</b>	We continued to maintain a healthy financial balance. We obtained a significant grant allowing us to expand our activities, e.g. gardening sessions over a five year period.	Maintain good financial control, operate in accordance with our reserves policy, and bid for specific grant funding where appropriate to do so in light of overall financial position.

# Achievements and priorities (4)

## Charity governance and management

### Achievements

### Future priorities

#### Governance and membership

Trustees and non-trustee committee members held regular meetings throughout the year to review activities, priorities and risks.

We implemented an induction pack for new committee members to ensure an appropriate understanding of FoRP's objectives, policies and controls.

Membership numbers have been maintained, with 378 members at year end.

Our co-chairs remain in place, ensuring stability of leadership. Continue to hold regular committee/trustee meetings and ensure all essential paperwork is compiled and maintained.

To ensure we can run our existing range of activities and develop new ones we need to recruit new committee members.

Recruit trustees to ensure succession planning for key roles as two long-standing trustees step down and hand over responsibilities..

#### Communications and engagement

We have continued to communicate with the membership and park users through newsletters, social media and notices.

Maintain core communications and continue to try to engage more park users e.g. by more extensive use of social media to promote activities and generate new volunteers and participants for activities such as the community garden.



# Structure, governance and management

## Membership

Membership is open to anyone who is interested in furthering our purposes. The trustees have decided not to charge a membership fee. As of 31st August 2024, FoRP had 378 members.

## Governance

We are governed by a constitution adopted in March 2016 and approved by the Charity Commission in April 2016. This can be viewed on our website.



## Trustees

We have a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 11 trustees. They are appointed at our AGM, with a third standing down or being re-appointed each year. At other times the existing trustees may appoint trustees until the next AGM. The following people were trustees during 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024:

Kate Malleson	Co-Chair
Céline Gilbert	Co-Chair
Joanna Broadbent	Appointed 16.1.24
Lucy Hadfield	
Mandy Millward	
Chris Norris	
Sarah Salter	

## Committee

Additional committee members are appointed by the trustees to assist with the management of our activities. This year they included Jemima Ashdown, Diamond Ashiagbor, Kathy Erasmus, Abimbola Oke, Kay O'Neill, Sara Robertson-Jonas, Julie Simpson and Claire Vinycomb.

Friends of Ruskin Park

Registered Charity number 1166358

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024**

**Friends Of Ruskin Park**  
**Accounts for the period from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024**

Charity Name Friends of Ruskin Park

Working Name FORP

Charity Number 1166358

Registered Office 17 De Crespigny Park  
London  
SE5 8AB

<u>Board of Trustees</u>		Appointed	Resigned
Lucy Hadfield		01/06/2017	
Kate Malleson (Co-Chair)		12/01/2021	
Sarah Salter (Treasurer)		23/01/2023	
Celine Gilbert (Co-Chair)		25/05/2022	
Katherine Amanda Millward		12/01/2021	
Christopher Norris		01/09/2016	
Joanna Broadbent		16/01/2024	

Independent Accountant Crest Accounting Ltd, 49 Verdayne Avenue, Shirley, Croydon. CR0 8TW.

Bank Lloyds Bank PLC

**Friends of Ruskin Park**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period from 1st September 2023 to 31st August 2024**

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31st August 2024 £	Restricted Funds Period Ended 31st August 2024 £	TOTAL FUNDS Period Ended 31st August 2024 £	TOTAL FUNDS Period Ended 31st August 2023 £
<b>Incoming Resources (Note 3)</b>				
Donations/Grants	9,390	12,324	21,714	60,934
Events	6,683		6,683	6,870
Interest/other	1,426		1,426	565
Gift Aid	861		861	990
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b><u>18,360</u></b>	<b><u>12,324</u></b>	<b><u>30,684</u></b>	<b><u>69,359</u></b>
<b>Costs of Providing Charitable Activities (Note 4)</b>				
Cost of providing Charitable Activities	1,897		1,897	2,620
Charitable Activities	21,258	27,730	48,988	57,911
<b>Total Resources expended</b>	<b><u>23,155</u></b>	<b><u>27,730</u></b>	<b><u>50,885</u></b>	<b><u>60,531</u></b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b><u>(4,795)</u></b>	<b><u>(15,406)</u></b>	<b><u>(20,201)</u></b>	<b><u>8,828</u></b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total Funds brought forward	<u>39,634</u>	<u>30,723</u>	<u>70,357</u>	<u>61,529</u>
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>	<b><u>34,839</u></b>	<b><u>15,317</u></b>	<b><u>50,156</u></b>	<b><u>70,357</u></b>

**Friends of Ruskin Park  
Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2024**

		At 31st August 2024	At 31st August 2023
		£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	(Note 5)	0	0
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors		5,615	5,000
Cash at bank and in hand		58,607	69,373
<b>Total Current assets</b>		<b><u>64,222</u></b>	<b><u>74,373</u></b>
Creditors falling due within one year	(Note 6)	(14,066)	(4,016)
Prepaid Income		0	0
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b><u>50,156</u></b>	<b><u>70,357</u></b>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>			
Unrestricted Funds		34,839	39,634
Restricted Funds	(Note 7)	15,317	30,723
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b><u>50,156</u></b>	<b><u>70,357</u></b>

Chair

*K. M. M.*

Date:

30/11/2025

**Friends of Ruskin Park  
Notes to the Accounts**

**Note 1: Accounting Policies**

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period.

**Basis of Accounting**

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005.

**Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

**Incoming resources**

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability. Grants and donations are included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources. Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included at the same time as they are received. Investment income is included when receivable.

**Resources expended**

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its members. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SoFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are directly allocated.

**Fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost useful life as follows:-

Computer equipment - 33.33% straight line basis

Fixtures & Fittings - 33.33% straight line basis

## Friends of Ruskin Park

### **Note 2: Trustees Remuneration**

No remuneration was paid to the trustees in the 12 month period ended 31st August 2024

### **Note 3: Analysis of incoming resources**

	<b>Total Funds 12 month period to 31st August 2024 £</b>
<i>Voluntary income:</i>	
Unrestricted donations/income	16,073
Restricted donations/grants	12,324
Gift Aid	861
<i>Investment income:</i>	
Bank Interest	1,066
Other Income	360
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>30,684</u></b>

### **Note 4: Analysis of costs of providing charitable activities**

	<b>12 month period to 31st August 2024 £</b>
AGM	255
Fundraising	751
Admin/Insurance	463
Database/IT Support	78
Governance	350
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>1,897</u></b>

### **Note 5 Fixed assets**

No assets are owned by the charity

### **Note 6 : analysis of Creditors**

Accruals	<b><u>14,066</u></b>
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### **Note 7: Analysis of Restricted Funds**

Balance B/F	30,723
Donations/Grants	<b><u>12,324</u></b>
Expenditure	(27,730)
<b>Balance C/F</b>	<b><u>15,317</u></b>

**Friends of Ruskin Park**  
**Profit and Loss for the year to 31st August 2024**

<b><u>Turnover</u></b>	<b>£</b>
Donations/Grants	21,714
Events	6,683
Interest/other	1,426
Gift Aid	861
<b>TOTAL TURNOVER</b>	<b><u>30,684</u></b>
<b><u>Costs</u></b>	
General Admin	255
Fundraising	751
IT Costs	78
Charitable Activities	48,988
Legal & Governance	813
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b><u>50,885</u></b>
<b><u>OPERATING PROFIT</u></b>	<b><u><u>-20,201</u></u></b>



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

FRIENDS OF RUSKIN PARK (FORP)

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 AUGUST 2024

Charity no  
(if any)

1166358

Set out on pages

1 to 7

Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's 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,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent  
examiner's statement

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 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; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

Signed:

Date:

06/02/2025

Name:

Patricia Jane Ward

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

FCMA, CGMA, MiP.

Address:

49 Verdayne Avenue, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey CR0 8TW

**FRIENDS OF RUSKIN PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166358

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# Accounts

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

A review of our activities  
and achievements, and  
our priorities for the year  
ahead

The Friends of Ruskin Park (FoRP) has been operating as a community group since 1996. We established a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) in 2016.

This annual report relates to the charity's accounting year from 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023.

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<b>Review of 2022-23</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Thank you to our contributors</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Treasurer's report</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Achievements and priorities</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Structure, governance and management</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Appendix: Financial statements</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Appendix: Independent Examiner's Report</b>	<b>20</b>



*“The Friends of Ruskin Park is established to protect and promote the enjoyment of Ruskin Park (a public park situated on Denmark Hill in Camberwell, London) for the benefit, now and in the future, of all park users.”*

# Our objectives and aims

1. To work collaboratively with Ruskin Park’s managers, Lambeth Council, and other partners to maximise the quality of Ruskin Park, as desired by park users and within available resources.
2. To engage park users and the wider community in maintaining and improving the park for their own health and wellbeing, for now and in the future, balancing different interests.
3. To run, sponsor or support where appropriate 1) events and activities for and with park users and 2) physical improvements that would not otherwise happen.
4. To ensure we have the resources to achieve the above aims – financial, people, communications and governance.



# Review of 2022-23

For the past year, FoRP has had two co-chairs - Lucy Hadfield and Kate Malleson. Lucy will be stepping down after 6.5 years in the chair role. Céline Gilbert has kindly offered to step into the role in the short-term while a longer-term replacement is identified.

