

Annual Trustee Report of the Friends of the West Oxfordshire Cotswolds Charitable Incorporated Organisation for the year to 28th February 2023

Registered charity number 1175055

Registered address:

Dyers Hill House
Dyers Hill
Charlbury
Chipping Norton
OX7 3QD

Trustees

Jim Clemence
James Whitehead
David Pollock

Bankers

HSBC
18 Market Place
Witney
OX7 5NE

Objectives and activities

The charity promotes the conservation of the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in West Oxfordshire for the public benefit.

The charity trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties.

Achievements and Performance

Since the adoption of the West Oxfordshire Local Plan in September 2018 with policies that support National Policy towards AONBs and promote the conservation of the Cotswolds AONB, the charity has sought to ensure that these are applied properly to avert planning decisions which cause unnecessary and material harm to the AONB. The charity has been working to promote the Cotswolds AONB as a National Park candidate and the other recommendations of the Glover Landscapes Review. It has been disappointed to see the Government fail to deliver on its manifesto pledge to create new National Parks. The charity has had particular concern about the fate of an ancient woodland site adjacent to a development in Charlbury which it has been opposing for a number of years. In spite of its efforts the woodland was clear felled in November 2021. Following the Council's discharge of conditions with a woodland buffer less than required in the consent, the charity issued claim for judicial review. In April 2023 the High Court upheld the charity's claim and the discharge of conditions was quashed. The charity continues to fight this development.

Financial Review

At the end of the period the charity had reserves of £1,091 (2022- £2,355). The net deficit for the year was £1,264 (2022 surplus - £1,301).

The charity raises funds from private donations, largely from within its area of benefit.

The charity raises much of its funding on a campaign basis and holds limited reserves. It aims to maintain a minimum of 4 months' operating expenditure and reserve levels at year end were in excess of this. Reserves are reviewed before spending is incurred.

Structure, governance and management

During the year the charity has been regulated by the Charity Commission as a registered charity. The charity converted under new government regulations from a charitable company limited by guarantee to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation on 10 July 2018.

The charity has a board of trustees who during the year and at the time of reporting comprise:

Jim Clemence
James Whitehead
Mark Hofman

These trustees were reappointed when the charity converted to CIO in 2018 for terms varying from 2 to 4 years. The trustees have been reappointed on the expiry of their terms in office. Any new trustees are invited by the existing board of trustees, based on their qualifications and experience. New trustees are inducted in accordance with Charity Commission guidance, provided with constitutional documents, reports and financial accounts and directed to the relevant charity commission guidance.

Where the charity enters into dealing with parties connected to any of the trustees, the conflicted trustee is required to abstain from any discussion or decision making by the board of trustees.

i. Trustee liabilities

The trustees consider that they have exercised reasonable skill and care in the performance of their duties. The charity is entitled to take trustee indemnity insurance. Any decisions taken by the trustees which may be impacted by the limitation of the charity's liabilities are taken prudently, lawfully and in accordance with the governing document.

ii. Insurance

The charity did not hold trustee indemnity insurance during the financial year.


iii. Payments to trustees

Trustees are reimbursed for expenses incurred on behalf of the charity and may make advances to, and therefore receive repayment from, the charity from time to time. During the year no payments were made to the trustees.

Management

Risk policy:

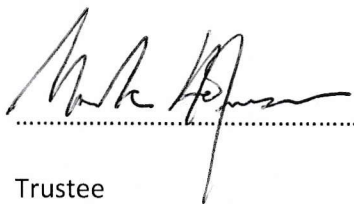
All risks to which the charity is exposed, as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed and systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks.



Trustee

23/12/23

Date



Trustee

21 Dec 23

Date



Trustee

24/12/23

Date

Mark H. Jones, Treasurer
21-Dec-23



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Friends of the West Oxfordshire Cotswolds

No (if any)
1175055

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/03/2022		28/02/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Voluntary receipts	17,200	-	-	17,200	1,410
Interest	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	17,200	-	-	17,200	1,410
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Loan advances	19,295	-	-	19,295	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	19,295	-	-	19,295	-
Total receipts	36,495	-	-	36,495	1,410
A3 Payments					
Charitable Activities	22,699	-	-	22,699	99
Costs of Generating Funds	-	-	-	-	-
Governance Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges	60	-	-	60	10
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	22,759	-	-	22,759	109
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Loan repayments	15,000	-	-	15,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	15,000	-	-	15,000	-
Total payments	37,759	-	-	37,759	109
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,264	-	-	1,264	1,301
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,355	-	-	2,355	1,054
Cash funds this year end	1,091	-	-	1,091	2,355

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank	1,091	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,091	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK


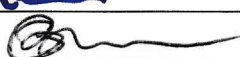
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Giftaid claims outstanding	4,046	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Loan	Unrestricted	4,295	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	JAMES CLARENCE	23/12/23
	JAMES WHITHEAD	24/12/23