

## Friends of Sunnyhurst Wood

### Chairs Report 2025.

Once again, the past twelve months have been a challenging time for the Friends of Sunnyhurst Wood.

Our grade 2 listed structure project is now virtually completed. Work has been carried out on The Lychgate, Potters Gate Huntingtons Bridge and the Drinking Fountain.

The structures have had any necessary repairs to the stonework and woodwork and have been Doff cleaned. Some minor repairs are still needed but in the main the group is happy with the results.

A big thank you to both Blackburn with Darwen Council, (particularly Chris Atkinson) and UK Restoration for their help with this project.

Sadly after a final push on the memorial area the group has decided to shelve this project.

The group has tried to involve external parties in the project but sadly there has been no interest from Blackburn University or local Schools

It was felt that at this moment in time that the project is too big to take on for the group without any external help as the group doesn't possess the necessary skills or funds to carry out this scale of project.

The group will revisit the feasibility of a memorial area in subsequent meetings.

Another tough decision that the group has made is to stop hosting the monthly craft fairs. It was felt that the attendance had fallen significantly during the last few events and was not financially viable to hold the craft fairs at the moment. This also led to the decision to cancel our broadband account as this was put in to aid the stall holders with card payments. This is a monthly cost that the group felt was no longer necessary.

Again the group will revisit the feasibility of holding craft fairs in the future.

The annual Carols in the Wood was a great success again this year with probably one of the biggest turnouts so far. This event has now become a major Christmas event for the Local and wider communities. The group should be proud of themselves for the significant planning and effort it takes to put on this event.

Regarding the Volunteer days that we host for local companies, initially we had interest from a number of companies that wanted to get involved but as time moved on all, but Capita dropped out. We are holding four Volunteer days for Capita this year. A big thank you to Capita for the work that they perform in the Wood. It is a great help and makes a difference.

The Group did receive some really good news earlier in the year. A significant amount of Funding from Darwen Destination has been allocated to the Sunnyhurst Wood.

The main path from Falcon Avenue all the way up to the reservoir will be completely renovated. This involves a certain amount of tree felling, installing new drainage and laying a new path. The path will have an improved surface and will be widened were possible to allow much better access through the wood. The new path will significantly improve access for the disabled. Work is expected to be complete by early next year.

Repair work to the Goit is still a topic that is constantly under discussion with Blackburn with Darwen Council. No significant plans have been made yet but the group has been told that there may be plans for some work to be carried out in the future.

I would like to personally like to say a massive thank you to everyone who has made a contribution in the last twelve months. Without your help and support the woods would be in a much poorer state.

Douglas Wright.

Chair for the Friends of Sunnyhurst Wood

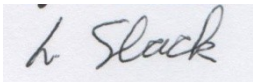
# Friends of Sunnyhurst Wood

## Financial Report (Unaudited)

For the year ended

31<sup>st</sup> March 2025

Completed by Les Slack

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Les Slack". The signature is written in a cursive style and is placed on a light blue rectangular background.

Signature

Date 31.05.25

**Financial Position**

## Income

Our income for the last financial year to the end of March 2025 is less than the previous year partly because we had a large donation from Blackburn with Darwen Council with Section 106 money last year. Individual donations amounted to £196 while donation for refreshments at Craft Fairs was £76.

Our fundraising efforts consisted of the Carols in the Wood event and a raffle at the same event which raised £1261 and £69 pounds respectively. £10 was also raised from the box we had at the Nisa store. This source is no longer available as the store has closed. We got a grant of £1370 from Darwen Town Council for mechanised garden tools. The Craft Fairs that were being held monthly raised £245 from the table rental and our own Bric-A-Brac stall brought in £62. Due to a fall in the interest for these Craft Fairs it has been decided to cancel them for the foreseeable future. Hiring out the Visitor Centre raised £90.