In 2021-22, we gave a detailed account of that year's many events and activities. This year has been, and next year will be, mainly about solid continuation of these, including our progress in gardening activities, our regular summer events, engaging with Lambeth for the implementation of the capital programme for the park and keeping in financial good health. See pages 8-12 for greater detail of our achievements this year and future intentions.

Our progress has been due to the tremendous contributions of volunteers working for Ruskin Park, in many different areas and ways of expressing themselves. Each one deserves our grateful thanks.

Our intentions are to continue with our efforts. To be successful, we will need more volunteers to come forward to fill key gaps in our committee. Will that be you or someone you know?

Lucy Hadfield  
Kate Malleson  
Co-Chairs





# Thank you to our contributors

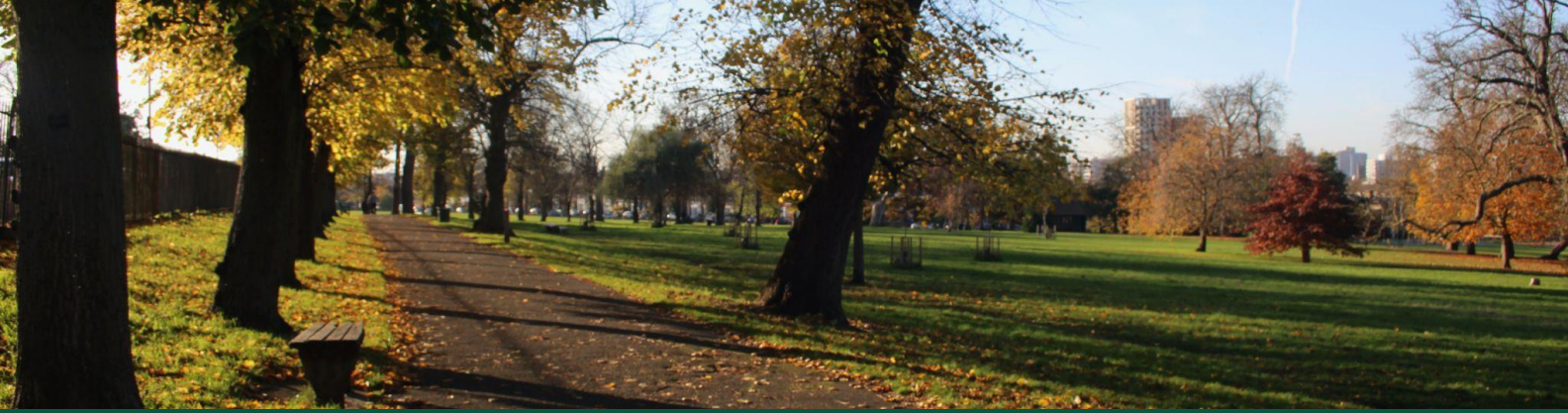
## Volunteers

- Trustees
- Committee members
- Gardeners
- Litter pickers
- Paddling pool volunteers
- Events volunteers, performers and partners
- GoodGym volunteers
- Employee volunteering groups

*“The work of Friends of Ruskin Park would not be possible without the commitment and passion of our trustees, volunteers and partners.”*

## Funders, partners and donors

- Regular and one-off donors
- Camberwell Society
- Herne Hill Forum
- Herne Hill Society
- Lambeth Council
- Lambeth Parks Forum
- London Friends of Green Spaces Network
- Myatt’s Fields Park Project
- National Grid
- National Lottery Community Fund
- Petermans
- Postcode Society Trust
- SE5 Forum
- South London Cares
- South London and Maudsley NHS Trust
- Steel Warriors
- Urban Canopy
- Urban Village



# Treasurer's report

As demonstrated in our report, FoRP has been active this year with events, projects and fundraising.

	2022/23			2021/22
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
Income	20,215	49,144	69,359	89,379
Expenditure	(23,318)	(37,213)	(60,531)	(87,314)
Net movement	(3,103)	11,931	8,828	2,065
Balance	39,634	30,723	70,357	61,529

We are very grateful for the generous donations we receive from park users and other supporters, as well as to the bodies that have provided us with grants in the past year.

This year we used the remaining National Lottery grant and the deferred Postcode Society Trust grant for gardening, including improvements and activities in the Willow Garden and Labyrinth Garden. A grant from the National Grid went towards supporting the popular Summer Fete amongst other activities.

Lambeth Council provided a grant which enabled us to put on the bandstand concerts and provide entertainment at the fete.

# Treasurer's report (cont.)

We took part in the Aviva Community Fund, which thanks to generous donations being matched by Aviva, was able to raise a substantial amount that will be used for gardening activities.

The general fund is unrestricted and is used to run events and projects in the park over the year. We funded new signage for the portico and sundial as well as making improvements to the rose garden and putting money towards Lambeth's tree planting programme which has seen many new trees planted in the park. We continue to receive donations for memorial benches.

The reserves policy is to hold 6 months operating costs, and the annual costs of providing our regular events and activities for the benefit of new and existing park users. The key spend period is during the months of May to October.

**The full financial statements can be found at the end of this report.**

Sarah Salter  
Treasurer



# Achievements and priorities (1)

## Volunteering, events and activities

### Achievements last year

### Future priorities

#### Community Garden and Willow Garden

Community Garden opened regularly, with good attendance from volunteers, visitors and hospital patients. Bee enclosure successfully refurbished.

Build engagement and recruit more volunteers in the Community Garden for maintenance and growth.

Willow Garden created and named. Space transformed with new beds and seating. Successful weekly activities with SLaM and other groups led by wellbeing gardener.

Secure further funding for the Willow Garden activities.

#### Park gardening and litter picking

Saturday gardening continued to be well attended, with the Labyrinth Garden well managed including new planting. Litter picking continued well.

Secure further funding for park gardening. Continue planting in the Labyrinth Garden and Rose Garden.

Recruit more volunteers for litter picking.

#### Affordable workshops and activities in the Hut and park

The main room in the Hut was repainted by volunteers and a National Grid grant used for new furniture and free workshops.

Clarify the process for partners to hire the Hut from Lambeth.

Arrange activities such as tree and bat walks and workshops for children where capacity allows.

#### Concerts at the Bandstand

Programme was successful, support by grant funding from Lambeth and there were more new bands with greater diversity.

Organise a programme next year. Increase volunteer resilience with new recruits and make it easier to manage.

# Achievements and priorities (2)

## Volunteering, events and activities

### Summer Fete and other seasonal events

#### Achievements last year

The Summer Fete was another big success.

We also supported SE5 Forum's Feel Good Festival and the Boule d'Or petanque tournament. Street Light Cinema raised funds for FoRP.

#### Future priorities

Hold the Summer Fete and Dog Show again.

Support a small number of other suitable events.

### Park improvements sponsored or managed by FoRP

Rose Garden paving repairs and planting; co-funded planting of 27 new trees; Labyrinth Garden planting and maintenance.

Allocate a budget and prioritise spending on the most beneficial items.

Bench donation scheme has increased in popularity.

Continue bench donation scheme and expand to include tree sponsorship.

### Engaging park users with the heritage of the park

Information signage for the Mendelssohn Sundial and the Portico was installed.

Hold the photography competition again.



# Achievements and priorities (3)

## Projects and partnership working with Lambeth

### Achievements last year

### Future priorities

**Bring the heritage stable block back into use**

Funding for the first stage of refurbishment was committed by Lambeth and a potential social enterprise occupier identified. We remain involved in Lambeth's steering group.

For work to start and to see a firm plan from Lambeth to bring the building back into use, with clear community benefits.

**Paddling pool**

Despite some ongoing technical issues, the pool opened for the season and served large numbers of children, so was successful.

Capture lessons from last year and agree a plan with Lambeth, including any works and building up volunteers.

**Opening the disused depot area**

The agreement with Lambeth is to open up the depot area and bring it back into the park, at low cost. Some work has happened, but progress is slow.

To have all or most of the area made good enough and opened up back into the park.

**Regular liaison with Lambeth Parks**

We worked with Lambeth in deploying their capital funds to projects guided by the masterplan. A partner was contracted to design and build a new playground.

Continue to work closely with Lambeth with regular meetings to see projects completed effectively and monitor initiatives by others, including events. Ensure we have volunteers to do this.

We monitored Lambeth's events proposals and gave our opinions on suitability using our own criteria for events in the park.

Identify important improvements that are not worked up yet and funded e.g. dog-free areas, Denmark Hill entrance improvement.

The park was again awarded a Green Flag in September 2023 and a Gold at the London in Bloom awards.

Keep vigilant/positive promotion of the community nature of Ruskin Park.

# Achievements and priorities (4)

## Charity governance and management

### Achievements last year

### Future priorities

#### Funding and finance

We continued to maintain a healthy financial balance. We have been successful in obtaining grants and donations to expand our scope of activities, e.g. gardening sessions.

Maintain good financial control, encourage donations and to take opportunities to bid for specific grant funding, e.g. to support Willow Garden and Saturday gardening, where we can.

#### Governance and membership

Committee members have worked hard to share the responsibilities for ensuring good governance.

