

TRUSTEES' REPORT for the year ended 31 March 2025 ("the Period")

Structure, Governance and Management

The Westcott Village Association ("the WVA") is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered on 4 October 2019 (Charity Registration number 1185622). The WVA's governing document is its constitution. Trustees can be appointed either by the members or trustees of the WVA but are elected by members at the annual general meeting to serve for the forthcoming year.

Charitable objects

According to the Constitution, *"the objects of the WVA are for the public benefit to further such purposes as are exclusively charitable according to the laws of England and Wales in the village of Westcott and the surrounding area."* In furtherance of these objects, the Constitution grants the trustees powers relating to, in summary, such areas as:

- a) Preserving, protecting and/or improving the charm and rural character of Westcott and the surrounding area;
- b) Facilitating best practice regarding road safety and highways management issues;
- c) Encouraging high standards in conservation, planning and development; and
- d) Providing facilities for recreation and leisure time occupation.

Full details can be found in the Constitution which is available on the WVA website: (www.westcottvillage.com).

Achievements

The WVA has achieved the charitable objects above through:

- Hosting meetings open to all residents, organisations and businesses operating in Westcott; contact with residents has also been maintained via email, newsletters, the village notice board, the village magazine and through various social media channels.
- Supporting the Green Westcott initiative.
- Initiating a Start-up group and Village Forum to begin the process to update the Westcott Neighbourhood Development Plan (WNDP)
- Making representations on behalf of Westcott in respect of the emerging Local Plan, Dorking Master plan and new developments in Sondes Place and Milton Court Lane.
- Reviewing all planning applications in Westcott or of relevance to the local community and making representations in accordance with the Westcott Neighbourhood Development Plan and Mole Valley Local Plan where required.
- Donating £3,000 to the Village Hall Redevelopment Fund run by the Westcott Village Hall Trust to enable them to compete and submit plans to replace the Village Hall.
- Arranging and erecting an illuminated Christmas tree on the village green.
- Replying formally to numerous Public consultations on a range of matters pertinent to Westcott residents being considered by both Surrey County Council and Mole Valley District Council.

and maintaining and financing the two village defibrillators.

Trustees during the Period

The Trustees as of 31 March 2024 were:

- Secretary – Paul Goddard
- Treasurer & Gift Aid Co-ordinator – Edwin Harland (till June 2024)/Magesh Ramakrishnan
- Highways – Nicholas Lund
- Planning – James Leaver
- Social Media & Communications – Jo Astor

The following trustees resigned during the Period:

- Sally Hewetson (resigned May 2024)
- Edwin Harland (resigned June 2024)

Financial Review for the Period

The WVA prepares its annual accounts in the form of a Receipts and Payments Account with a Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

During the Period, the WVA had total receipts of £4,702 less total payments of £5,214, a net outflow of £513. FY 2024/25 Donations of £2,277 was marginally better, being 7% more than in the previous year, in which they were themselves 15% lower than those received in the year to March 2023 – this shows the impact of the lack of door-to-door collections and other factors. Nevertheless, the WESTfest bottle tombola and the WESTfestivity Christmas table were successful.

Expenses included a donation (£3,000) to the Westcott Village Hall, Donation to Westcott church and CRISIS (£351 offset by Christmas Carol collection of £351)).and the village Christmas tree (£350 offset by donations of £250).

The WVA continues to operate a policy whereby cash reserves are normally maintained at a level of between approximately one and four years of annual receipts, taking account of the future needs of the village. The WVA has been compliant with this reserves policy since the point at which funds were transferred to it in 2019 by the old WVA (the predecessor organisation).

Public benefit statement

The trustees are of the opinion that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

WESTCOTT VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES

I report on the financial report of the Westcott Village Association for the year ended 31 March 2025 which is set out on the attached pages.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 145 of the 2011 Act),
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5) of the 2011 Act), and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanation from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material aspect the requirements: a) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act. have not been met, or
- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Hugh Parry

Mill Way House, Westcott, Surrey RH4 3LB

22/5/25 (Date)

WESTCOTT VILLAGE ASSOCIATION
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the year
ended 31 March 2025

		year ended 31/3/25	year ended 31/3/25	year ended 31/3/24	year ended 31/3/24
		£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS					
Subscriptions and donations			2276.71		2124.00
WESTfest income			1152.60		1428.80
Xmas Carols			351.49		413.37
Westcott wives Donation					1227.92
Gift Aid			444.56		414.32
Xmas tree contributions			250.00		250.00
Bank Interest			226.24		18.41
			4701.60		5876.82
PAYMENTS					
Charitable Activities					
Westcott Village Hall		3000.00		750.00	
WESTfest costs		15.00		637.57	
WESTfestivity costs		387.24		102.90	
Defibrillator				445.80	
Xmas tree and lights etc		350.00		350.00	
Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)				36.00	
Westcott Church Donation		351.49			
		4103.73		2322.27	
Support Activities					
Website maintenance etc		288.00		288.00	
Insurance		303.10		182.32	
Refreshments at open meetings and Village Hall Hire		477.57		160.22	
Sundry costs		41.84		9.80	
		1110.51		640.34	
Total payments			5214.24		2962.61
Net receipts/(payments)			(£512.64)		2914.21
Opening balances	Virgin Money Paypal	11562.66 1239.97		8870.65 1017.77	
			12802.63		9888.42
Closing cash balances	Virgin Money Paypal	12128.32 161.67		11562.66 1239.97	
		12289.99		12802.63	

**STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND
LIABILITIES as at 31 March 2025**

	31/03/2025	31/03/2025	31/03/2024	31/03/2024
	£	£	£	£
Cash Assets				
- Bank - Virgin Money	12128.32		11562.66	
- Bank - Paypal	161.67		1239.97	
Total Current Assets		12289.99		12802.63
Other assets > £500 - date acquired and cost at that date	Date acquired	Cost (£)		Cost (£)
Notice board (delivered May 2022)	2022	2318.11		2318.11
Defibrillator (The Burrell)	2021	1675.00		1675.00
Defibrillator locked cabinet (The Burrell)	2023	1398.00		1398.00
Defibrillator (Nisa Store) - approx value of gift	2015	1400.00		1400.00
Christmas lighting	2020	1331.99		1331.99
Speed gun	2020	549.00		549.00
Phone box	2020	1.00		1.00
		8673.10		8673.10
Net Assets		20963.09		21475.73