Due to bank savings being at a good interest rate the interest on our savings from all three accounts totalled £1472. A breakdown of the accounts can be found at Appendices A, B and C. In March we transferred £13800 from United Trust Bank to Lloyds Bank current account in anticipation of an invoice from Blackburn with Darwen Council for restoration work we have had done on four heritage structures in the wood. We have not yet received an invoice.

## Expenditure

Our expenditure this year is less than last year because last year we moved £20000 from Lloyds Bank current account to United Trust Bank. We have not spent anything on woodland maintenance but as mentioned above we are waiting for an invoice to pay for the restoration work we have commissioned on four heritage structures. Work has been done on the Lightbown Fountain, Huntington Bridge, Potters Gate and Chadwick Gate (Lychgate). Carols in the Wood costs came to £616 including £300 for the band, £50 for the choir, £191 for Mulled wine and £74 for groceries. We have spent £75 on Mulled wine for our 2025 Carols in the Wood. Visitor Centre costs were £13 which was for domestic items and includes £1 Peppercorn rent to Blackburn with Darwen Council. We paid £50 to maintain the front garden at the Visitor Centre and we spent a total of £1493 on tools of which £1370 was from a Darwen Town Council grant. Miscellaneous items came to £23. Craft Fair costs for refreshments (tea, coffee, milk, biscuits etc) was £12.

Our stationary costs were high this year at £200 due to the fact that we had to buy a new printer after the old one became unrepairable. Our Broadband contract cost us £324 this year and now that we have cancelled the Craft Fairs it had become surplus to requirements so it was decided by the members not to renew the contract when it finished in May.

## Reserves and Restricted Funding

Once again our financial situation is very good and we can meet our target of keeping £1500 in reserve for emergencies.

As of 31.03.25 we have £14763 restricted in a 6 month fixed rate account until 18.08.25 and £7067 restricted in a 40 day notice account. Both accounts are at the United Trust Bank.

### Total Restricted Funding

**£21830**

Note. All the above amounts are to the nearest whole number.

### Our Financial Position on 31.03.25 was:-

Balance at Lloyds Bank (Current Account).	£23965.85
Balance at Jubilee Tower Credit Union.	362.34
Balance at United Trust Bank (Charity 6 month fixed rate account).	14762.80
Balance at United Trust Bank ( 40 day notice account).	7067.46
<b>Total</b>	<b>£46158.45</b>

This total represents a 4.79% increase on the same period last year.

**Note.** Approximately £20000 will be needed from this total when we get the invoice for the work done on the aforementioned heritage structures.

### **Lloyds Bank Current Account April 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 – March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Receipt &amp; Invoice No</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Total</b>
01.04.24	Balance Brought Forward			£9,526.73		
08.04.24	Brenda Parkinson	Milk & biscuits for Craft Fair	246		£4.37	£9,522.36
12.04.24	Visitor Centre	April Craft Fair table rental. Additional to FPI on 18.03.24	PIB 500066	£5.00		£9,527.36
12.04.24	Peter Hunt	Donation from Craft Fair	PIB 500066	£5.00		£9,532.36
12.04.24	FOSW Bric-A-Brac Stall	Donation from Craft Fair	PIB 500066	£1.00		£9,533.36
12.04.24	Visitor Centre	Donation for refreshments at Craft fair	PIB 500066	£24.64		£9,558.00
24.04.24	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	247		£26.97	£9,531.03
05.05.24	Les Slack	Milk, Orange juice & Ribena for refreshments at Craft Fair	FOSW Debit Card 248		£7.65	£9,523.38
09.05.24	Visitor Centre	May Craft Fair table rental	FPI	£30.10		£9,553.48
09.05.24	FOSW Bric-A-Brac Stall	Donation from Craft Fair	PIB 500067	£31.00		£9,584.48
09.05.24	Visitor Centre	Donations for refreshments at Craft Fair	PIB 500067	£9.00		£9,593.48
09.05.24	Nisa Box	Fundraising	PIB 500067	£10.26		£9,603.74
09.05.24	Mike Smith	Flowers to Gail Wright for family bereavement	FPO 249		£23.00	£9,580.74
10.05.24	BwD Council	Peppercorn rent for VC	FPO		£1.00	£9,579.74
24.05.24	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	250		£26.97	£9,552.77
24.06.24	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	251		£26.97	£9,525.80
04.07.24	Ryobi Limited	Tools	FOSW Debit Card 252		£1,369.91	£8,155.89
08.07.24	Visitor Centre	July Craft Fair table rental	FPI	£35.00		£8,190.89
09.07.24	Ann Stokes	Donation	PIB 500069	£40.00		£8,230.89
09.07.24	Peter Hunt	Donation from Craft Fair	PIB 500069	£10.50		£8,241.39
09.07.24	Joan Moore	Donation from Craft Fair	PIB 500069	£10.00		£8,251.39