Continue to hold regular committee/trustee meetings and ensure all essential paperwork is compiled and maintained. Have no 'single points of failure'.  
Give better inductions to new committee members.

Membership numbers have been maintained.

Increase and diversify FoRP's membership.

Ensure succession planning for key roles. Needs include leads for biodiversity, grant management, bandstand concert organiser and partnership working with Lambeth.

#### Communications and engagement

Our core communications via newsletter, social media and website have been well maintained. We had a stall at key events and produced and delivered a flyer promoting summer activities in the park.

Maintain core communications and continue to try to engage more park users e.g. by outreach to other local community hubs like schools.

# Structure, governance and management

## Membership

Membership is open to anyone who is interested in furthering our purposes. The trustees have decided not to charge a membership fee. As of 31st August 2023, FoRP had 399 members.

## Governance

We are governed by a constitution adopted in March 2016 and approved by the Charity Commission in April 2016. This can be viewed on our website.



## Trustees

We have a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 11 trustees. They are appointed at our AGM, with a third standing down or being re-appointed each year. At other times the existing trustees may appoint trustees until the next AGM. The following people were trustees during 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023:

Lucy Hadfield	Co-Chair
Kate Malleson	Co-Chair
Jared Cotton	Resigned 17/01/2023
Celine Gilbert	
Mandy Millward	
Chris Norris	
Sarah Salter	Appointed 17/01/2023
Deepak Sardiwal	Resigned 31/10/2022
Andrew Ruck	Resigned 02/07/2023
Michelle Warbis	Resigned 03/06/2023

## Committee

Additional committee members are appointed by the trustees to assist with the management of our activities. This year they included Andrea Woodside, Charles Murphy, Claire Vinycomb, Jemima Ashdown, Julie Simpson and Kathy Erasmus.

Friends of Ruskin Park

Registered Charity number 1166358

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023**

**Friends Of Ruskin Park**  
**Accounts for the period from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023**

Charity Name Friends of Ruskin Park

Working Name FORP

Charity Number 1166358

Registered Office 84 Ferndene Road  
LONDON  
SE24 0AA

<u>Board of Trustees</u>		Appointed	Resigned
Lucy Hadfield (Co-Chair)		01/06/2017	
Kate Malleson (Co-Chair)		12/01/2021	
Sarah Salter (Treasurer)		23/01/2023	
Jared Cotton (Treasurer)		14/07/2021	17/01/2023
Celine Gilbert		25/05/2022	
Katherine Amanda Millward		12/01/2021	
Christopher Norris		01/09/2016	
Deepak Sardiwal		15/05/2021	31/10/2022
Andrew Ruck		05/07/2022	02/07/2023
Michelle Warbis		14/07/2021	03/06/2023

Independent Accountant Crest Accounting Ltd, 49 Verdayne Avenue, Shirley, Croydon. CR0 8TW.

Bank Lloyds Bank PLC

**Friends of Ruskin Park**  
**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For the period from 1st September 2022 to 31st August 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds Period Ended 31st August 2023 £	Restricted Funds Period Ended 31st August 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS Period Ended 31st August 2023 £	TOTAL FUNDS Period Ended 31st August 2022 £
<b>Incoming Resources (Note 3)</b>				
Donations/Grants	11,790	49,144	60,934	80,176
Events	6,870	0	6,870	8,843
Interest/other	565	0	565	360
Gift Aid	990	0	990	0
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b><u>20,215</u></b>	<b><u>49,144</u></b>	<b><u>69,359</u></b>	<b><u>89,379</u></b>
<b>Costs of Providing Charitable Activities (Note 4)</b>				
Cost of providing Charitable Activities	2,620	0	2,620	464
Charitable Activities	20,698	37,213	57,911	86,850
<b>Total Resources expended</b>	<b><u>23,318</u></b>	<b><u>37,213</u></b>	<b><u>60,531</u></b>	<b><u>87,314</u></b>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b><u>(3,103)</u></b>	<b><u>11,931</u></b>	<b><u>8,828</u></b>	<b><u>2,065</u></b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total Funds brought forward	<u>42,737</u>	<u>18,792</u>	<u>61,529</u>	<u>59,464</u>
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>	<b><u>39,634</u></b>	<b><u>30,723</u></b>	<b><u>70,357</u></b>	<b><u>61,529</u></b>

**Friends of Ruskin Park**  
**Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2023**

		£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>	(Note 5)	0	0
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors		5,000	6,192
Cash at bank and in hand		69,373	79,490
<b>Total Current assets</b>		<b><u>74,373</u></b>	<b><u>85,682</u></b>
Creditors falling due within one year	(Note 6)	(4,016)	(694)
Prepaid Income		0	(23,459)
<b>Net Assets</b>		<b><u>70,357</u></b>	<b><u>61,529</u></b>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>			
Unrestricted Funds		39,634	42,737
Restricted Funds	(Note 7)	30,723	18,792
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b><u>70,357</u></b>	<b><u>61,529</u></b>

Chair

Date:

**Friends of Ruskin Park**  
**Notes to the Accounts**

**Note 1: Accounting Policies**

The principal accounting policies are summarised below. The accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout the period.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis of the historic cost convention and in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005) issued in March 2005.

Fund Accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are recognised once the charity has entitlement to the resources, it is certain that the resources will be received and the monetary value of incoming resources can be measured with sufficient reliability. Grants and donations are included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources and incoming resources from tax reclaims are included at the same time as the gift to which they relate. Investment income is included when receivable.

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred.

Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its members. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the SoFA on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are directly allocated.

Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost useful life as follows:-

Computer equipment - 33.33% straight line basis

Fixtures & Fittings - 33.33% straight line basis

## Friends of Ruskin Park

### Note 2: Trustees Remuneration

No remuneration was paid to the trustees in the 12 month period ended

### Note 3: Analysis of incoming resources

	<b>Total Funds 12 month period to 31st August 2023 £</b>
<i>Voluntary income:</i>	
Unrestricted donations/income	19,020
Restricted donations/grants	49,144
Gift Aid	990
<i>Investment income:</i>	
Bank Interest	205
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>69,359</u></b>

### Note 4: Analysis of costs of providing charitable activities

	<b>12 month period to 31st August 2023 £</b>
AGM	168
Fundraising	1,162
Admin/Insurance	750
Database/IT Support	190
Governance	350
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>2,620</u></b>

### Note 5 Fixed assets

No assets are owned by the charity

### Note 6 : analysis of Creditors

Accruals	<u>4,016</u>
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### Note 7: Analysis of Restricted Funds

Balance B/F	18,792
Donations/Grants	<u>49,144</u>
Expenditure	(37,213)
<b>Balance C/F</b>	<b><u>30,723</u></b>

**Friends of Ruskin Park**  
**Profit and Loss for the year to 31st August 2023**

<u>Turnover</u>	<u>£</u>
Donations/Grants	60,934
Events	6,870
Interest/other	565
Gift Aid	990
<b>TOTAL TURNOVER</b>	<u>69,359</u>
<u>Costs</u>	
General Admin	554
Fundraising	1,162
IT Costs	190
Charitable Activities	57,911
Legal & Governance	714
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<u>60,531</u>
<b><u>OPERATING PROFIT</u></b>	<b><u>8,828</u></b>



# Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

FRIENDS OF RUSKIN PARK (FORP)

On accounts for the year  
ended

31 AUGUST 2023

Charity no  
(if any)

1166358

Set out on pages

1 to 7

Respective  
responsibilities of  
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's 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,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent  
examiner's statement

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 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; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or

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

Signed:

Date:

14/12/2023

Name:

Patricia Jane Ward

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

FCMA, CGMA, MiP.

Address:

49 Verdayne Avenue, Shirley, Croydon, Surrey CR0 8TW


**Section B**

**Disclosure**

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

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

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying most of the page. It is intended for the user to provide details as requested in the text above.

**FRIENDS OF RUSKIN PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166358

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# Accounts

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

A review of our activities  
and achievements, and  
our priorities for the year  
ahead

The Friends of Ruskin Park (FoRP) has been operating as a community group since 1996. We established a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) in 2016.

This annual report relates to the charity's accounting year from 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022.

# CONTENTS

<b>Our objectives and aims</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Review of 2021-22</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Thank-you to our volunteers</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Treasurer's report</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Achievements and priorities</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Structure, governance and management</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Financial statements</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Independent Examiner's Report</b>	<b>22</b>



*“The Friends of Ruskin Park is established to protect and promote the enjoyment of Ruskin Park (a public park situated on Denmark Hill in Camberwell, London) for the benefit, now and in the future, of all park users.”*

# OUR OBJECTIVES AND AIMS

1. To **work collaboratively with the park’s landlord**, Lambeth Council, and its tenants, to help their management to **maximise all aspects of the quality of Ruskin Park**, as desired by park users and within available resources.
2. To **engage park users and the wider community** in maintaining and improving the park for their own health and wellbeing, for now and in the future, and balancing their different interests.
3. To run, sponsor or support (a) specific desired **events and activities for and with park users** and (b) capital projects for **improvement of physical assets**, that would not otherwise happen.
4. To **ensure we have the resources to achieve the above aims** – financial, people, communications and governance.



*“The Trustees would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the work and wellbeing of Ruskin Park this year”*

# REVIEW OF 2021-22

After a challenging preceding year for everyone in the community, this year has seen important improvements in the park, bolstered by our growing volunteer base.

