

Annual Trustee Report of the Friends of the West Oxfordshire Cotswolds Charitable Incorporated Organisation for the year to 28th February 2025

Registered charity number 1175055

Registered address:

Dyers Hill House
Dyers Hill
Charlbury
Chipping Norton
OX7 3QD

Trustees

Jim Clemence
James Whitehead
Mark Hofman

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 continues to respond to applications which cause harm to the protected landscape in West Oxfordshire and to provide assistance to resident groups and parish councils which are doing the same. 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. Following two successful High Court victories against West Oxfordshire District Council's approvals of development on this site the planning department and committee has again supported development of the site and a new grant of planning permission is anticipated. The charity continues to fight development on this site.

Financial Review

At the end of the period the charity had reserves of £4,065 (2024- £487). The net surplus for the year was £3,578 (2024 deficit - £604).

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 are appointed 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.

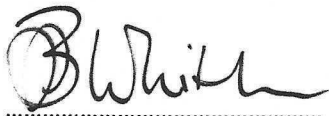
iii. Payments to trustees

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.

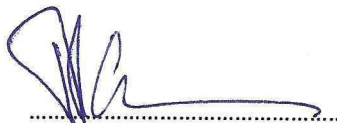
Management

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 James Whitehead



Trustee JAMES CLARENCE

5 December 2025

Date



Trustee MARK HOFFMAN

5. Dec. 25

Date

5/12/25

Date



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name	No (if any)
Friends of the West Oxfordshire Cotswolds	1175055

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date	To	Period end date
	01/03/2024		28/02/2025

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	1,326	-	-	1,326	6,318
Recovered legal costs	10,825	-	-	10,825	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	12,151	-	-	12,151	6,318
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
Loan advances	-	-	-	-	8,375
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	8,375
Total receipts	12,151	-	-	12,151	14,693
A3 Payments					
Charitable Activities	-	-	-	-	10,943
Costs of Generating Funds	143	-	-	143	-
Governance Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Bank charges	55	-	-	55	60
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	198	-	-	198	11,003
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
Loan repayments	8,375	-	-	8,375	4,295
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	8,375	-	-	8,375	4,295
Total payments	8,573	-	-	8,573	15,298
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,578	-	-	3,578	- 604
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	487	-	-	487	1,091
Cash funds this year end	4,065	-	-	4,065	487

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	4,065	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	4,065	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK

[illegible]

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

[illegible]

35 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval

W
R. R. Hoffman

SALES CLERK
MARK HOFMAN

approval
5/12/25
5 Dec 25