



RIVER OAKS CHARITY - ANNUAL REPORT April 2020 - March 2021

Executive Summary

2020 was a year of unprecedented change, not only did we have to face into the challenges Covid -19 forced upon us but our chair person also retired after setting the charity up and leading passionately over ten years. However with this challenge came great support from trustees to continue the good work Terry had done.

Trustee Update

In October 2020 Terry Jones (Chair Person) retired. It was Terry's vision that was the original driving force for setting up River Oaks Residents Association, his passionate lead also moved the Association onto Charity Status, during his time Terry achieved many things not just various awards but has become a much loved and valued member of the community. We honoured Terry's retirement with various thank you speeches and gifts and hope to mark our appreciation when we can safely do so with the wider community.

We have not been able to recruit a chair person to replace Terry yet, we are currently working on a rotation basis for chairing of meetings.

In August we also gained two new trustees, Helen Stephens and Peter Shirlow. Helen has been a valued member of our local community and brought with her a wealth of expertise in communication which has been a much welcome skillset to the trustee group. Peter has been instrumental in our local ecological focus and has been able to lead on this area as a trustee even more so developing our wonderful wild flower meadow.

Wild Flower Meadow

In 2020 we decided to go ahead and use a portion of the land that was available to us to cultivate a wild flower meadow. We did this with the support of local sources of advice from Scouse Flower House. The wild flower meadow turned out to be spectacular and we couldn't have timed it better as it served as a much needed outdoor location during lockdown where people could come and walk around or simply sit and admire the wonderful wild flowers and view of the River Mersey. We received so much positive feedback on this and it really was so valuable to people's well being.

Pond Area

Our pond area has always been the central point to the charity over the years and has served us well. Unfortunately the decking area had seen better days and for safety reasons we took the decision to remove the decking and start fund raising for a replacement. We used various contacts to help us understand potential costs for this. We then had various fund raising events and raised £10,000 for a replacement. We are working with several sources to get a replacement terrace designed and installed.

Play Area

During lock down the play area had to unfortunately be closed for covid restrictions. However once we were able to reopen, we installed Covid safety signs and hand sanitizer dispensers to allow a safe environment for children to enjoy.

Fence Line

As a result of grant awards we were able to replace 128 meters of fence line to the perimeter of the land that we own – this was installed in the summer of 2020.

Woods

We also continued with our woods clear ups, approximately twice in 2020.

Communications

Helen's wealth of experience brought a breath of fresh air to our website, the website was redesigned and updated and we have received positive feedback on this.

Helen has also been able to set up an electronic mailing list which has made circulation of our newsletter not only covid safe but no longer are we posting paper copies to our followers.

Community Events

Sadly, we could not host our usual annual events such as Easter Egg Hunt or Christmas Carols instead we got creative and for Easter 2020 we had Easter themed window displays with the best window winning an Easter Goodie selection.

We followed a similar concept at Halloween with 'scary' windows and Halloween activities for children

At Christmas we had our Advent Trail, each day in December another house decorated their windows for people to go and view.

Fundraising

We were really proud to produce a 2021 calendar for sale, the calendar contained photos for each month of various areas of the beauty that surrounds us, we were really pleased with how much this raised. (£700)

Trustee Trainings

Trustees Martin Foster and Vicky Hughes underwent Trustee Training, to help us understand better our responsibilities on governance and risk. This now forms part of our monthly meeting agenda.

Future

As Terry retired, trustees rallied around to push on with the Charity and continue Terry's great work plus shape our vision that was fit for the future. As things stand Trustees meet more frequently (once per month), we have an exciting agenda and look forward to continuing to build on ***creating community and caring for the environment.***



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
River Oaks Charity

No (if any)
1175908

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 4/1/2020	To	Period end date 3/31/2021
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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 £
A1 Receipts				
General donations	4,353	7,671		12,024
Donations box	45	0		45
Grant awards	0	33,028		33,028
Gift Aid repayments	1,154	0		1,154
Fundraising events	0	0		0
Bank interest	0	0		0
Other	25	0		25
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	5,577	40,699	0	46,276
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).				
Sub total	0	0	0	0
Total receipts	5,577	40,699	0	46,276
A3 Payments				
Pond maintenance	256	0		256
Pond terrace	0	388		388
Garden maintenance	3,540	0		3,540
Woods & fields maintenance	0	36,193		36,193
Play area	0	723		723
Plants	110	0		110
Events & Fundraising expenses	138	0		138
Printing & postage	154	0		154
Energy	252	0		252
Mileage	33	0		33
Insurance	938	0		938
Equipment	287	0		287
Sundry other expenses	499	0		499
Sub total	6,207	37,304	0	43,511
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)				
Sub total	0	0	0	0
Total payments	6,207	37,304	0	43,511
Net of receipts/(payments)	(630)	3,395	0	2,765
A5 Transfers between funds				
A6 Cash funds last year end	2,617	6,868	0	9,485
Cash funds this year end	1,987	10,263	0	12,250

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank accounts	1,987	10,263
		-	-
		-	-
	Total cash funds	1,987	10,263
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

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

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

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-
			-
			-
			-
			-

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

Signature

Print Name

CC16a



Last year
to the nearest £

6,355
0
22,131
1,463
825
6
0
30,780

0

30,780

1,719
0
0
4,699
33,785
692
892
274
314
83
1,257
869
986
45,570

0

45,570

(14,790)
24,275
9,485



**Endowment
funds**

to nearest £

-
-
-
-

OK

**Endowment
funds**

to nearest £

-
-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-

**Current value
(optional)**

-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-

**When due
(optional)**

Date of
approval
