

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

England & Wales · Charity number 1186259

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-11-11

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address The Crest
Llandysilio
Llanymynech
SY22 6QZ

Phone 01691831008

Email davies.thecrest@btinternet.com

Activities

Objects: TO PRESERVE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC AS A PROMINENT HERITAGE LANDMARK, RODNEY'S PILLAR, A GRADE II* LISTED MONUMENT SITUATED AT THE TOP OF BREIDDEN HILL BUILT BY PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION IN 1781/2 TO COMMEMORATE ADMIRAL RODNEY.

Activities: To preserve for the benefit of the public as a prominent heritage landmark Rodney's Pillar, a Grade II* Listed Monument situated at the top of Breidden Hill built by public subscription in 1781/1782 to commemorate Admiral Rodney and to enhance the visitor experience to the surrounding area.

Classification

- **How:** Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees	
2024-09-30		£0	£74	-	-
2023-09-30		£13	£95	-	-
2022-09-30		£164	£59	-	-
2021-09-30		£2,288	£366	-	-
2020-09-30		£777	£0	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Williams James Lee	Chair	2021-02-09
David Roberts		2021-02-09
Elizabeth Dawson		2021-02-09
Heather Hobman		2021-02-09
Stephen Williams		2021-02-09

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

England & Wales - Charity number 1186259

Accounts

SRP Chairs report 2025

This year has been a very difficult year for the Trust, we lost one of our Trustees, Frances Buckingham, who passed away after a short illness, Frances was instrumental in setting up the SRP Charitable Trust and always made sure we stayed within our commitments, she will be missed. Rhys Jenkins who was our contact with NRW, passed away following a road accident, Rhys was a huge help in getting NRW to commit to all the work that has been done to date and he wanted to ensure the Pillar was repaired, Rhys was a true gentleman that we were privileged to have worked with, our condolences and thoughts have been with his whole family.

WE have restarted meetings with NRW and Cadw, they have informed us that the condition of the Pillar is such that it is impossible to actually repair the Pillar, the base is ok but the upper part of the Pillar will need to be taken down and rebuilt, Cadw have accepted that this is the only option and will work with NRW to get it rebuilt as close to the original as possible, this will obviously increase the estimated costs.

That has led us into looking at what funding opportunities there are and how we make it into a suitable project that funders would be willing to grant us funding, we are currently looking into options for applying to the Heritage Lottery Fund, the first step is to make an Expression of Interest, it is imperative we get this right to ensure we are able to put in a full application, now that we are looking for external funding, we will now need to carry out some major fund raising as no funders will provide 100% of the costs of the project.

Whilst we have not been able to move forward the Trustees still maintain a positive attitude and are continuing to work to our original aim of repairing the Pillar for future generations.

Bill Lee

Chair of Trustees

SRP

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1186259

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2024

**Robert Davies & Co
4 Sweetlake Court
Mercian Close
Shrewsbury
SY3 9GE**

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

Year Ended 30th September 2024

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER:	1186259
ADDRESS OF CHARITY:	The Crest Llandysilio Llanymynech SY22 6QZ
TRUSTEES:	David Roberts Elizabeth Dawson William James Lee Stephen Williams Heather Hobman Frances Buckingham
BANKERS:	NatWest P O Box 5 Owain Glyndwr Square Aberystwyth Ceredigion SY23 2NB
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:	Mr Robert Davies Robert Davies & Co 4 Sweetlake Court Mercian Close Shrewsbury SY3 9GE

TRUSTEES REPORT:

Save Rodney's Pillar became a registered charity on 11 November 2019 as a Service Provider.

The objectives of the charity are to restore and preserve the monument "Rodney's Pillar"

The charity is controlled by trustees elected at general meetings and is run on a democratic basis.

The charity has undertaken fund raising activities during the year ended 30th September 2024 and raised awareness of the campaign to save Rodney's Pillar.

