



Friends of Yeovil Country Park

"Supporting and helping to maintain Yeovil Country Park in conjunction with SSDC Countryside Team"

Reference: FOYCP04042022

Dated: 04 April 2022

Friends of Yeovil Country Park

Trustees Annual Report

for the Year ending

31 December 2021

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Reference and administrative information

The reference and administrative information forms part of this report.

Charity name

Friends of Yeovil Country Park CIO (Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Registered Charity number

Charity No: 1185579 Registered 1 October 2019

Principal and operational address

Yeovil Country Park, Brunswick Street, Yeovil. BA20 1QZ

Trustees

Trustees who served during the period from formation and up to the date of this report are as follows:

- Gary Cashmore - Chairman;
- Nicholas Hill;
- Alison Suter;
- James Fison;
- Edward Sadler;
- David Fincham - (elected 27 May 2021);
- Amanda Card - Treasurer (elected 2 September 2021)

Constitution

Friends of Yeovil Country Park CIO was registered 1 October 2019, although already in existence (established January 2012) as a voluntary community group. A Constitution for the Friends of Yeovil Country Park CIO was prepared and approved during the registration process as a CIO. Document first issued on the 26 September 2019 Document Reference: FoYCP28042019

Trustees Report

Friends of Yeovil Country Park report and financial statement as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) for the Charity's second period ended 31 December 2021.

Our thanks to all of the Trustees and Members who generously gave their time and expertise over the year to achieve the goals of the Charity they are our most valuable asset.

We have managed to retain our core volunteers associated with the group and have held scheduled meetings during the pandemic observing the government guidelines. Our existing Constitution caters for more reliance on the use of electronic media for communication.

The operating year continued to be impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, mostly during the first half of the year, thereby restricting activities involving the public. The second half of the year improved and one of our key events, the Halloween Trail, proceeded but at a reduced public attendance. This was not surprising due to public fears and perceptions of the COVID-19 virus and guidance from the government. This was seen as a very successful event by the parents and children who attended.

The Spring Trail was cancelled at short notice due to government restrictions. Perishable goods, chocolate Easter eggs donated by Crofton Stores were given to the emergency Wellbeing Hub set up by the Council. The eggs were distributed through emergency food orders, mainly to families experiencing financial hardship during the pandemic. We make special mention of and thank you to Crofton Stores who have been a major sponsor over many years.

Two new Trustees were recruited and elected, bringing the total to seven. One of these Trustees has subsequently been elected as the new Treasurer. Our existing Treasurer has supported a formal transition period to ensure a seamless handover. We are indebted to him for the sterling service and organisation of the finances since the inception of the Friends. He remains a Trustee and continues to actively support the group.

Tesco Bags of Help project continued to be paused due to Covid-19 and the principal person who was going to deliver the community courses has left to undertake a new career challenge.

Friends of Yeovil Country Park remains an active going concern.

Accounts

The accounts were reviewed and approved by the Trustees.

Refer to the attached file FoYCP Account and Statement 04April 2022.

Since becoming a registered Charity and the recent appointment of a new treasurer, our existing bank requested that the organisation change the type of bank account currently being used to a business account for CIO charities. This was actioned on 23 November, signed by the Trustees and completed by the end December 2021.

Income and Spending

Accounting period 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021 and the financial controls for the period for this report were reviewed.

The accounts include funds and commitments from 31 December 2020 accounts. These amounted to £17,330.68

Funds generated principal income;

The Halloween trail generated an income of £826.11 being the largest source of funding during the financial period. This was supplemented by calendar sales from the 2020 calendar received during the first quarter by £146, together with other sundry sales.

Public donations for dog biscuits over the year totalled £351.33

In total, receipts for the year amounted to £1,427.25

Key spending was for;

The bulk of the costs were associated with increasing the area of woodland at Wyndham Hill by a third of a hectare. New fencing had to be contracted out due to COVID-19, and the planting of 500 trees were all funded as part of the Postcode Lottery grant received in 2020. Work was invoiced to SSDC and reimbursed amounting to £4,259.25

Funding contribution to Park Yoga of £1000.00 and Halloween Trail expenses of £233.11, together with other sundry purchases of £400.00

Google domain name yearly expenditure of £10.00

In total expenditure for the year amounted to £5,902.36

We had approximately 15 volunteers, excluding Trustees.