We have welcomed new committee members and trustees to the Friends, and expanded some of our long-term programmes, thanks to new funding streams, new enthusiastic volunteers and commitment from our trustees.

The dedicated senior parks attendant Tim Daniels, part of Lambeth Landscapes operations team in Lambeth Council, has continued to do an excellent job in maintaining and supporting the park in many different ways. With our volunteers, this makes the park feel cared for and loved. This has been particularly important throughout the exceptionally hot, dry spring and summer months, where we have had to prioritise ecological resilience.

The park has continued to be enjoyed and appreciated by the surrounding community, including reaching new users through different events and activities that have taken place in the park. Income from events and donations means our general fund remains very healthy, and we are considering the best ways to reinvest this back into the park.



# REVIEW OF 2021-22 (cont.)

Volunteering in particular has gone from strength to strength: The Labyrinth Garden and the Community Garden now have a more diverse group of regular volunteers. Supported by Urban Canopy and Lambeth's parks team and funded through successful funding bids, they have transformed areas of the park. Work has also continued on improving the Hut, including the reinstatement of the accessible toilet which is enabling the building and garden to be used more for community activities.

The sense of care for these park spaces and the wider park is supported by our volunteer litter pickers, who are vital to the enhancement of the park environment. We are particularly proud that as a result of Lambeth's parks team, our volunteers and partner organisations working together, Ruskin Park was awarded a London in Bloom Gold, building on our Silver and Silver Gilt awards in previous years. These areas can now be increasingly enjoyed thanks to increased momentum on our memorial bench scheme, which has seen several new benches installed throughout the park.



At our last AGM, Kevin Crook, Assistant Director Neighbourhoods, confirmed that £950,000 had been allocated to a capital programme for Ruskin Park. A Capital Programme Steering Group was started, priority projects were agreed, guided by our joint strategic masterplan. Improvements were made to the paddling pool so it could open in the summer of 2022 and planning for a playground refurbishment started. The first year of working with Lambeth to deliver the programme has been challenging at times and we hope momentum will increase in 2022-3.



# REVIEW OF 2021-22 (cont.)

We have been pleased to be back in face to face contact with park users throughout this year, both within the park and at other community events. We look forward to doing more of this in the year to come, focusing more heavily on activity in the park and outreach to improve diversity and inclusion. We want this to build on our online and digital communications, where we continue to have significant reach and impact. Our online presence continues to expand with over 5,800 followers across our social media platforms, representing more than 30% audience growth over the past year.

We have made progress against many of the objectives we set out for FoRP in the last annual report, but there is always more to do. Please see from page 10 the areas on which we intend to focus in the year ahead, depending as always on volunteer skills and capacity. As ever, we will also be open to new opportunities if they arise.

Lucy Hadfield  
Chair





# Thank-you to our contributors

## Volunteers

- Trustees
- Committee members
- Paddling pool group
- Events teams and performers
- Litter pickers
- Gardeners
- GoodGym volunteers
- Lambeth Council staff volunteers

*“The work of Friends of Ruskin Park would not be possible without the commitment and passion of our trustees, volunteers and partners.”*

## Funders, partners and donors

- Camberwell Society
- GoodGym
- Franey Foundation
- Harkness Roses
- Herne Hill Forum
- Herne Hill Society
- Lambeth Council
- Lambeth Parks Forum
- London Community Foundation
- London Friends of Green Spaces Network
- Member donors
- Myatt’s Fields Park Project
- National Grid
- National Lottery Community Fund
- Paddling pool donors
- Postcode Society Trust
- South London and Maudsley NHS Trust
- Steel Warriors
- Urban Canopy
- Urban Village



# Treasurer's Report

As you will have seen throughout the annual report, FoRP has been very active this year and this is reflected in our financial results, with both income and expenditure significantly higher than the previous period. As ever, we are very grateful for the generous donations we receive from the users of the park and other supporters as well as to the bodies that have provided us with grants in the past year.

	2021/22			2020/21	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds		Total	Total
	General fund	Grants fund	Paddling pool fund		
Income	25,706	15,915	47,758	89,379	30,536
Expenses	(29,468)	(14,766)	(43,080)	(87,314)	(22,017)
Retained	(3,762)	1,149	4,678	2,065	8,519
Reserves	42,737	4,990	13,802	61,529	59,464

In the year we had new grants from Lambeth Council for gardening, performance and dance (e.g. bandstand concerts), and the paddling pool refurbishment, as well as from the National Lottery Community Fund for gardening.

In addition to this we received a grant from the Postcode Society Trust (which was awarded during 2021-22 but will not be used until 2022-23 so has been held as deferred income) for gardening including the new Wellbeing Garden.

*“Our healthy financial position means that we will be able to fund more improvements in the park in coming years.”*

# Treasurer’s Report (cont.)

The refurbishment of the paddling pool was a significant project. We had a strong fundraising campaign through donations and grants, which led to nearly in £50,000 being raised for the refurbishment and running costs. The refurbishment has now been completed. We incurred slightly higher than expected running costs as due to hot weather conditions we paid for professional cleaning costs for the pool which was not anticipated.

The general fund is unrestricted and is used to run events and other projects throughout the park over the year. The income and expenses relating to our normal programme of events were back after many of our usual events were interrupted in 2020-21 due to COVID. There was an increase in donations largely due to donations made in memory of two individual park users.

We have spent money from this fund in the year in a variety of ways, the largest being our contribution to the paddling pool refurbishment project (funded from paddling pool fund as well as a contribution from the general fund). Regular park users will hopefully have noticed the new memorial benches which come from donations and the new planting by volunteers paid for from our general fund as well as grant funding.



# Achievements and priorities (1)

## Working in Partnership with Lambeth Landscapes and others

### Achievements last year

**Green volunteering programme + Community Garden**  
Saturday gardening sessions and projects.  
Wednesday litter-picking.

Thanks to grants from the London Community Foundation and National Lottery Community Fund, we ran a year's programme of gardening sessions and gardening workshops with Urban Canopy. We have also seen the Community Garden thrive, with more and more volunteers and greater diversity.

The Community Garden is supported through our links with Myatt's Fields Park. We have also secured funding for a new Wellbeing Garden.

Gardening volunteers, working with Urban Canopy and TCV, have made major improvements to the Rose Garden.

FoRP is very proud to have played a part in Ruskin Park's Gold Award from London in Bloom.

**Workshops, Activities and the Hut**  
Affordable workshops and activities in the park for adults, children and patients from the hospitals.

We gained access to the Hut, with some improvements. Volunteers have started repainting it inside and Lambeth Council has reinstated an adjacent disabled access toilet for users of the building. This has supported volunteering and enabled more workshops to take place in the area.

A series of five free workshops on subjects from pruning to winter greens were run by Fabrice Boltho, from Myatt's Field Community Garden.

### Future Priorities

To maintain energy around the Community Garden, improve communication, and build an even stronger community. We'd also like to repair the bee keeping area and add signage for this and other features within the gardens.

We will deliver the new Wellbeing Garden funded by the Postcode Society Trust, including sensory beds to promote health and wellbeing, and growing spaces for groups including from SLAM NHS Trust.

We hope to be awarded further funding to continue to support the Saturday gardening sessions with Urban Canopy.

To continue the work on the hut, including repainting and purchasing new furniture.

Increase the use of the Hut for community workshops and by partnership organisations, and further clarify how the building is managed with Lambeth Council.

# Achievements and priorities (2)

## Working in Partnership with Lambeth Landscapes and others

### Achievements last year

### Future Priorities

#### Summer Fete and seasonal events

Our big summer community fete. Other ad hoc seasonal/themed events.

The Summer Fete was a success again in June, despite poor weather on the day. We also held the park's first ever dog show in May.

We have firm intentions to deliver the fete and and to create a more sustainable approach to doing so with a stronger volunteer team.

We also facilitated a Petanque tournament in the park that was well-enjoyed and attended.

To consider how and whether we can continue to host the Petanque tournament.

#### Bandstand Concerts

Programme of summer music at the bandstand

We were delighted to host a full and successful bandstand programme through the summer.

To hold another bandstand programme in 2023, with a focus on a diversified range of performers, to reflect more of the local demography and attract new users to the park.

#### Other Heritage Items

Engaging park users with the varied heritage of the park looking at the past and the future.

We extended and increased accessibility of the park's heritage, most notably through supporting Lambeth's completion of the Mendelssohn sundial restoration.

To install educational signage for the sundial and the Portico.

We also worked with The Camberwell Society on the Ruskin Tree Walk, which guides you to selected trees with a collection of essays by leading John Ruskin experts. A film of the walk and readings by local people was also made.

To continue to look for opportunities to further bolster access to heritage in the park, including through working with other local organisations.

Our memorial bench programme has had renewed momentum, with many more bench donations being installed.

# Achievements and priorities (3)

## Working in Partnership with Lambeth Landscapes and others

### Achievements last year

### Future Priorities

#### Park improvements

Improvements sponsored or managed by FoRP, additional to larger improvements funded by Lambeth.

We have continued to invest the general fund and work to deliver modest improvements such as new planting and restoration of the rose garden, while holding Lambeth Council to account for delivery of projects they lead.