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
Year Ended 30 September 2024

	2024		2023	
Income	£	£	£	£
Donations	<u>0</u>		<u>13</u>	
		<u>0</u>		<u>13</u>
Expenses				
Postage	0		19	
Ballot software	74		76	
		<u>74</u>		<u>95</u>
Net (Deficit)/Surplus		<u><u>-74</u></u>		<u><u>-82</u></u>

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 September 2024

	2024	2023
	£	£
Current Assets		
Natwest Bank Current Account	2,648	2,722
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,648	2,722
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>2,648</u>	<u>2,722</u>
 Represented by:		
Accumulated Fund		
Brought forward	2,722	2,804
(Deficit)/Surplus from Receipts and Payments Account	-74	-82
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>2,648</u>	<u>2,722</u>

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR TRUST

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30th September 2024 which are set out on pages 2 to 3.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) or under Regulation 10(1)(d) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission and is in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as 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 next statement.

Independent Examiners Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and section 44(1)(b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulations
 - 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.

ROBERT DAVIES

ROBERT DAVIES & CO

4 Sweetlake Court, Mercian Close, Shrewsbury, SY3 9GE

Date: 19th June 2025

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

England & Wales - Charity number 1186259

Accounts

SRP Chair's annual report

The Charitable Trust has continued to work with NRW to get the Pillar repaired, as the Charity has no direct input into what NRW do, it is on times a little frustrating but we continue to push for updates from the Project Manager and try to get them to commit to deadlines.

Summer 2023 started off very positively, news that the work was due to start on the Pillar, scaffolding was being erected, which in itself was a major hurdle, however the positivity soon came to an end, when for weeks there was no apparent activity around the Pillar, we received the news that none of us wanted to hear, the condition of the Pillar was worse than expected and too dangerous to continue working on.

How the Pillar was originally constructed has always been a question that no one could answer with 100% certainty, several suggestions from experts had been considered, but until the scaffolding was in place it had been impossible to have any in depth inspection into the core of the Pillar, this was one of the first actions for the Contractors, to try and find out how the Pillar was constructed to allow them to know how to carry out the repairs to the Pillar. What they found was that the construction of the Pillar is an outer ring of stone built using lime mortar and then infilled with loose stone and fines, the problem is that the infill has somehow gone, just leaving the outer ring of stone, which with the large crack and bulging has made the stability of the Pillar very unpredictable and the reason the Contractors could not continue working on the Pillar.

NRW now believe that the most appropriate course of action is for the Pillar to be dismantled and rebuild it, NRW along with their consultants and working with Cadw, are coming up with a plan of how this can be done in a sympathetic manner and agreeable to all, whilst they have not yet decided on how to progress, they have stated that that there is no funding available for the work to be done in the 2024 financial year, their funding has been cut by the Welsh Government and they are now looking at what projects can be done and when, and at present there is no indication of when the work to the Pillar will restart.

The Trustee's are continuing to push NRW to progress the work asap, and will do whatever we can to put as much pressure on them to get it put into their 2025 finance plan, in the meantime we are now looking into alternative funding options such as the Heritage Lottery, to support any funding that NRW may be able to put forward.

We started this financial year on a very positive note however it is ending with more uncertainty than we have had since the Trust was set up, the positive out of it all is that we now know what work is required and that a straight forward repair is not an option, but the possible cost to rebuild will be far more than the original cost to repair and the reason NRW are now having to look at how they can fund this project and more importantly when. Since May 2021 when NRW stated they would carry out the repairs to the Pillar, the Trust has worked alongside NRW and endeavoured to progress the work but we have been mainly a bystander, as we have little or no influence over how NRW have carried out the work to date, I do feel that in the next financial year the Trusts position will need to become far more proactive if we are likely to get it rebuilt before the Pillar actually falls down, in 2018 it was thought it would last two years, five years later and now knowing it is in a more serious condition than first thought, it is only a matter of time before the inevitable happens and the Pillar collapses.

Bill Lee

Chair of Trustee's

Save Rodney's Pillar, Charitable Trust.

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1186259

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

**Robert Davies & Co
4 Sweetlake Court
Mercian Close
Shrewsbury
SY3 9GE**

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

Year Ended 30th September 2023

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The charity is controlled by trustees elected at general meetings and is run on a democratic basis.