Objectives and activities

Fundraising opportunities were again impacted during the year due to COVID-19 and as such we did not actively pursue applications for new projects within the Park. Regular Friends meetings and reviews have been re-established.

Over the year a new Treasurer has been appointed.

Summary of main achievements during the year

Park yoga was funded jointly with South Somerset District Council and is a very valuable outdoor community event. We intend to support this activity next year, making full use of the Park and facilities and engaging with the public using the Park.

Yeovil Super Saturday held in September was attended with a stand to advertise the Park and facilities to the wider public. Donations were taken at this successful event.

We did manage to run the Hallowe'en Trail during October, this being a significant event for the Park and engaging with the general public. We ask for a small fee for the children with parents (under fives free). This generates an income after the costs of the trail display equipment and handouts are taken into consideration. This event is run together with the onsite Park Ranger team, which plays an active role in the Trail layout for public benefit. This Trail was well attended by children and parents, thereby generating an income.

Key plans for the future

Large public events include Spring Trail and Hallowe'en Trail;

Establishing Friends website;

Tesco Bags of Help Wildlife Trail project completion, delayed due to the impact of COVID-19;

Park yoga sponsorship;

Wildlife trail and Woodland tree planting project final completion;

Exploring new fundraising and sponsorship opportunities.

Reserves policy

Our reserves policy is to retain a working capital to cover costs incurred prior to income being received; cover unforeseen events; project overrun costs; etc. The amount is set at £2,500 unallocated reserves.

Risk

COVID-19 continuing impact and the potential of new variants may present new challenges in the future.

The economic climate, with increasing inflation, is impacting family expenditure.

DBS

We will continue to review this for any new roles that we may undertake. No further action was required for this financial year, since the guidance was obtained from DBS 14 October 2019. We currently have no Trustees, employees or volunteers who are in roles that are eligible.

Report approval

Report approved by all of the serving Trustees of Friends of Yeovil Country Park.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees;



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Gary Cashmore

Position: Trustee - Chairman

Date: 04 April 2022



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Amanda Card

Position: Trustee - Treasurer

Date: 04 April 2022



Friends of Yeovil Country Park CIO

Charity No: 1185579

**Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Balances
for the year ending 31st December 2021**

Receipts

Tesco Bags of Help	0.00
Sales of Knitted/Handmade Items	41.50
Sponsorship	0.00
Pencil Sales	2.40
Public Donations	16.59
Post Code Lottery Award	0.00
SSDC reimbursements	0.00
Dog Biscuits Donations	351.33
Super Saturday	25.40
Post Card Sales/Donations	17.92
Halloween	826.11
Calendar Sales	146.00
Sale of Photographic Prints	0.00

Total Receipts **1,427.25**

Excess of Payments over Receipts 4,475.11

5,902.36

RESERVE FUND

Balance at start of year 1st Jan 2021 17,330.68

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Excess of Payments over Receipts -4,475.11

Balance to date **12,855.57**

Payments

Purchases	0.00
SSDC Invoices	4,259.25
Misc Expenses	0.00
Pencil Purchases	0.00
Calendar Printing	0.00
Spring Trail Expenses	0.00
Purchases for Park	400.00
Park Yoga	1,000.00
Activities	0.00
Halloween Expenses	233.11
Google Domain Cost	10.00

Total Payments **5,902.36**

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5,902.36

REPRESENTED BY:

Balance at Bank 3/9/21	
Current Account	11,874.17
Deposit Account	0.08
Cash in hand of Treasurer (Safe)	
Credits yet to be on statement	1,214.43
Cheques (and Debit Card) not on statement	233.11

12,855.57

Notes to Accounts:-

1. These accounts should be read in conjunction with
FoYCP Trustee Annual Report Reference: FOYCP04042022

Amanda Card, Honorary Treasurer

Gary Cashmore, Chairman

Date: 04 April 2022