We must continue this work, and to hold Lambeth Council to account for delivery, e.g. of new picnic tables.

We will consider what small improvements can be delivered through the charity directly, including bench donations and other improvements such as new noticeboards.

#### Paddling pool

Fundraising to enable Lambeth to refurbish the pool and volunteering to keep the paddling pool operational. Partnership with Lambeth.

We successfully secured funding, with Lambeth appointing a contractor to refurbish the paddling pool prior to summer 2022, and it was joyful to see so much use of the paddling pool over the summer. However there are some concerns about the operation of the new systems problems emerged at the end of the season.

To work with Lambeth to ensure that any issues in works to the paddling pool are rectified, and ensure arrangements with contractors are in place, ready for a full summer of use in 2023.

#### Stable Block

Restore to bring the heritage stable block back into use, with clear community benefits.

We continued to work with Lambeth Council to take forward the short-term repairs to the building, but these have not yet been made.

We hope to hear from Lambeth Council about money available to refurbish the stable block in February 2023.

We will continue to hold Lambeth Council to account for the much needed repair and protection of this important building.

#### Old Depot Area

This area is unused after the lease with Trees for Cities ended. A potential long term plan for its use is for a cafe.

We continued to work with Lambeth Council on 'meanwhile' use of this area. The longer term plans are not changed. The depot area has been cleared and the outer fencing is soon to be removed so part of the space will be opened up.

To continue to work with Lambeth Council to bring the depot area back into the park.

# Achievements and priorities (4)

## Working in Partnership with Lambeth Landscapes and others

### Achievements last year

### Future Priorities

#### Partnership Board

Liaising regularly with Lambeth through the Partnership Board

We regularly attended Lambeth Council's Park Partnership Board and Lambeth Parks Forum.

The development officer for Ruskin Park changed in early 2022 and the Partnership Board met less often.

Lambeth's Capital Studio was charged with running the capital programme for Ruskin Park.

To continue engagement with Lambeth Parks Forum, focused on opportunities for Ruskin Park, e.g. managing climate change, ecological resilience and diversity and inclusion.

To ensure good partnership governance with Lambeth that effective project management, funding and communications are in place for successful delivery of the capital works.

#### Communications, and User Engagement

Engaging the diverse range of park users and members, particularly to understand their needs and to connect with Lambeth Council.

We delivered regular communications about our and other significant park activities, online in several modes, and with posters.

We have had greater engagement with other local parks such as Myatt's Fields and Loughborough Park. This has led to increased events and diversity of park users.

To secure skills and capacity from our supporters to continue regular and effective communications and user engagement.

To rethink and action the ways we engage users, particularly those that are hard to reach yet could benefit from access to the park. This is with the aim of increasing and diversifying our membership (see below).

#### Governance and Membership

Holding good governance as a membership organisation, and complying with the Charity Commission.

Our Committee has grown in numbers this year, which is very positive. This has enabled us to consider more defined roles and responsibilities, to support succession planning.

We reviewed and agreed a revised Safeguarding policy for children and at-risk adults to underpin our growing work.

To continue to ensure committee members have the skills and capacity to review and share the responsibilities for effective governance.

To encourage volunteers to be members and to fill any skills gaps that arise on the Committee.

# Structure, Governance and Management

## Membership

FoRP membership is open to anyone who is interested in furthering its purposes, though the trustees are able to set a reasonable fee for membership. The membership fee is currently zero. As of 15th November 2022, FoRP had 444 recorded members, including 58 lapsed members who will receive invitations to renew.

## Governance

FoRP is governed by a CIO constitution adopted in March 2016 and approved by the Charity Commission in April 2016. This can be viewed on our website.



## Committee

Additional committee members are appointed by the trustees to assist with the management of our activities. This year they included Kathy Erasmus, Alex Penn, Rosie Kinchen, Claire Vinycomb, Jo Henderson, Abi Oke, Andrea Woodside, Charles Murphy and Jemima Ashdown. After retiring as a trustee, Julie Simpson remains on the Committee.

## Trustees

We have a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 11 trustees. They are appointed at our AGM, with a third standing down or being re-appointed each year. At other times the existing trustees may appoint trustees until the next AGM.

The following people were trustees during 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022:

- Lucy Hadfield (Chair)
- Jared Cotton (Treasurer)
- Chris Norris
- Julie Simpson (stepped down 25 May 2022)
- Kate Malleson
- Mandy Millward
- Deepak Sardiwal (stepped down 31st October 2022)
- Michelle Warbis
- Celine Gilbert (appointed by trustees 25th May 2022)
- Andrew Ruck (appointed by trustees 1st July 2022)



# Financial Statements

## Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The Charities Act (2011) and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the Charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

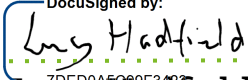
- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

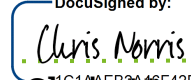
The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

### Signed on behalf of the Trustees by

DocuSigned by:  
  
 7DEDDA5C99F3427  
**Lucy Hadfield, Trustee**

1/31/2023

Date

DocuSigned by:  
  
 11C1AAEB2A46E42E  
**Chris Norris, Trustee**

1/31/2023

Date

*"The charity trustees prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources including the income and expenditure of the Charity"*

# Statement of Financial Activities

For period year ended 31 August 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds		Total 31/8/2022 £	Total 31/8/2021 £
		General 31/8/2022 £	Grant funds * 31/8/2022 £	Paddling pool funds 31/8/2022 £	Total 31/8/2022 £		
<b>Income</b>							
Donations/grants	3	16,503	15,915	47,758	80,176	29,887	
Events	3	8,843	0	0	8,843	289	
Other income		360	0	0	360	360	
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>25,706</u>	<u>15,915</u>	<u>47,758</u>	<u>89,379</u>	<u>30,536</u>	
<b>Expenditure</b>							
Charitable activities	4	(29,004)	(14,766)	(43,080)	(86,850)	(21,663)	
Other costs	4	(464)	0	0	(464)	(354)	
Total expenditure		<u>(29,468)</u>	<u>(14,766)</u>	<u>(43,080)</u>	<u>(87,314)</u>	<u>(22,017)</u>	
<b>Net (expense)/income for the year</b>		<u>(3,762)</u>	<u>1,149</u>	<u>4,678</u>	<u>2,065</u>	<u>8,520</u>	
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>							
Balance brought forward		45,013	5,327	9,124	59,464	50,944	
Net (expenditure)/income		(3,762)	1,149	4,678	2,065	8,520	
Transfers**		1,486	(1,486)	0	0	0	
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<u>42,737</u>	<u>4,990</u>	<u>13,802</u>	<u>61,529</u>	<u>59,464</u>	

\* The Grants funds are made up of grants from the London Community Foundation, National Lottery Community Fund and Lambeth Council.

\*\* Residual restricted funds from grants are released to unrestricted funds where any unspent grant is below the threshold for requiring repayment.



# Balance Sheet

## at 31 August 2022

	<i>Notes</i>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash		79,489	66,925
Debtors		6,192	-
Total current assets		<u>85,681</u>	<u>66,925</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due in one year</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>(24,152)</b>	<b>(7,462)</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u><b>61,529</b></u>	<u><b>59,463</b></u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
<i>Unrestricted income fund</i>			
General fund		42,737	45,012
<i>Restricted income funds</i>			
Grant funds		4,990	5,327
Paddling pool fund		13,802	9,124
Total charity funds		<u>61,529</u>	<u>59,463</u>

Note: Debtors relates to Lambeth Council Performance and Dance Grant which was awarded based on expenditure in FY22 but not paid until FY23.

The Trustees are satisfied that the Charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under the Charities Act 2011. The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit in accordance with the Act. The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.





Photograph: Rosalind Logan-Moll 2022

# Notes

## 1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) and in accordance with the FRS 102 itself and the Charities Act 2011.

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemptions permitted by SORP (FRS 102) and have not included a statement of cash flows for the year.

### Income policy

Items of income are recognised and include in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- Any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- There is sufficient certainty that the receipt of the income is considered probable; and the amount can be reliably measured.

Donations, voluntary income and grants are recognised in the period they are received where the above conditions have been met (except for grants that specify that they can only be used in a future accounting period).

### Volunteers

SORP (FRS 102) specifically excludes the inclusion of the value of the contributions of volunteers to the charity on the basis that there is no reliable method of measurement of their activities. As a result the value of services provided by volunteers is not included in the financial statements. The valuable contribution provided by the volunteers is discussed in more detail in the Trustees Report.



Photograph: Nick Dolding 2022

# Notes (cont.)

## Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charities operations.

## Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following headings:

Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the operation of the Charity. These include both the direct and support costs relating to these activities.

Other costs include those incurred in the governance of the Charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

VAT suffered is included within the relative expenses or asset and is not shown separately.

## 2. Legal status

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and has no share capital. If the CIO is wound up, the members of the CIO have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for setting its debts and liabilities.

The Charity was registered on 5 April 2016 under registration number 1166358. Accordingly the Charity is exempt from the Corporation Tax in respect to its charitable activities and any investment income receivable.