The charity has undertaken fund raising activities during the year ended 30th September 2023 and raised awareness of the campaign to save Rodney's Pillar.

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
Year Ended 30 September 2023

Income	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
Donations	<u>13</u>		<u>164</u>	
		<u>13</u>		<u>164</u>
Expenses				
Postage	19		14	
Ballot software	76		45	
		<u>95</u>		<u>59</u>
Net (Deficit)/Surplus		<u><u>-82</u></u>		<u><u>105</u></u>

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 September 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Current Assets		
Natwest Bank Current Account	2,722	2,863
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,722	2,863
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	0	59
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>2,722</u>	<u>2,804</u>
 Represented by:		
Accumulated Fund		
Brought forward	2,804	2,699
(Deficit)/Surplus from Receipts and Payments Account	-82	105
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>2,722</u>	<u>2,804</u>

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR TRUST**

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 30th September 2023 which are set out on pages 2 to 3.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) or under Regulation 10(1)(d) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act)
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Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

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In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

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 - 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.

ROBERT DAVIES

ROBERT DAVIES & CO

4 Sweetlake Court, Mercian Close, Shrewsbury, SY3 9GE

Date: 28th February 2024

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

England & Wales - Charity number 1186259

Accounts

Save Rodney's Pillar, Chairmans Report 2023

We as Trustee's and I am sure many others will always be indebted to NRW for not only agreeing to repairing the Pillar but ensuring it is monitored therefore ensuring it doesn't come into disrepair for years to come, however this year has been one of many false dawns and missed targets, meaning that the window of opportunity to carry out the work in the summer of 2022 was missed, but further inspections carried out on the Pillar has not shown any major deterioration.

The delays have been mainly due to organisational procedures within NRW, as a project it is not a major one for NRW, however the procedures that they have in place to ensure that the work is carried out correctly, safely and as a public body, ensuring they get the best possible value for the tax payers money, are the same regardless of the size of the project, and have to be followed which has made getting to the point where the tender document can be approved, a long process.

By the end of 2022 the tender document; which gives the detail of what the work involves to any potential Contractors; was being completed and in January 2023 the tender document was released and advertised on various platforms. Tenders have been returned to NRW which they are happy with, there are further procedures to check the viability of the bidders, following this there is a cooling off period, which when completed the winning bidder will be disclosed.

We are now waiting for the winning bidder to be disclosed and a start date to be agreed, which by the time of the AGM this should have been completed, then let the work begin.

Since NRW agreed to take responsibility for the Pillar, we as Trustee's have no real power with regard to how the work to repair the Pillar is carried out, we have however had regular meetings with the project manager and tried to ensure the work will be completed in a timely fashion, to date that does look likely that it will happen in 2023. The one thing we do have responsibility for, is how the money that has been so generously donated or collected towards SRP is spent, the Trustee's are currently looking at the cost to place a plaque with the details of the proposed repair on it, to match the other plaques around the base of the Pillar that has recorded similar information. Cadw is looking to make the visit to the Pillar a more rounded history of the Hill and show its place in History, with information such as the Iron Age Hill Fort etc, they will potentially fund any information boards but this work will be carried via another body and not with SRP or its Trustee's.

2023 is looking to be a more positive year for the history of the Pillar and securing its prominence on the top of the Breiddens, we therefore look forward to the time when the security fence is removed and the Pillar is again able to be fully appreciated by all.

Bill Lee

Chair of Trustee's

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1186259

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Robert Davies & Co
Marche Manor
Halfway House
Shrewsbury
SY5 9DE

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SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR TRUST**

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ROBERT DAVIES

ROBERT DAVIES & CO

Marche Manor, Halfway House, Shrewsbury, SY5 9DE

Day Month Year

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT
Year Ended 30 September 2022

Income	2022		2021	
	£	£	£	£
Donations	<u>164</u>		<u>2,288</u>	
		<u>164</u>		<u>2,288</u>
Expenses				
Collection boxes	0		86	
Signs	0		234	
Postage	14			
Ballot software	45		46	
		<u>59</u>		<u>366</u>
Net Surplus		<u><u>105</u></u>		<u><u>1,922</u></u>

