

TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT 1st November 2022 to 31st OCTOBER 2023

Purposes of the Charity

- 1) To advance the facilities and maintenance of the Fishpond Park Panteg for the benefit and enjoyment of the public at large
- 2) To raise funds to further this aim whilst not engaging in any taxable permanent trading activity and must comply with any relevant statutory regulations.

Summary of the main activities

The ongoing maintenance and improvement of all areas of the park. This includes planting shrubs, annuals and perennials in the numerous beds. We keep costs down by purchasing seeds and plug plants. Some of our more green fingered members bring them on in their own greenhouses and allotments and transport to the park when ready for planting. Any plants surplus to requirements are offered to the general public in return for a donation. Many people donate empty hanging baskets and containers to us which we plant up and this helps us to raise more funds. The park is enclosed by hedging. The outside is cut annually by the Council but our members take care of the inside. This task alone keeps us busy at certain times of the year. A wood chipper enables us to reduce the green waste that is collected by the Council and also provides mulch for some of the borders.

There is a brick pavilion in the grounds which we use as our base and for some limited storage. We also have a metal storage container which provides extra storage for all our tools and equipment and is very secure.

We create a lot of green waste especially during the summer months. This is collected by the Local Authority. We also have a large compost area so that we can produce compost to use in the park and also reduce the amount of waste collected by the Council.

A major fundraising event is our family Fun Day/Dog Show which takes place in July and attended by several hundred people and generates much needed funds to finance our work.

To celebrate the Kings Coronation we held a picnic in the park which was a useful fund raiser for us. As in previous years we put on a free tea for local pensioners at Christmas.

The fish pond is an iconic feature in the park but this needs constant attention to ensure the wellbeing of the fish. Two pumps and a filter are housed inside the brick pavilion which is approximately 50 metres from the pond. This distance is a problem. After seeking expert opinion we were advised we needed new equipment which should be relocated to a position alongside the pond. This will involve digging out an underground chamber, installing the new equipment and running electric to it from the pavilion building. This will be a time consuming and costly project but we have made this work a priority and have

secured some donations to purchase most of the necessary equipment. Next year will be the park centenary so we hope to complete this project in time for the celebrations in the summer of 2024.

The Lawn Tennis Association (LTA)continues to provide professional tennis coaching sessions for children. Outside of these sessions, the courts are available to members of the public free of charge.

We hope that our status as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) will enable us to continue to secure funding to make improvements to the park. It has already enabled us to secure a 25 year lease with Torfaen County Borough Council running from August 2022.

The Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Achievements and Performance

The main achievement is probably the fact that as a group we are still going strong and as determined as ever to work together to maintain and improve the facilities in this park for the benefit of the community. The park attracts lots of visitors of all age groups and we receive many compliments and words of appreciation. Our Facebook page is testimony to our achievements.

When the group started in 2016 there had been a lot of anti-social behaviour, drug use and vandalism by youths in the park. I am pleased to report that such incidents are now very rare and this is probably because the park is being cared for, used and more appreciated.

We are pleased that our hard work in the park has been recognised by Keep Wales Tidy and we have been awarded a Green Flag each year since 2016.

Financial Review

At the end of this reporting period (31st October 2023) the charity is in a good financial position. We have £18,517 which is a small increase on the previous year. We will continue to raise our own funds and try to secure funding to finance further improvements in the park.s

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document - Constitution

We are a CIO

Trustees are appointed at our AGM. By election.

On behalf of the Charity's Trustees

Wendy Woods

Position: Secretary

Date: 10th August 2024

FRIENDS OF FISHPOND PARK PANTEG
REGISTRATION NO. 1184066

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 1st NOVEMBER 2022 to 31st OCTOBER 2023

A1 RECEIPTS

Donations from the public	#	545
Donations from organisations	#	2531
Tea & veg sales	#	977
Income from Coronation Event	#	160
Income from Fun Day event	#	2134
Standing Orders	#	340
Reimbursement of defibrillator costs	#	419
Reimbursement of insurance costs	#	400
Total income in period	#	7506

A3 PAYMENTS

General expenditure	#	454
Expenditure for Fun Day event	#	235
Expenditure for Coronation event	#	67
Expenditure for pensioners tea event	#	85
New equipment	#	1033
Electricity bills	#	592
Insurance	#	462
Expenditure in period on pond project	#	3010
Plants & Shrubs etc	#	948
Total expenditure in period	#	6886

NET INCOME IN PERIOD	#	620
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Total funds held at 31st October 2023 # 18517

*** Donations from organisations as follows**

Ward Councillors	#	600
Community Councillors	#	1500
Admiral Insurance	#	408
Easy Fundraising	#	23
	Total#	2531