09.07.24	FOSW Bric-A-Brac Stall	Donation from Craft Fair	PIB 500069	£9.00		£8,260.39
09.07.24	Visitor Centre	Donations for refreshments at Craft Fair	PIB 500069	£14.09		£8,274.48
15.07.24	Beryl Holden	Donation	Lloyds receipt	£100.00		£8,374.48
15.07.24	Ryman	A5 Folder	FOSW Debit Card 253		£2.99	£8,371.49
22.07.24	Mike Smith	Printer ink	FPO 254		£3.99	£8,367.50
24.07.24	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	255		£26.97	£8,340.53
05.08.24	Screwfix	Chainsaw oil	FOSW Debit Card 256		£5.84	£8,334.69
23.08.24	FOSW Bric-A-Brac Stall	Donation from Craft Fair	Cash 257	£5.00		£8,339.69
23.08.24	Darwen Town Council	Grant for Ryobi tools	Cheque 258	£1,369.91		£9,709.60
27.08.24	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	259		£26.97	£9,682.63
28.08.24	Sainbury's Darwen	Milk for Visitor Centre	FOSW Debit Card 260		£5.34	£9,677.29
30.08.24	Doug Wright	24 pairs of work gloves	FPO 261		£17.30	£9,659.99
03.09.24	Lidl Darwen	Domestic items for VC	FOSW Debit Card 262		£2.54	£9,657.45
11.09.24	Tesco Darwen	Mulled wine X 8 bottles	FOSW Debit Card 263		£26.40	£9,631.05
20.09.24	BwD Council	Hire of Visitor Centre	Invoice No 62	£40.00		£9,671.05
24.09.24	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	264		£26.97	£9,644.08
07.10.24	Mike Smith	Mulled wine X 11 bottles	FPO 265		£33.00	£9,611.08
07.10.24	Gail Wright	Oct Craft Fair table rental	FPI	£25.00		£9,636.08
07.10.24	Visitor Centre	Oct Craft Fair table rental	PIB 500070	£20.00		£9,656.08
07.10.24	FOSW Bric-A-Brac Stall	Doation from Craft Fair	PIB 500070	£1.00		£9,657.08
07.10.24	Visitor Centre	Donations for refreshments at Craft Fair	PIB 500070	£9.70		£9,666.78
18.10.24	Doug Wright	New Printer & ink cartridges	FPO 266		£193.84	£9,472.94
20.10.24	Les Slack	Ryobi Leaf blower	FPO 267		£65.49	£9,407.45
22.10.24	Mike Smith	Mulled wine X 6 bottles + groceries for Carols in the Wood	FPO 268		£81.61	£9,325.84
24.10.24	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	269		£26.97	£9,298.87
25.10.24	Les Slack	Mulled wine X 8 bottles	FPO 270		£24.00	£9,274.87
25.10.24	Wayne Dixon	Visitor Centre	FPO		£20.00	£9,254.87