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 September 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£
Current Assets		
Natwest Bank Current Account	2,863	2,699
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,863	2,699
Current Liabilities		
Creditors	59	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>2,804</u>	<u>2,699</u>
 Represented by:		
Accumulated Fund		
Brought forward	2,699	777
Surplus from Receipts and Payments Account	105	1,922
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>2,804</u>	<u>2,699</u>

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

Year Ended 30th September 2022

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER: 1186259

ADDRESS OF CHARITY: The Crest
Llandysilio
Llanymynech
SY22 6QZ

TRUSTEES: David Roberts
Elizabeth Dawson
William James Lee
Stephen Williams
Heather Hobman
Frances Buckingham

BANKERS: Natwest
P O Box 5
Owain Glyndwr Square
Aberystwyth
Ceredigion
SY23 2NB

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: Mr Robert Davies
Robert Davies & Co
Marche Manor
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TRUSTEES REPORT:

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SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

England & Wales - Charity number 1186259

Accounts

Chair's Report 2021/ 2022

We started this year with two fewer Trustees having been unable to get anyone to join our ranks, we were in the middle of a pandemic that was making it impossible to carry out any fund raising and then HSBC decided they did not want to continue as our bankers! Not what we had hoped for.

Following Richard Hambleton's and Lesley Burrowes's resignations at our last AGM we asked if anyone would like to join as a Trustee but had no takers, so there was no other option but to carry on and spread the duties amongst the remaining Trustees.

The fact we were in the middle of the Covid pandemic made any thought of fund raising impossible, although we had one local young man who took it on his own initiative to run up to the Pillar every night (after a day's work, mostly in the dark and often in pouring rain) and set up a just giving page for people to sponsor him. He raised £391.87 which was an impressive amount at any time and an inspiration of what can be done. Collection tins remained at local businesses and offers of individual fund raising helped to continue to improve our funds.

This year has again seen the support and interest shown by members and people far and wide has been amazing, and has often been the driving force for the Trustee's to continue to look for ways of achieving the goal we all want, this support is second only to raising the money to carry out the repair on the Pillar, it has always surprised us how much the Pillar means to so many people, so thank you to you all for that support.

To preserve these funds we had meetings on line, when we weren't allowed face to face, then when we were allowed outside meetings we had them in our garden, so no funds were used for the hire of any rooms.

Then in March 2021 we received a letter from HSBC, giving us notice that they intended to remove their banking services from the Charity; this came completely out of the blue and there was no explanation then or since. Steve endeavoured to find an alternative bank, which was not straight forward but he came up with one that would work for us and again after many e-mails etc we ended up with a new bank account, a headache that we would have liked to have not had.

The only other positive we had was following Cadw's request for an updated report on the condition of the Pillar, which Cadw would fund and would be required for the major funding we would be looking for, so I joined Geraint Roberts and Terry Parry who created the original report, on a cold, wet and breezy day for them to carry out further inspections of the Pillar. The outcome was an updated report that would be the basis for any funding.

The updated report did show that the deterioration in the Pillar was not as bad as they had originally predicted and in fact was not a great deal worse than when the original report was created just over two years previously.

Following this report there was continued discussion with Natural Resources Wales to agree a lease of the grounds around the Pillar and the ground that the Pillar stood on. The Charity needed this to allow us to be able to carry out the work since without the agreement the major funders would not consider awarding any grants.

What was to come out of NRW's internal discussions, was something that I think none of us expected or even hoped for. As NRW had a long term lease on the ground, they in principle decided that they were the land owners, therefore had a duty to fund and carry out the repairs required. The icing on the cake was they would also do the same as they do with similar such structures on their land, which would be to carry out regular inspections on the Pillar to ensure any deterioration would be picked up much sooner and be dealt with. This is much more than we could have ever hoped for.

