

Slipper Mill Pond Preservation Association CIO

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

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the period 1st October 2021 to 30th September 2022

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 Sussex 'Local Wildlife Site' (LWS) and 'Site of Nature Conservation Importance' (SNCI) as it is 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 tidal gates and sluice gate are both listed on the Southbourne Neighbourhood Parish Plan as important "Heritage Assets".

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

The CIO was able to fulfil most of its usual activities during 2021-2022.

ENVIRONMENT: PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

There was a full workparty held in October 2021. This and other smaller groups carried out the following tasks:

- Cutting back the wildflowers and grasses and removal of arisings, mainly along the east bank.
- Planting of sea club rush (donated by Peter Pond) in the north-west corner.
- Further planting of Rowan/Mountain Ash and Sea Buckthorn along the east bank.

HERITAGE & INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE & CONSERVATION:

- The sluice apron was repaired in February 2022 at a cost of £2,208.
- The field drain and gate were replaced in the south-east corner.
- The brickwork along the south bank was re-pointed.
- Various repairs were carried out to the gabion netting along the west bank.
- Repairs were carried out to the footbridge support posts.

EVENTS:

- The Annual Dinner was not held this year due to the uncertainty around COVID.
- The Spring Talk, Broomfield Schools Photographic Competition and the Summer Garden Party all went ahead. In particular, the Photographic Competition (last held in 2019) was a huge success with a record number of entries.

MEMBERSHIP: Membership levels remained relatively stable at around 142 members (full and associate).

POND OWNERSHIP: The transfer of the Ownership of the Pond to the CIO was at long last completed in April, at a cost of nearly £3,000 in legal fees. We are most grateful to those owners who donated their shares, as this now means that the future of the Pond is secured.

PUBLICITY: Newsletters were distributed to all members in January and July. An article was published in The Ems newspaper in summer 2022, explaining the Ownership Transfer background (see above) in more detail.

3. Financial Review

The income for the financial year to 30th September 2022 was £5,661 against an expenditure of £6,005. Without the extraordinary expenditure on the sluice apron and ownership transfer legal fees, the CIO would have reported a net income of £3,482.

The bank balance at the end of the year was £12,412.

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 additional donations and grants from time to time.

The Trustees are elected in compliance with the provisions of the CIO Constitution. Trustees have continued to meet quarterly in person during 2021-2022, 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
Sharon Corbett	Membership Secretary	Full Year
Simon Dwyer		Full Year
Simon Eveleigh		Full Year
James Hailstone		Part Year
Maire Park	Social Secretary	Full Year


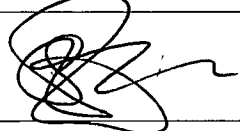
- There are no corporate trustees, or trustees holding title to any property belonging to the CIO.
- The CIO does not hold any funds as custodian trustees on behalf of others.
- There are no Exemptions from disclosure of key personnel details.

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 RACHEL GREENFIELD	SIMON FRANCIS EVELEIGH
Position	CHAIRMAN	TRUSTEE
Date	28 DEC 2022	28 DECEMBER 2022

YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2022



<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>Change on Previous Year</u>
Subscriptions	1,649	1,855	(206)
Donations	1,361	660	701
Dolphin Quay Rent	2,000	2,000	0
Gift Aid	543	1,253	(710)
Sale of Bird Books, Notelets etc	26	91	(65)
Spring Talk / Annual Dinner income	82	0	82
Interest on Bank Accounts	0	0	(0)
Other income	0	90	(90)
Total Income	5,661	5,949	(288)

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>Change on Previous Year</u>
Annual Lease Rent of Mill Pond	0	5	(5)
Broomfield Schools Photographic Competition	306	0	306
Annual Dinner, Spring Talk, Summer Party, AGM costs	200	0	200
Public Liability Insurance (SMPPA & Owners)	358	431	(73)
Legal Fees	1,618	10	1,608
Planting	155	968	(813)
Maintenance - infrastructure	615	301	314
Maintenance - vegetation	107	51	56
Printing/Stationery/Postage/Misc	185	154	32
Signage	163	169	(6)
Website	89	89	0
Sluice Gate & Apron	2,208	8,384	(6,176)
Total Expenditure	6,005	10,561	(4,557)

BALANCE SHEET

			<u>Change on</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	<u>Previous Year</u>
Cash at Bank*	12,412	12,755	(344)
Accounts Receivable (Debtors)	-	-	
	<u>12,412</u>	<u>12,755</u>	(344)
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2020/21</u>	
Accounts Payable (Creditors)/Cheques in hand	-	-	
<u>NET ASSETS</u>	<u>12,412</u>	<u>12,755</u>	(344)
*Broomfield Schools Photographic Balance incl above	622	929	(306)

Approved by the Trustees
December 2022