		garden	271			
25.10.24	Mike Smith	Mulled wine X 19 bottles	FPO 272		£57.00	£9,197.87
29.10.24	Asda Blackburn	Mulled wine X 7 bottles	FOSW Debit Card 273		£21.00	£9,176.87
30.10.24	Les Slack	Mulled wine X 4 bottles	FPO 274		£12.00	£9,164.87
04.11.24	West Pennine Sling	Hire of Visitor Centre	FPI Invoice No 63	£50.00		£9,214.87
05.11.24	Visitor Centre	Nov Craft Fair table rental	PIB 500071	£30.00		£9,244.87
05.11.24	Anonymous	Donation at Craft Fair	PIB 500071	£5.00		£9,249.87
05.11.24	Peter Hunt	Donation from Craft Fair	PIB 500071	£5.00		£9,254.87
05.11.24	FOSW Bric-A-Brac Stall	Donation from Craft Fair	PIB 500071	£4.92		£9,259.79
05.11.24	Visitor Centre	Donations for refreshments at Craft Fair	PIB 500071	£5.70		£9,265.49
08.11.24	Mike Smith	Groceries for CitW & red/white hazard tape	FPO 275		£10.68	£9,254.81
13.11.24	Anonymous	Donation via CA	FPI	£10.00		£9,264.81
25.11.24	B&Q Blackburn	Steel head leaf rake.	FOSW Debit Card 276		£21.00	£9,243.81
25.11.24	Savoy service station	Petrol for generator + 4 AA batteries	FOSW Debit Card 277		£13.17	£9,230.64
25.11.24	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	278		£26.97	£9,203.67
29.11.24	Amazon refund	Ryobi Leaf blower	FPI	£65.49		£9,269.16
02.12.24	Carols in the Wood	Fundraising	PIB 500072	£1,261.32		£10,530.48
06.12.24	Blackburn and Darwen Band	Carols in the Wood	FPO 279		£300.00	£10,230.48
06.12.24	Darwen Library Larks Choir	Carols in the Wood	FPO 280		£50.00	£10,180.48
09.12.24	Visitor Centre	Craft Fair table rental	FPI	£80.00		£10,260.48
10.12.24	Visitor Centre	Craft Fair table rental pay on the day.	PIB 500073	£20.00		£10,280.48
10.12.24	Dave Smith	Donation for CitW.	PIB 500073	£10.00		£10,290.48
10.12.24	FOSW Christmas Raffle	Sale of tickets at Dec Craft Fair.	PIB 500073	£69.00		£10,359.48
10.12.24	Visitor Centre	Donations for refreshments at Craft Fair	PIB 500073	£12.73		£10,372.21
10.12.24	FOSW Bric-A-Brac Stall	Donation from Craft Fair	PIB 500073	£10.20		£10,382.41
16.12.24	Tesco Darwen	Mulled wine X 6 bottles	FOSW Debit Card 281		£15.00	£10,367.41
19.12.24	Asda Blackburn	Mulled wine X 12 bottles	FOSW Debit Card 282		£30.00	£10,337.41
23.12.24	Wayne Dixon	Visitor Centre garden	FPO 283		£30.00	£10,307.41
23.12.24	Les Slack	Mulled wine X 12	FPO		£30.00	£10,277.41

		bottles	284			
24.12.24	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	285		£26.97	£10,250.44
24.01.25	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	286		£26.97	£10,223.47
24.02.25	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	287		£26.97	£10,196.50
06.03.25	Lidl Darwen	Groceries for Visitor Centre	FOSW Debit Card 288		£3.68	£10,192.82
17.03.25	United Trust Bank	Transfer of savings	FPI	£13,800.00		£23,992.82
24.03.25	Plusnet Plc	Broadband Monthly DD	289		£26.97	£23,965.85
				<b>£26,771.29</b>	<b>£2,805.44</b>	
<b>31.03.25</b>		<b>Balance Carried Forward</b>				<b>£23,965.85</b>

## Abbreviations

DD – Direct Debit

FPI - Faster payment In

FPO – Faster Payment Out

JTCU – Jubilee Tower Credit Union

PIB – Paying in Book

UTB – United Trust Bank

VC – Visitor Centre

## Summary

Income	Funds 24/25	Funds 23/24
<b>Lloyds Bank Current Account</b>		
Donations	£195.50	£5,605.96
Fundraising	£1,330.32	£1,286.26
Grants	£1,369.91	£0.00