# Notes (cont.)

## 3. Income

	General 31/8/2022 £	Grant funds 31/8/2022 £	Paddling pool funds 31/8/2022 £	Total 31/8/2022 £	Total 31/8/2021 £
<b>Income</b>					
<i>Grants</i>					
London Community Foundation	-	-	-	-	9,820
Neighbourly	-	-	-	-	1,000
Summer Fete (Lambeth Council)	-	-	-	-	1,390
Groundwork - Power to Change grant*	-	(727)	-	(727)	-
Bandstand concerts (Lambeth Council)	-	6,192	-	6,192	-
Gardening Grant (Lambeth Council)	-	750	-	750	-
Social Value Fund (Lambeth Council)	-	-	20,000	20,000	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	9,700	-	9,700	-
<i>Donations</i>					
Paddling pool donations	-	-	27,758	27,758	520
Other donations and subscriptions	16,503	-	-	16,503	13,481
Gift Aid claims	-	-	-	-	3,676
<i>Events</i>					
Fete	5,712	-	-	5,712	235
Other events	3,131	-	-	3,131	54
Other income	360	-	-	360	360
<b>Total income</b>	<b>25,706</b>	<b>15,915</b>	<b>47,758</b>	<b>89,379</b>	<b>30,536</b>

**Note:** \*Groundwork - Power to Change grant relates to unspent funding that was repaid to the grant provider.

## 4. Expenses

	General 31/8/2022 £	Grant funds 31/8/2022 £	Paddling pool funds 31/8/2022 £	Total 31/8/2022 £	Total 31/8/2021 £
<b>Expenses</b>					
<i>Charitable expenditure</i>					
Fete expense	(4,496)	(3,109)	-	(7,605)	(394)
Pool expenses	(12,000)	-	(43,080)	(55,080)	(1,212)
Other event expense	(1,136)	-	-	(1,136)	-
Bandstand concerts	(94)	(2,000)	-	(2,094)	(1,700)
Freelance worker expenses	-	(680)	-	(680)	(3,891)
Gardening/volunteering programme	(631)	(8,562)	-	(9,193)	(5,152)
Communications	(144)	(115)	-	(259)	(484)
Community activities	(566)	-	-	(566)	(740)
Bench replacement programme	(8,732)	-	-	(8,732)	(2,031)
Community garden	(891)	(300)	-	(1,191)	(6,060)
Other expenses	(314)	-	-	(314)	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>(29,004)</b>	<b>(14,766)</b>	<b>(43,080)</b>	<b>(86,850)</b>	<b>(21,663)</b>
<i>Other costs</i>					
Insurance	(345)	-	-	(345)	(325)
AGM	(80)	-	-	(80)	-
Sundries	(39)	-	-	(39)	(29)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(464)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(464)</b>	<b>(354)</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>(29,468)</b>	<b>(14,766)</b>	<b>(43,080)</b>	<b>(87,314)</b>	<b>(22,017)</b>

**Note:** As the 2021 Fete was delayed and held in September 2021, there were two Fetes held within FY22.

Pool expenses include a £54,000 contribution to the Paddling Pool refurbishment project undertaken in partnership with Lambeth Council and £1,080 in pool cleaning costs.



Photograph: Nick Dolding 2022

# Notes (cont.)

## 5. Staff Costs

The Charity had no staff costs in the year and none of the trustees received any remuneration or benefits in kind for their work on the Charity.

## 5. Tax

The Charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

## 5. Debtors

All amounts are accounts receivable and are expected to be recoverable.

## 8. Creditors

	2022	2021
Accruals	693	3,212
Deferred income	23,459	4,250
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,152</b>	<b>7,462</b>

Deferred income relates to a Postcode Society Grant for £21,759 which was received during FY22 but will be used during FY23 and 2x benches which we have received donations for during FY22 but had not been built by Lambeth by the end of the FY22 period.

Accrued expenditure relates to payments for the Summer Fete in June 2022 and a bandstand concert in August 2022 which had not been paid by the end of FY22.

# Independent Examiner’s Report to the Trustees

I report on the accounts of Friends of Ruskin Park for the period ending 31st August 2022.

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity’s trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity’s 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,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, 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; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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.

DocuSigned by:  
  
 4AE0C6B88F9D4E5...  
**Sue McDonald**  
 Independent Examiner

1/31/2023  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date



**FRIENDS OF RUSKIN PARK**

England & Wales - Charity number 1166358

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# Accounts

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

A review of our activities  
and achievements, and  
our priorities for the year  
ahead

The Friends of Ruskin Park (FoRP) has been operating as a community group since 1996. We established a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) in 2016.

This annual report relates to the charity's accounting year from 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021.

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*“The Friends of Ruskin Park is established to protect and promote the enjoyment of Ruskin Park (a public park situated on Denmark Hill in Camberwell, London) for the benefit, now and in the future, of all park users.”*

# OUR OBJECTIVES AND AIMS

1. To **work collaboratively with the park’s landlord**, Lambeth Council, and its tenants, to help their management to **maximise all aspects of the quality of Ruskin Park**, as desired by park users and within available resources.
2. To **engage park users and the wider community** in maintaining and improving the park for their own health and wellbeing, for now and in the future, and balancing their different interests.
3. To run, sponsor or support (a) specific desired **events and activities for and with park users** and (b) capital projects for **improvement of physical assets**, that would not otherwise happen.
4. To **ensure we have the resources to achieve the above aims** – financial, people, communications and governance.



*“The Trustees would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the work and wellbeing of Ruskin Park this year – a year of immense uncertainty for us all.”*

# REVIEW OF 2020-21

This was a year of great challenge and uncertainty for everyone due to Covid 19.

We came out of lockdown at the start of the year and restrictions continued to varying degrees until the end of the year. We have also had several changes in committee members and we remember with gratitude and sadness David Benson, our treasurer, whose life was curtailed suddenly in May.

The benefits of our park have been openly appreciated more than ever, and that has given greater recognition to all those who work for the park in many different capacities. Our dedicated park keeper, backed by the operations team, has made a huge difference to the park feeling more loved and cared for. Since Covid started, the footfall and number of activities in the park has increased.



*“I love this park – it’s been my sanctuary over the past year”*

Park user - April 2021

## REVIEW OF 2020-21 (cont.)

We are most proud of our appeal for volunteers giving a surge in gardening volunteers who have, together with our stalwart litter pickers, added so much to the care and enhancement of our beautiful park. Their efforts have been well organised and supported Lambeth’s parks team. Together, they have given joy again to the labyrinth garden, surrounding beds and many other areas and new friendships have been made.

Much of our work continued in partnership mainly with Lambeth Landscapes, to whom we are a ‘critical friend’, along with other partners. There has been progress on many fronts, and our highlights are set out on the following pages.





# REVIEW OF 2020-21 (cont.)

- We consider ecological resilience to be a high priority for the park and work with Lambeth's tree officer and others on planting plans.
- We have continued to fight for a future for the historic stable block when the proposed use by the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust did not work out.
- Recognising that the filtration plant for the paddling pool was no longer fit for purpose, we formed a collective effort with Urban Village to raise money for a necessary refurbishment before the 2022 season. It was an ambitious target and the response surpassed our expectations. We managed to open the pool for part of the summer.
- New heritage landmarks have appeared in the park - a fine restored sundial commemorating Mendelssohn composing Spring Song here, a splendid unique bench made pro bono from a 100 year old fallen ash tree by a local resident, and several more new memorial benches donated by individuals with their personal messages.
- Minor work has started on enabling the Hut and surrounding garden to be used for community activities
- The pond remained under vigilant eyes and the water levels held up.
- We have been successful this year in fundraising, both for specific projects through grants and thanks to the generosity of individual donors. The challenge of spending money wisely on new and sustainable projects remains a priority.
- We spent unexpected time and energy listening to the community and then challenging (successfully) Lambeth's intention to give an inappropriate concession to the Open Arms for entertainment and food and alcohol sales in the park.
- Towards the end of the year, it was clear our hopes were becoming real for significant investment in the park's neglected infrastructure and improvement schemes (as guided by a joint strategic 'masterplan' finalised in 2019/20). This is after many years of lobbying by FoRP. Nearly £1 million has been pledged together with project management resources over the next couple of years. Now the focus will be on communication and engaging the community as plans are finalised and implemented.



# REVIEW OF 2020-21 (cont.)

The Summer Fete (postponed from June to September) and bandstand concert programme were even bigger and better this year after the unavoidable cancellations the year before. The enjoyment was evidently precious and the work of the performers and volunteers who made them happen against the odds should not be taken for granted. Unfortunately, we were not able to run a photography competition last year, but would welcome volunteers to help organise one in the future.

We had a stall by the bandstand to talk to park users in April. Otherwise, it has been hard to have as much face-to-face engagement with users and stakeholders as we would want, and have had before. We have, however, used more electronic communications and social media. The number of clicks, posts and chats through various channels has shown how much interest people have in our activities. Since June 2021, there has been a significant jump in the number of followers on each of our social media platforms by at least 10 per cent. In total, across Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, FoRP now has approaching 4,500 followers. Of course, different people prefer different communication channels and we use a range in our engagements.

We have made progress in many of the objectives we set out for FoRP in the last annual report, but there is always more to do. Please see below from page 8 the areas on which we intend to focus in the year ahead, depending as always on volunteer skills and capacity to make our intentions happen. We will also be open to new opportunities if they arise.