To date NRW have continued to setup the required funding from within their organisation, which is now in place, they have appointed a Project Manager who has made contact with us, and wants to involve the Charity in the repairs to the Pillar, which is also good news. They are creating a tender document which should be put out for Companies to put in their quotes, with a planned start of work in July 2022, a little later than they had hoped but they believe (depending on the weather) that they will be able to complete the works by October 2022.

So although following our last AGM the future was not as bright as we would have liked, the lead up to this year's AGM is far brighter than we thought possible. There is a little way to go, and the Charity will continue to operate until the Pillar is repaired, whenever that may be.

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1186259

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

ACCOUNTS

PERIOD ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2021

**Robert Davies & Co
Marche Manor
Halfway House
Shrewsbury
SY5 9DE**

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

Period Ended 30th September 2021

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

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SY22 6QZ

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SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Period Ended 30 September 2021

Income	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
Donations	<u>2,288</u>		<u>777</u>	
		<hr style="width: 100%;"/>		<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
		2,288		777
 Expenses				
Collection boxes	86		0	
Signs	234		0	
Ballot software	46		0	
		<hr style="width: 100%;"/>		<hr style="width: 100%;"/>
		366		0
Net Surplus	<u>1,922</u>		<u>777</u>	

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 September 2021

	2021	2020
	£	£
Current Assets		
Natwest Bank Current Account	2,699	777
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,699	777
Current Liabilities		
	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>2,699</u>	<u>777</u>
Represented by:		
Accumulated Fund		
Brought forward	777	0
Surplus from Receipts and Payments Account	1,922	777
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>2,699</u>	<u>777</u>

INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR TRUST

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the period ended 30th September 2021 which are set out on pages 2 to 3.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this period under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) or under Regulation 10(1)(d) of The Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (the 2006 Accounts Regulations) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and section 44(1)(c) of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 (the 2005 Act)
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission and is accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as 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 next statement.

Independent Examiners Statement

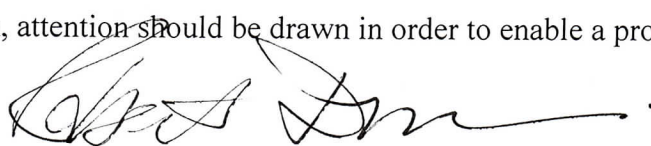
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act and section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act and section 44(1)(b) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 9 of the 2006 Regulations
 - 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.

ROBERT DAVIES
ROBERT DAVIES & CO

Marche Manor, Halfway House, Shrewsbury, SY5 9DE

4th March 2022



SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

England & Wales - Charity number 1186259

Accounts



TRUSTEES' REPORT JANUARY 2021

As the first Save Rodney's Pillar Trustees' Chairman's report, where do we start?

It should start from when the Charity was first set up, however we should go a little further back to understand why it was necessary to go down this route.

Following someone having concerns about the obvious degradation of the pillar, an inspection and report was instigated and funded by the three local Community Councils, Bausley with Criggion, Llandrinio & Arddleen and Llandysilio. Following this report several public meetings took place, firstly to report back on the findings, then to find a way forward.

The report highlighted two main issues, firstly the state of the Pillar and estimated cost of repair and secondly the fact that no actual owner of the Pillar could be found. The ownership was (and still may be) a major issue when large funding is to be sought. The only way that this issue could be overcome was to set up a Charity, with the possibility that it would be able to acquire temporary ownership of the Pillar and apply for the major funding which would be required to get the Pillar repaired.

Therefore on Monday 9th September 2019 the Charitable Incorporated Organisation Save Rodney's Pillar was formed, with eight people volunteering as Trustees: Frances Buckingham, Lesley Burrows, Elizabeth Dawson, Richard Hambleton, Heather Hobman, William Lee, David Roberts and Stephen Williams and with Carol Davies offering to act as Honorary Secretary.

The first steps have included:

1. Creating our constitution.
2. Registering as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation
3. Setting out our aims and objectives
4. Setting up a Bank Account
5. Set up a GDPR policy
6. Allocating an area of focus for each Trustee
7. Fundraising
8. Discussions with Statutory bodies
9. Getting more people involved

The monthly Trustees' meetings were very kindly held at the home of Liz Dawson, the main reason was the fact we had no money to hire a venue.

