

## Slipper Mill Pond Preservation Association CIO

Registered Charity No. 1180249

[www.smppa.org.uk](http://www.smppa.org.uk)

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

for the period 1st October 2024 to 30th September 2025

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 all its usual activities during 2024-2025.

### ENVIRONMENT: PLANTING & MAINTENANCE

There was a full workparty held in October 2024, to cut back the wildflowers and grasses and remove the arisings, mainly along the east bank. A flail-mulcher was used on the bank during 2025 and was considered a success and is the preferred method going forward.

- Various small workparties carried out vegetation maintenance tasks and planting, including the removal of hemlock water dropwort from Slipper Road and Dolphin Quay.
- An external contractor applied herbicide approved by the Environment Agency to treat the invasive Phragmites Australis reeds in two sections.
- Removal of 2 large ash trees with ash dieback at Dolphin Quay (by an external contractor).
- The tidal gates are now being chained back for longer periods in the winter months to assist with fish spawning upstream (at the request of the Western Sussex Rivers Trust).

### HERITAGE & INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE & CONSERVATION:

- The south-west bank is being monitored closely for any slippage and a structural survey has been commissioned.
- Various small workparties carried out minor maintenance including filling in holes in the banks, removing trip hazard posts, adding nesting tubes to the bird rafts etc.
- A new information board was installed on Slipper Mill wall and signage was replaced by the tidal gates.

### EVENTS:

- The Annual Dinner was held in November 2024 at the Emsworth Sailing Club.
- The AGM took place in March 2025.
- The Broomfield Schools Photographic Competition was held in April/May 2025.
- The Summer Garden Party was held in July 2025.

**MEMBERSHIP:** There were 136 members (full and associate) at year end.

**POND OWNERSHIP:** Following the gifting of the Ownership of the Pond to the CIO, the Land Registry has still not yet finalised the transfer documentation.

**PUBLICITY:** Newsletters were distributed to all members in January and July. Whatsapp groups are now being used more for communicating with interested parties.

## 3. Financial Review

The income for the financial year to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2025 was £33,770 against an expenditure of £5,433, resulting in net income of £28,337. This included net income of £1,118 from the Annual Dinner, dividend income of £2,125 and some very generous donations totalling £20,913. The main extraordinary expenditure was on vegetation maintenance relating to the use of 2 external contractors: one to fell 2 trees at Dolphin Quay and the other to treat the Phragmites reeds along Slipper Road.

Further donations and savings were transferred to M&G Charifund, with the balance standing at £57,950 at year end (of which £29,462 is protected for long term reserves). The bank balance at the end of the year was £4,334. Total funds therefore stood at £62,284.

The CIO has a new Investment Policy as of 30 September 2025 which has been approved by the Trustees and the major benefactor(s) who have made endowments. The charity 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 2024-2025, and on additional occasions as required.

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

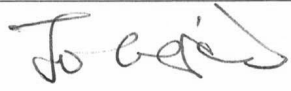

Trustee Name	Office	Dates Acted
Jo Greenfield	Chairman	Full Year
Christine Hows	Membership Secretary	From March 2025 (AGM)
Simon Dwyer		Full Year
Simon Eveleigh		Full Year
James Hailstone		Full Year
Maire Park	Social Secretary	Resigned February 2025
Susan Dibden		Co-opted in June 2025, pending members' vote at the March 2026 AGM

- 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	CHAIR	TRUSTEE
Date	2 February 2026	02 FEB 2026

# SLIPPER MILL POND PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION CIO

Registered Charity No. 1180249

YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025



## INCOME & EXPENDITURE

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>Change on Previous Year</u>
Subscriptions	1,922	2,003	(81)
Donations	20,913	10,606	10,307
Dolphin Quay Rent	2,000	2,000	-
Gift Aid	2,685	639	2,047
Sale of Bird Books, Notelets etc	43	30	13
Bank interest	128	89	39
M&G Dividend Income	2,125	443	1,682
Annual Dinner income	3,634	3,011	623
Other income (Broomfield donation)	320	350	(30)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>33,770</b>	<b>19,169</b>	<b>14,601</b>

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>Change on Previous Year</u>
Broomfield Schools Photographic Competition	421	403	18
Annual Dinner, Spring Talk, Summer Party, AGM costs	2,614	2,323	291
Public Liability Insurance	520	400	120
Legal Fees	-	-	-
Planting	80	220	(140)
Maintenance - infrastructure	43	42	1
Maintenance - vegetation	1,442	554	888
Printing/Stationery/Postage/Misc	124	174	(50)
Signage	16	243	(227)
Website	173	122	50
Sluice Gate & Apron	-	305	(305)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>5,433</b>	<b>4,785</b>	<b>647</b>

<b>NET INCOME (EXPENDITURE)</b>	<b>28,337</b>	<b>14,384</b>	<b>13,953</b>
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## BALANCE SHEET

<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>Change on Previous Year</u>
Cash at Bank (Current Account)	1,618	1,074	544
Bank Interest Account *	2,716	5,589	(2,872)
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>4,334</b>	<b>6,662</b>	<b>(2,328)</b>

<u>INVESTMENTS **</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>Change on Previous Year</u>
M&G Charifund <b>Restricted</b> Long Term Funds - year end value	29,462	7,042	22,420
M&G Charifund <b>Unrestricted</b> Funds - year end value	18,284	17,217	1,066
M&G Multi-Asset Fund <b>Unrestricted</b> Funds - year end value	10,204	-	10,204
<b>Total Investments</b>	<b>57,950</b>	<b>24,259</b>	<b>33,690</b>

Accounts Receivable (Debtors)	-	-	-
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>62,284</b>	<b>30,921</b>	<b>31,362</b>

<u>LIABILITIES</u>	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2023/24</u>	<u>Change on Previous Year</u>
Accounts Payable (Creditors)/Cheques in hand	-	-	-
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>62,284</b>	<b>30,921</b>	<b>31,362</b>
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* Broomfield Schools Photographic Balance incl above	147	248	(101)
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<b>**M&amp;G Initial Investment Values</b>	<b>No. Units</b>	<b>Initial Investment (£)</b>
M&G Equities Investment Fund for Charities (Charifund) GBP Inc - <b>Restricted Long Term Funds</b>	1816.122	27,707
M&G Equities Investment Fund for Charities (Charifund) GBP Inc - <b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	1127.052	17,000
M&G Charity Multi Asset Fund GBP Inc - <b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	10301.85	10,000
<b>Total Invested Value</b>		<b>54,707</b>
<b>Overall Change in Investment Value</b>		<b>3,243</b>