



Slipper Mill Pond Preservation Association CIO

Registered Charity No. 1180249
www.smppa.org.uk

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the period 1st October 2020 to 30th September 2021

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Charity Name: | Slipper Mill Pond Preservation Association CIO (SMPPA CIO) |
| Registered Charity Number: | 1180249 |
| Charity's Registered Address: | 56 King Street, Emsworth, PO10 7AZ |

1. Objectives and Activities of the CIO and its Governing Document

Slipper Mill Pond Preservation Association "The CIO" is governed according to its constitution which states that its objectives are:

'To protect and conserve the wildlife and natural environment of the Slipper Mill Pond, which is located in the Parish of Southbourne, West Sussex, for the benefit and quiet enjoyment of the public.'

The Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The CIO manages the Pond and its environs, focusing on the environment, conservation, heritage and recreation, while providing an open space for the general public. The Pond is a saline lagoon, a very rare wildlife habitat, both in the UK and Europe. The combination of sea and fresh water provides a unique brackish water environment which has been recognised as a 'Site of Nature Conservation Importance' (SNCI) and home to many special species. It is inside the Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and is part of the Chichester District Council Strategic Wildlife Corridor from Hermitage to Westbourne. The Pond is listed as a "Local Green Space" on the Southbourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan.

The Pond was built in the 1760s to provide power to drive the Slipper Mill, one of four working mills in Emsworth supplying meal for the Navy in Portsmouth. The tidal gates are pushed open as the sea breaks over the gates, and close as the tide turns, holding back the sea water which, in the past, powered the Mill. The sluice gate is listed as a "Heritage Asset" on the Southbourne Parish Neighbourhood Plan.

Environmental objectives include: to provide an environment that will encourage the growth of native plants and wild flowers and encourage wildlife, to use indigenous, salt resistant trees, shrubs, wild flowers and under planting; to enhance the natural beauty and views of the pond, including the removal of tired and overgrown planting where appropriate.

Heritage objectives include the maintenance and preservation of the sluice gate and tidal gates which are still operated and in working order.

2. Achievements and Performance

In accordance with the national COVID-19 regulations and guidance, the CIO was not able to fulfil all its usual activities during 2020-21. However, much was still achieved. In particular, during COVID, the Pond and its environs have been much used and appreciated by walkers and their dogs.

ENVIRONMENT: PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

2021 was the first full year of looking after the environs of Dolphin Quay footpath, in addition to the Pond banks. Large work parties did not take place during the year; however a considerable amount of work was completed over the year by small teams, including:

- the removal of "garden" type plants in the north east corner, and the planting of more indigenous species
- clearing of brambles, netting and an asbestos tank in the south east corner, and sowing of wildflower seeds instead;
- cutting back of common reeds in two sections of the bank, in order to reduce their spread;
- planting of dog rose, sea buckthorn, wildflower seeds and various other indigenous plants along the Pond banks.

HERITAGE & INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE & CONSERVATION:

- The old worn sluice gate was replaced by a new oak sluice gate in November/December 2020. This was part funded by two generous donations and the remainder by reserves.
- As voted by our members, work on the three bird rafts to attempt deter the Great Black Backed Gulls from nesting was completed in February 2021.
- All the information signs around the Pond were refreshed and updated.

SOCIAL EVENTS:

- The Annual Dinner, Spring Talk and Broomfield Schools Photographic Competition did not take place due to COVID restrictions.
- The Summer Garden Party took place at Slipper House in August 2021.

MEMBERSHIP: A Membership Drive to around 400 local households in spring 2021 resulted in approximately 50 new members, taking total membership to around 150.

PUBLICITY: Newsletters were distributed to all members in January and July. An article was published in The Ems newspaper in January 2021, alongside a photo of the new sluice gate.

3. Financial Review

The income for the financial year to 30th September 2021 was £5,948.93 against an expenditure of £10,561.46. However, without the £8,383.72 expenditure on the sluice gate, the CIO would have reported a reasonable net income.

2021 included the first full year of income from Dolphin Quay Boat yard (£2,000). There was no income from social events, although many Members made donations in lieu of the Annual Dinner. Other than the sluice gate, there was no other "extraordinary" expenditure. The bank balance at the end of the year was £12,755.19.

The CIO currently has no policy for holding reserves, but is conservative in its nature, with spending kept to a minimum, with work mostly done by volunteers.

4. Structure, Governance and Management

Slipper Mill Pond Preservation Association is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("SMPPA CIO"). It operates in accordance with its Constitution drawn up in October 2018. The CIO is largely funded by its members, who mostly live in the vicinity of the Pond, and by income from Dolphin Quay Boatyard, along with grants from time to time.