Hire of Visitor Centre	£90.00	£305.00
Craft Fair stall rental	£245.10	£540.00
Donations for refreshments at Craft Fairs	£75.86	£186.67
FOSW Bric-a-Brac stall at Craft Fairs	£62.12	£136.38
Coop/Nisa Box (Fundraising)	£10.26	£110.30
Amazon refund for faulty leaf blower	£65.49	£0.00
Sale of excess wine from summer concert	£0.00	£45.00
Savings into current account from Jubilee Tower Credit Union.	£0.00	£2,000.00
<b>Income for year</b>	<b>£3,444.56</b>	<b>£10,215.57</b>
<b>Income from savings account interest</b>	<b>£1,472.26</b>	
<b>Balance brought forward</b>	<b>£9,526.73</b>	<b>£21,550.53</b>
<b>Savings into Current Account from United Trust Bank</b>	<b>£13,800.00</b>	
<b>Total income</b>	<b>£28,243.55</b>	<b>£31,766.10</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Lloyds Bank Current Account</b>		
Woodland Maintenance	£0.00	£0.00
Events/Fundraising costs ( Summer Concert & Carols in the Wood).		£836.24
Events/Fundraising costs(Carols in the Wood).	£615.69	
Mulled wine for Carols in the Wood. Note 1.	£75.00	
Visitor Centre costs	£11.56	£31.55
Visitor Centre rental.	£1.00	£1.00
Visitor Centre garden costs	£50.00	£170.00
Misc costs	£23.00	£74.50
Tool costs	£1,492.71	£337.33
Craft Fair costs	£12.02	£56.94
Training. ( First Aid Training x 3)	£0.00	£450.00
Broadband	£323.64	£282.11
Stationary	£200.82	£0.00
Savings out of Current Account to United Trust Bank	£0.00	£20,000.00
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>£2,805.44</b>	<b>£22,239.67</b>
Funds to carry forward	£25,438.11	
Savings interest not carried forward to Lloyds Bank current account	£1,472.26	
<b>Total funds carried forward.</b>	<b>£23,965.85</b>	<b>£9,526.43</b>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>		
Reserves	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
United Trust Bank Savings 3 month fixed rate bond gross interest @ 4.38% restricted until 15.05.24		£14,092.64
United Trust Bank 6 month fixed rate Charity bond gross interest @ 4.46% restricted until 17.08.25	£14,762.80	
United Trust Bank Savings restricted for 40 days	£7,067.46	£20,071.90
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b>£23,330.26</b>	<b>£35,664.54</b>
<b>Savings Interest</b>		
Jubilee Tower Credit Union account.	£6.54	£326.64
United Trust Bank 3 or 6 month fixed rate account.	£670.16	£460.80
United Trust Bank 40 day notice account.	£795.56	£71.90
For details of the above accounts see appendices A,B&C.		

<b>Total Savings Interest 01.04.23 - 31.03.24</b>		<b>£859.34</b>
<b>Total Savings Interest 01.04.24 - 31.03.25</b>	<b>£1,472.26</b>	
<b>Note 1. £75 of Carols in the Wood costs are for Mulled wine bought for Carols in the Wood 2025.</b>		