As your chair for 4 years, I am now looking to find a successor so I can pass on the lead baton smoothly next year, as FoRP continues to strive to serve the community of park users.

**Lucy Hadfield**  
**Chair**

*“The work of Friends of Ruskin Park would not be possible without the commitment and passion of our trustees, volunteers and partners.”*

# Thank-you to our contributors

## Volunteers

- Trustees
- Paddling pool group
- Events teams and volunteers
- Litter pickers
- Gardeners
- Walk leaders
- Tree group
- GoodGym volunteers
- Events performers

## Funders, partners and donors

- Urban Village
- Urban Canopy
- Lambeth Council
- Postcode Local Trust
- Heritage of London Trust
- London Community Foundation
- Virgin Media O2 and Neighbourly
- UK Power Networks
- Herne Hill Forum
- Herne Hill Society
- Steel Warriors
- GoodGym
- Paddling pool donors
- Member donors





# Treasurer's Report

This has been another unusual year for FoRP as we adapt to COVID-19, and this is reflected in our financial results. As ever, we are very grateful for the generous donations we receive from the users of the park and other supporters as well as to the bodies that have provided us with grants in the past year.

	2020/21			2019/20	
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds		Total	Total
	General fund	Grants fund	Paddling pool fund		
Income	17,806	12,210	520	30,586	37,983
Expenses	(4,951)	(15,854)	(1,212)	(22,017)	(29,755)
Retained	12,855	(3,644)	(692)	8,519	8,228
Reserves	45,012	5,327	9,124	59,463	50,944

We are showing a profit for the year and this is largely due to an increase in donations to our unrestricted general fund. This includes increased regular donations from our members as well as one-off donations in memory of our late Treasurer, David Benson. It also reflects the growth in our bench donation scheme and a contribution from UK Power Networks in respect of disturbance to the park as a result of works carried out in recent years.

*“Our healthy financial position means that we will be able to fund more improvements in the park in coming years.”*

## Treasurer’s Report (cont.)

The timing of grant income and associated expenditure continues to overlap financial years. In this year we completed delivery of activities funded by the Postcode Local Trust for improvements to the Community Garden. We received new grants from Lambeth Council for the Summer Fete, Neighbourly for our Bandstand concerts, and London Community Foundation for our volunteering programme.

The paddling pool operated again this year for a reduced season, with some donations continuing. Paddling pool expenditure was reduced due in part to a historic water bill no longer being due. In the forthcoming year we expect significant fundraising and expenditure related to a full refurbishment of the pool.

Our healthy financial position means that we will be able to fund more improvements in the park in coming years. As well as contributing to the refurbishment of the paddling pool, we expect to fund tree planting and gardening projects, building on recent investment in the Labyrinth Garden and surrounding beds. We also expect events income and expenditure to return to normal levels following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

The full financial statements can be found at the end of this report.

# Achievements and priorities (1)

## Working in Partnership with Lambeth Landscapes and others

### Achievements last year

Partnership Board and Lambeth Parks Forum met regularly through the year, inputting to Lambeth's policies for parks, e.g the Green Flag Management Plan, the 2020 strategic masterplan, and Health Parks pilot.

Funding allocated to tree planting, flower beds. 4 new benches installed this year with more on order. Progress on other improvements affected by Covid 19.

Volunteer group managed a limited opening in school holidays in 2021, pending necessary refurbishment works. Works specified, put out to tender and funding plan started, appealing to the community to help meet the costs.

### Future Priorities

Ensuring project management, partnerships, funding and communications are in place for the first phase of capital works. Respond to support operational issues. Ensure that **ecological resilience** is integrated into strategic direction and part of any decision making.

Continue to invest through our discretionary fund and work to deliver more items guided by the strategic masterplan, e.g. noticeboards, picnic tables. Align with Lambeth's S106 spend.

Funding secured and chosen contractor completes the work by summer of 2022. Volunteer-led operations to restart for full summer opening.

### Partnership Board

Liaising regularly with Lambeth through the Partnership Board and Lambeth Parks Forum on strategic and operational issues.

### Park improvements

Improvements sponsored or managed by FoRP, additional to larger improvements funded by Lambeth.

### Paddling pool

Fundraising to enable Lambeth to refurbish the pool and volunteering to keep the paddling pool operational. Partnership with Lambeth.

# Achievements and priorities (2)

## Working in Partnership with Lambeth Landscapes and others

### Achievements last year

### Future Priorities

#### Stable Block

Restore to bring the heritage stable block back into use, with clear community benefits.

Working with Lambeth to try to prevent further short term dilapidation while also working on a longer term plan for the restoration and use of the building.

Work with Lambeth to take forward the short-term repairs to the building as early as possible in 2022. Continue to push for a long term plan.

#### Other Heritage Items

Engaging park users with the varied heritage of the park looking at the past and the future.

The Mendelssohn sundial, commemorating Spring Song being composed here, was restored and moved to a more suitable position. This was led by the Heritage of London Trust, supported by Lambeth and FoRP. Also, a splendid and unique bench was completed by a local resident, pro bono, recycled from a 100 year old felled ash tree.

We always look for opportunities to extend the accessibility of the park's heritage through landmarks, signage and activities.

#### Old Depot Area

This area is unused after the lease with Trees for Cities was ended earlier this year. The potential long term plan for its use is for a cafe.

Starting to work with Lambeth on agreeing the longer term options for bringing this area back into use and reincorporating it in the park.

Some of this area will be opened up by Lambeth Landscapes to connect to other public areas, while retaining the smaller, fenced area for 'meanwhile' use at low cost.

# Achievements and priorities (3)

## Activities initiated by the Friends of Ruskin Park

### Achievements last year

### Future Priorities

#### Green volunteering programme + Community Garden

Saturday gardening sessions and projects.  
Wednesday litter-picking/volunteering.

Sessions have thrived, with increased numbers interested in gardening volunteering during lockdown.

Increasingly taking on gardening projects, e.g. wildlife garden and flower beds. Priorities agreed with Lambeth Landscapes. New grant funding found until 2022. Closer links formed between FoRP and the Community Garden, helped by the Postcode Lottery grant.

Continue to support and build the session groups as funding for facilitators may not be available in future. Bring FoRP and the Community Garden even closer together and increase access to the Community Garden.

#### Workshops, Activities and the Hut

Affordable workshops and activities in the park for adults, children and patients from the hospitals.

Past activities include: • Working with Community Garden to organise gardening workshops • Supporting the SLaM gardening groups • Bat Walks with Iain Boulton from Lambeth • Plant Folklore Walks with South London Botanical Institute • Mindful Walks. The Hut is becoming useable for some indoor community activities.

To find volunteers and/or partners to lead and plan workshops and activities. To encourage Lambeth to complete necessary low cost adaptations to the Hut to make it more useable, such as reinstatement of the toilet.

# Achievements and priorities (4)

## Activities initiated by the Friends of Ruskin Park

### Achievements last year

### Future Priorities

#### Summer Fete and seasonal events

Our big summer community fete. Other ad hoc seasonal/themed events.

Though we postponed the Summer Fete from June to September, we were delighted it went ahead so successfully.

We plan to hold a dog show in May 2022 and the Summer Fete again in June.

#### Bandstand Concerts

Programme of summer music at the bandstand

We were delighted to host a full and successful programme last summer, despite the challenges of taking mandatory Covid precautions. We collaborated with the Herne Hill Music Festival.

We plan to hold a bandstand programme in 2022.



# Achievements and priorities (5)

## Running the charity of Friends of Ruskin Park

### Achievements last year

### Future Priorities

#### Communications, and User Engagement

Engaging the diverse range of park users and members, particularly to understand their needs and to connect with Lambeth Council.

Continuing to deliver regular communications about our and other significant park activities, online in several modes, and with posters. Took an active role in channelling the interest taken by the community which was generated by the event application by Open Arms to enable Lambeth to make an informed decision. Held 'have your say' in the park, ad hoc and at our events.

To secure the skills and capacity from our supporters to continue regular and effective communications and user engagement.

After a success at Herne Hill market, to hold stalls as a presence at other market or festival events at other venues such as Carnegie Library.

#### Governance and Membership

Holding good governance as a membership organisation, i.e. policies and procedures for FoRP as a charity and for efficient and effective delivery of activities, thus complying with the Charity Commission.

Improvements in membership management have continued. With a recent change of trustees and other committee members, governance has been maintained, but not reviewed this year.

To ensure committee members have the skills and capacity to review and share out the responsibilities for ensuring effective governance, following best practice. Succession planning.

# Structure, Governance and Management

## Membership

FoRP membership is open to anyone who is interested in furthering its purposes, though the trustees are able to set a reasonable fee for membership. The membership fee is currently zero. As of 18th November 2021, FoRP had 458 recorded members, including 129 lapsed members who will receive invitations to renew.

## Governance

FoRP is governed by a CIO constitution adopted in March 2016 and approved by the Charity Commission in April 2016. This can be viewed on our website.



## Committee

As well as the trustees, additional committee members are appointed by the trustees to assist with the management of our activities. This year they include Kathy Erasmus, Alex Penn, Rosie Kinchen, Claire Vinycomb and Jo Henderson. Céline Gilbert and Abi Oke joined in late 2021.