2020-21 was its first year of operation. All activities of the previous registered charity number 277744 Slipper Mill Pond Preservation Association were transferred to the SMPPA CIO as of 1st October 2020.

The Trustees are elected in compliance with the provisions of the CIO Constitution. Trustees have continued to meet quarterly in person or via video call during 2020-2021, and on additional occasions as required.

5. Names of the Charity Trustees who manage the Charity:

| Trustee Name | Office | Dates Acted |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Jo Greenfield | Chairman | Full Year (first year in role) |
| Sharon Corbett | Membership Secretary | Full Year |
| Simon Eveleigh | | Full Year |
| Simon Dwyer | | Full Year |
| Gary Jones | | Part Year (retired end of year) |
| Bill Keeble | | Full Year (retired end of year) |

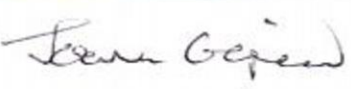

- There are no corporate trustees, or trustees holding title to any property belonging to the CIO.
- The CIO does not hold any funds as custodian trustees on behalf of others.
- There are no Exemptions from disclosure of key personnel details.

The Trustees would like to thank all those who have kindly provided additional donations during the past year and are also grateful to all the Members for their continued support.

6. Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

| | | |
|--------------|---|--|
| Signature(s) |  |  |
| Full Name(s) | JOANNA GREENFIELD | SIMON EVELEIGH |
| Position | CHAIRMAN | TRUSTEE |
| Date | 25 OCT 2021 | 26 OCT 2021 |

SLIPPER MILL POND PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION CIO

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2021

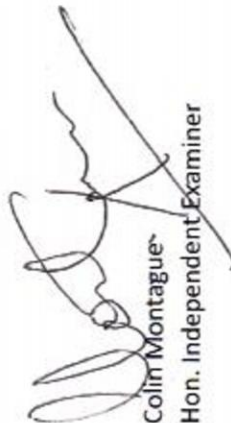
| SMPPA | INCOME | CIO |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 2019/20 | | 2020/21 |
| £ 1,252.00 | Subscriptions | £ 1,855.00 |
| £ 4,063.00 | Donations | £ 660.00 |
| | <u>Fund Raising</u> | |
| £ 2,398.00 | Annual Dinner | £ - |
| | Sale of Bird Books, Notelets etc | £ 91.00 |
| | <u>Gift Aid</u> | |
| £ 1,000.00 | Dolphin Quay Rent | £ 1,252.87 |
| £ 4.71 | Interest on Bank Accounts | £ 2,000.00 |
| | Other income (sluice wood sale) | £ 0.06 |
| | | £ 90.00 |
| £ 8,717.71 | | Sum £ 5,948.93 |

| SMPPA | EXPENDITURE | CIO |
|-------------------|---|------------------------|
| 2019/20 | | 2020/21 |
| £ 5.00 | Annual Lease Rent of Mill Pond | £ 5.00 |
| £ - | Trust for Conservation Volunteers | £ - |
| £ - | Public Liability Insurance (SMPPA & Owners) | £ 430.88 |
| £ 1,936.00 | Annual Dinner | £ - |
| £ 24.00 | Printing/Stationery/Postage/Misc | £ 153.76 |
| £ 86.24 | SMPPA Website | £ 88.64 |
| £ - | Signage | £ 169.20 |
| £ 923.52 | Pond Maintenance & Planting | £ 1,320.26 |
| £ 5,238.28 | Legal Fees | £ 10.00 |
| £ - | Sluice Gate Replacement | £ 8,383.72 |
| £ 8,213.04 | | Sum £ 10,561.46 |

SUMMARY

| 2019/20 | 2020/21 |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| £ 8,717.04 | Annual Income |
| -£ 8,213.04 | Annual Expenditure |
| £ 504.00 | Gain/Loss |

From the documents presented to me, I believe this to be a true and fair statement of account for the year ending 30th September 2021.


Colin Montague
Hon. Independent Examiner

October 2021

BANK BALANCES

| 2019/20 | 2020/21 |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| £ 11,139.41 | Community Account |
| £ 6,228.31 | Business Saver Account |
| £ - | Cheques in hand |
| £ - | Less unrepresented cheques |
| £ 17,367.72 | Sum £ 12,755.19 |

Outstanding Commitments - October 2021

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Pond ownership transfer legal fees | £ 1,500.00 |
| Potential Balance | £ 11,255.19 |
| Broomfield Schools Photographic Balance incl above | £ 928.64 |