## Appendix A

<b>Date</b>	<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Money In</b>	<b>Money Out</b>	<b>Balance</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
19.07.21	Transfer of Savings	£5,000.00		£5,000.00	Xfrd from Lloyds Bank Current Account
22.07.21	Transfer of Savings	£15,000.00		£20,000.00	Xfrd from Lloyds Bank Current Account
24.02.22	Jubilee Tower Credit Union Dividend.	£29.16		£20,029.16	Dividend based on avg daily balance beteen 01/10/20 & 30/09.21 of £3887.36
16.11.22	Transfer of Savings		£18,000.00	£2,029.16	Xfrd to Lloyds Bank Current Account
16.11.22				£2,029.16	
31.03.23				£2,029.16	
22.06.23	Jubilee Tower Credit Union Dividend.	£250.22		£2,279.38	Dividend based on avg daily balance beteen 01/10/21 & 30/09.22 of £20017.46
29.09.23	Transfer of Savings		£2,000.00	£279.38	Xfrd to Lloyds Bank Current Account
16.02.24	Jubilee Tower Credit Union Dividend.	£76.42		£355.80	Dividend at 1.75% based on Avg daily balance between 01/10/22 & 30/09/23 of 4367.13
21.03.25	Jubilee Tower Credit Union Dividend.	£6.54		£362.34	Dividend at 2.00% based on Avg daily balance between 01/10/23 & 30.09.24 of 326.91

## Appendix B

	<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Money In</b>	<b>Money Out.</b>	<b>Balanc e</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
	United Trust Bank 40 Day				
	Charity Notice Account Issue 1				
	Gross Interest 3.75% paid annually on 31st October.				
04.04.24	Gross interest increased to 4.10%				

20.03.25	Gross interest reduced to 3.95%				
22.09.23	Initial Deposit	£10.00		£10.00	
26.09.23	Transfer of Savings	£19,900.00		£19,910.00	
29.09.23	Transfer of Savings	£90.00		£20,000.00	
31.10.23	Credit Interest	£71.90		£20,071.90	
31.10.24	Credit Interest	£795.56		£20,867.46	
17.03.25	Transfer to Lloyds Bank Current Account		£13,800.00	£7,067.46	

## Appendix C

Date	Account Name	Money In	Money Out	Balance	Remarks
	United Trust Bank				
	3 and 6 Month fixed rate				
	Charity Bonds				
11.11.22	Interest 2% gross				
13.02.23	Interest 2.05% gross				
15.05.23	Interest 3.15% gross				
15.08.23	Interest 4.11% gross				
15.11.23	Interest 3.96% gross				
15.02.24	Interest 4.38% gross				
15.05.24	Interest 4.91% gross				
17.02.25	Interest 4.46% gross				
11.11.22	Transfer of Savings	£5,000.00		£5,000.00	Xfrd from Lloyds Bank Current Account
16.11.22	Transfer of Savings	£22,000.00		£27,000.00	Xfrd from Lloyds Bank Current Account
13.02.23	United Trust Bank	£131.84		£27,131.84	Interest added.
13.02.23	Transfer of Savings		£13,500.00	£13,631.84	Xfrd to Lloyds Bank Current Account
13.02.23				£13,631.84	Account rolled over to new Charity 3 Month bond paying 2.05%
31.03.23				£13,631.84	
15.05.23	United Trust Bank	£69.67		£13,701.51	Interest added.
15.05.23				£13,701.51	Account rolled over to new Charity 3 Month bond paying 3.15%
15.08.23	United Trust Bank	£108.79		£13,810.30	Interest added.
15.08.23				£13,810.30	Account rolled over to new Charity 3 Month Bond paying 4.11%
15.11.23	United Trust Bank	£143.07		£13,953.37	Interest added.
15.11.23	United Trust Bank			£13,953.37	Account rolled over to new Charity 3 Month Bond paying 3.96%
15.02.24	United Trust Bank	£139.27		£14,092.64	Interest added.
15.02.24	United Trust Bank			£14,092.64	Account rolled over to new Charity 3 Month Bond paying 4.38%
15.05.24	United Trust Bank	£154.98		£14,247.62	Interest added.
15.05.24	United Trust Bank			£14,247.62	Account rolled over to new Charity 3 Month Bond paying 4.91%
15.08.24	United Trust Bank	£176.33		£14,423.95	Interest added.

15.08.24	United Trust Bank			£14,423.95	Account rolled over to new Charity 6 Month Bond paying 4.61%
17.02.25	United Trust Bank	£338.85		£14,762.80	Interest added.
17.02.25	United Trust Bank			£14,762.80	Account rolled over to new Charity 6 Month Bond paying 4.46%