Constitution

Any organisation such as ours must have a constitution, to give us direction in everything we do, and needed to be agreed with the Charity Commission. Although this sounds very straight forward, there is a multitude of scenarios that it must cover, the work to create the it was down to Carol and Frances, who put in a lot of time and effort to get it right.

Registering as a Charity

A great deal of paperwork to be completed and some editing of our Constitution but on the 7th November 2019, Save Rodney's Pillar was registered with the Charity Commission as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation.

Aims and Objectives

The Aim has always been to 'repair The Pillar, to ensure it stands for future generations' however the Objective has changed. We initially wanted to carry out the simple objective of repairs alone, however when looking at the requirements of funding bodies such as the Lottery Heritage Fund and following discussions with Cadw, the Welsh Government's historic environment service, in order to achieve large funding we would need to have a far more encompassing objective.

This would include allowing people walking to the Pillar to learn more about what else there is, from flora and fauna as it is a designated SSSI, to the Iron Age hill fort it is built in. This has yet not been fully defined; we were in discussions with Cadw at the time Covid 19 made meeting people impossible.

Setting up a Bank Account

Steve and Frances were responsible for achieving this, this again seems very straightforward but was very different and many thanks to them both for showing persistence and getting it set up.

Following this Steve has set up the JustGiving page for online donations and the signage at the routes to the Pillar which include the QR code to allow people to go straight to the JustGiving page.

Setting up our GDPR policy

The fact we have a membership on which we hold data has meant we must comply with General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Having appropriate GDPR policies is a legal requirement and Frances has been very persistent in getting them set up; most are now in place and are due to be completed directly after the AGM.

Areas of focus

It was decided at one of our early meetings to have areas of focus and allocate a Trustee/Trustees to lead each area, these were:

Membership Secretary – Frances
Technical - Richard
Marketing and Social Media – Steve
Fund Raising – Heather
Grant Applications – Bill, David and Richard
Liaison with Statutory bodies – David

This did not exclude any Trustee from being involved in any area but to have designated Trustees to be able to report back to all the Trustees at meetings and to have continuity in each area.

Fundraising

This is difficult at the best of times, then comes along Covid 19 and makes it virtually impossible!

It started off very well, on Boxing Day 2019 and New Year's Day 2020, Heather, Steve and family arranged to stand and 'shake a bucket' at the car park / entrance to the permissive path. The amount of people walking on each day was very surprising and people were very willing to donate which was a great help to our funds.

Heather has also distributed collecting boxes to local businesses which has helped to raise funds during this difficult period.

In February 2020 we held a public meeting in Llandrinio Village Hall, the attendance was very good and the enthusiasm to help and ideas for raising money was excellent. However before any of these ideas could be put in place we entered our first Covid Lockdown, then the following the lockdown, the restrictions on people gathering has made trying to arrange anything impossible.

Heather had made plans to collect again at the car park at Boxing Day 2020 and New Year's Day 2021 but again lockdown restrictions stopped this going ahead.

We have also been very fortunate to have donations from individuals and groups which has helped us have such things as the signs printed, which will hopefully in time further boosts our funds.

Discussions with Statutory bodies

On the 13th March 2020, Bill Lee, David Roberts, Richard Hambleton and County Councillor Lucy Roberts, attended a meeting with Powys County Council (PCC) at County Hall, with Rosemarie Harris, Executive Leader PCC, Jenni Thomas, Regeneration Manager PCC and Will Davies, Regional Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Archaeology (East Wales), Cadw.

The meeting was arranged to firstly confirm where PCC stood on the repairs to the Pillar, other than the owner they are the only body able to carry out the repairs, and secondly to discuss what if any possible funding options Cadw could offer. Rosemarie Harris was very supportive of what we are wanting to achieve. PCC would be as supportive as they possibly could but this would not extend to any financial help, due to their own financial problems.