## Trustees

We have a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 11 trustees. They are elected at our AGM for 3 year terms, with a third of trustees standing down each year. At other times the existing trustees may appoint further trustees until the date of the next AGM.

The following people were trustees during 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021:

- **Lucy Hadfield (Chair)**
- **David Benson (Treasurer) deceased 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021**
- **Chris Norris**
- **Julie Simpson**
- **Kate Malleson (confirmed at the AGM in January 2021)**
- **Mandy Millward (confirmed at the AGM in January 2021)**
- **Deepak Sardiwal (appointed by trustees 15th May 2021)**
- **Michelle Warbis (appointed by trustees 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021)**
- **Jared Cotton (appointed by trustees 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021)**



# Financial Statements

## Trustees' responsibilities in relation to the financial statements

The charity trustees are responsible for preparing a trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The Charities Act (2011) and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require the charity trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the Charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to presume that the Charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for maintaining proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011.

The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved on behalf of the Trustees by

DocuSigned by:  
*Lucy Hadfield*

7DED0A5C99F3423...  
**Lucy Hadfield, Chair**

1/26/2022

Date

DocuSigned by:  
*Jared Cotton*

8BA74331BD9F4D9...  
**Jared Cotton, Treasurer**

1/29/2022

Date

*"The charity trustees prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources including the income and expenditure of the Charity"*

# Profit and Loss Accounts

For period year ended 31 August 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds		Total 31/8/2021 £	Total 31/8/2020 £
		General 31/8/2021 £	Grant funds * 31/8/2021 £	Paddling pool funds 31/8/2021 £	Total 31/8/2021 £		
<b>Income</b>							
Donations/grants	3	17,157	12,210	520	29,887	36,150	
Events	3	289	-	-	289	1,474	
Other income		360	-	-	360	360	
<b>Total Income</b>		<u>17,806</u>	<u>12,210</u>	<u>520</u>	<u>30,536</u>	<u>37,983</u>	
<b>Expenditure</b>							
Charitable activities	4	(4,597)	(15,854)	(1,212)	(21,663)	(28,938)	
Other costs	4	(354)	-	-	(354)	(817)	
Total expenditure		<u>(4,951)</u>	<u>(15,854)</u>	<u>(1,212)</u>	<u>(22,017)</u>	<u>(29,755)</u>	
<b>Net (expense)/income for the year</b>		<u>12,855</u>	<u>(3,644)</u>	<u>(692)</u>	<u>8,519</u>	<u>8,228</u>	
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>							
Balance brought forward		30,307	10,821	9,816	50,944	42,716	
Net (expenditure)/income		12,855	(3,644)	(692)	8,519	8,228	
Transfers**		1,850	(1,850)	-	-	-	
<b>Balance carried forward</b>		<u>45,012</u>	<u>5,327</u>	<u>9,124</u>	<u>59,463</u>	<u>50,944</u>	

\* The Grants funds are made up of grants from the London Community Foundation, Neighbourly and Lambeth Council.

\*\* Postcode Local Trust made £1,850 in remaining funds unrestricted as part of their response to COVID-19.

# Balance Sheet

## at 31 August 2021

	Notes	2021	2020
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash		66,925	68,458
Debtors		-	-
Total current assets		<u>66,925</u>	<u>68,458</u>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due in one year</b>	7	(7,462)	(17,514)
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>59,463</u>	<u>50,944</u>
<b>Funds of the charity</b>			
<i>Unrestricted income fund</i>			
General fund		45,012	30,307
<i>Restricted income funds</i>			
Grant funds		5,327	10,821
Paddling pool fund		9,124	9,816
Total charity funds		<u>59,463</u>	<u>50,944</u>

The Trustees are satisfied that the Charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under the Charities Act 2011. The members have not required the charitable company to obtain an audit in accordance with the Act. The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.





# Notes

## 1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) and in accordance with the FRS 102 itself and the Charities Act 2011.

The Trustees have taken advantage of the exemptions permitted by SORP (FRS 102) and have not included a statement of cash flows for the year.

### Income policy

Items of income are recognised and include in the accounts when all of the following criteria are met:

- The charity has entitlement to the funds;
- Any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met or are fully within the control of the charity;
- There is sufficient certainty that the receipt of the income is considered probable; and the amount can be reliably measured.

Donations, voluntary income and grants are recognised in the period they are received where the above conditions have been met (except for grants that specify that they can only be used in a future accounting period).

### Volunteers

SORP (FRS 102) specifically excludes the inclusion of the value of the contributions of volunteers to the charity on the basis that there is no reliable method of measurement of their activities. As a result the value of services provided by volunteers is not included in the financial statements. The valuable contribution provided by the volunteers is discussed in more detail in the Trustees Report.



# Notes (cont.)

## Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charities operations.

## Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following headings:

Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the operation of the Charity. These include both the direct and support costs relating to these activities.

Other costs include those incurred in the governance of the Charity and its assets and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements.

VAT suffered is included within the relative expenses or asset and is not shown separately.

## 2. Legal status

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and has no share capital. If the CIO is wound up, the members of the CIO have no liability to contribute to its assets and no personal responsibility for setting its debts and liabilities.

The Charity was registered on 5 April 2016 under registration number 1166358. Accordingly the Charity is exempt from the Corporation Tax in respect to its charitable activities and any investment income receivable.

# Notes (cont.)

## 3. Income

	General 31/8/2021 £	Grant funds 31/8/2021 £	Paddling pool funds 31/8/2021 £	Total 31/8/2021 £	Total 31/8/2020 £
<b>Income</b>					
<i>Grants</i>					
Arts Council	-	-	-	-	1,322
Greater London Authority	-	-	-	-	4,511
Bandstand concerts (Lambeth Council)	-	-	-	-	2,132
London Community Foundation	-	9,820	-	9,820	-
Postcode Local Trust	-	-	-	-	19,648
Summer Fete (Lambeth Council)	-	1,390	-	1,390	-
Neighbourly	-	1,000	-	1,000	-
<i>Donations</i>					
Paddling pool donations	-	-	520	520	3,649
Other donations and subscriptions	13,481	-	-	13,481	4,887
Gift Aid claims	3,676	-	-	3,676	-
<i>Events</i>					
Fete	235	-	-	235	-
Other events	54	-	-	54	1,474
Other income	360	-	-	360	360
<b>Total income</b>	<u>17,806</u>	<u>12,210</u>	<u>520</u>	<u>30,536</u>	<u>37,983</u>

## 4. Expenses

	General 31/8/2021 £	Grant funds 31/8/2021 £	Paddling pool funds 31/8/2021 £	Total 31/8/2021 £	Total 31/8/2020 £
<b>Expenses</b>					
<i>Charitable expenditure</i>					
Fete expense	(114)	(280)	-	(394)	(50)
Pool expenses	-	-	(1,212)	(1,212)	(548)
Other event expense	-	-	-	-	(1,991)
Bandstand concerts	(41)	(1,659)	-	(1,700)	(500)
John Ruskin expenses	-	-	-	-	(5,440)
Wildlife garden development	-	-	-	-	(4,829)
Tree planting	-	-	-	-	(1,233)
Freelance worker expenses	-	(3,891)	-	(3,891)	-
Gardening/volunteering programme	(1,534)	(3,618)	-	(5,152)	(90)
Communications	(137)	(346)	-	(484)	(375)
Community activities	(740)	-	-	(740)	(275)
Bench replacement programme	(2,031)	-	-	(2,031)	(2,402)
Community garden	-	(6,060)	-	(6,060)	(9,801)
Health and wellbeing	-	-	-	-	(1,404)
<b>Total</b>	<u>(4,597)</u>	<u>(15,854)</u>	<u>(1,212)</u>	<u>(21,663)</u>	<u>(28,938)</u>
<i>Other costs</i>					
Insurance	(325)	-	-	(325)	(617)
AGM	-	-	-	-	(200)
Sundries	(29)	-	-	(29)	-
<b>Total</b>	<u>(354)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(354)</u>	<u>(817)</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<u>(4,951)</u>	<u>(15,854)</u>	<u>(1,212)</u>	<u>(22,017)</u>	<u>(29,755)</u>

**Note:** Pool expenses include negative expenditure of £2,000 for a previously accrued contribution to water usage for the paddling pool which is no longer due.



# Notes (cont.)

## 5. Staff Costs

The Charity had no staff costs in the year and none of the trustees received any remuneration or benefits in kind for their work on the Charity.

## 5. Tax

The Charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.

## 5. Debtors

All amounts are accounts receivable and are expected to be recoverable.

## 8. Creditors

	2021	2020
Accruals	3,212	3,156
Deferred income	4,250	14,358
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,462</b>	<b>17,514</b>

Deferred income was released from two grants (from London Community Foundation and Lambeth Council) and a community contribution from UK Power Networks due to a disruption caused by works undertaken in the park.

Income from bench donations was deferred where benches would not be delivered until the following financial year.

Accrued expenditure relates to the annual commissioning of the paddling pool in July 2021 which had not been billed by the end of the year.

# Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees

I report on the accounts of Friends of Ruskin Park for the period ending 31st August 2021.

## Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's 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,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, 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; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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.

DocuSigned by:  
  
 4AE0C6B88F9D4E5...

Sue McDonald  
 Independent Examiner

1/26/2022

Date