Will Davies was very positive, the feasibility study was well put together and a very good starting point, he gave us options on how to overcome the ownership issue. Funding was also discussed and again Will was very positive on how Cadw could help with some funding, he did however suggest that to make the project more acceptable to potential funding bodies, we should look at a wider objective, to include better signage to the other historical sites on the Breiddens, supplying more information on what they could see, from the flora and fauna to the Iron Age hill fort, the third largest in Wales. Jenni was also very supportive in the suggested options that Will had put forward.

Overall it was a very encouraging meeting. Since the lifting of the first lockdown, Will suggested we have the feasibility study updated to make it more relevant when looking at taking the project forward and Cadw have stated they will look at the possibility of funding the cost of doing this. We therefore applied for a grant on the 22nd November 2020 but have yet to hear if it has been successful.

Getting More People involved

To be able to raise the money we would need it was identified that we would have to get far more people involved. The main emphasis of the public meeting at Llandrinio Village Hall on the 10th February 2020 was to encourage people to volunteer their time, skills and knowledge to further the aims of SRP. It was without doubt a very good evening, with very positive proposals on how to raise funds and people willing to organise events etc. It was also attended by a representative from The Shropshire Star, who did a write up on the evening.

Even with all the help and positivity that was generated at the meeting we were looking forward to moving forward, however within weeks came the Covid Lockdown and everything had to be halted.

Other Issues

There is still one outstanding issue to resolve, which is the ownership of the Pillar.

There are only two bodies that can carry out work on the Pillar, the owner and PCC. We have established that PCC have no funds to do this kind of work. The initial survey could not find any written evidence to prove who actually owns the Pillar, and if there was that would still not be sufficient to make them pay to repair the pillar.

We have been in discussion with Natural Resources Wales (NRW), the Welsh Government sponsored body which manages the natural resources of Wales, who have a 999 year lease on the part of the Breiddens that the Pillar sits on. What has been suggested, and has been used elsewhere in similar circumstances, is that we have a Management agreement that gives the Trust ownership for the period required to repair the Pillar. NRW are currently going through an internal consultation process and when all the key members have responded, it will then go for final approval of the Senior Management. We are eagerly awaiting that decision.

Although 2020 was not the best year to be starting out on this journey, in some ways though it has not held us back significantly. Most if not all the organisations that we would be applying to for grants stipulate that two years' of accounts are required in order to be considered. Despite not being able to arrange fund raising activities, which will be the same for nearly every other such organisation, the fact we have raised some funds and we are getting to the two years' of accounts means we are keeping on track.

Summary

Setting up a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with a complete new set of Trustees, most of whom have not met before, to raise £200,000, is very difficult at any time. To try and do so in 2020 with the national restrictions of Covid 19 has made it even more difficult, however since reconvening the Trustees' meetings after the national lockdown and meeting online every month, progress has been made.

Inevitably, Covid 19 has slowed down the responses from some of those organisations and individuals we have been dealing with, many of whom have been working from home, and has made it a little frustrating not moving forward as fast as we would have liked.

The other consequence of Covid 19 will be the funding that we will be looking for; in such uncertain times it may make it more difficult or take longer than we hope. Only time will answer that question.

Writing this report, has made me realise how far we have come and how much the Charity has been achieved in such difficult times, there is a great deal more to be done, when Covid restrictions begin to be lifted then we will be able to start to get the membership more involved and the pace of progress will increase.

Finally my thanks to all the Trustees for their help in enabling the Charity to achieve so much in such difficult times; we are fortunate in having a very diverse group of Trustees that has enabled us to cover a wide range of matters. My thanks must also go to Mrs Carol Davies as our Hon Secretary. She has worked very hard to ensure the meetings are arranged, agendas prepared and kept us up to date with everything.

Bill Lee, Chairman
January 2021

Robert Davies & Co
Marche Manor
Halfway House
Shrewsbury
SY5 9DE

PERIOD ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2020

ACCOUNTS

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

CHARITY REGISTRATION NUMBER 1186259

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT

Period Ended 30 September 2020

£ 2020
£

Income

Donations

777

Expenses

777

Net Surplus

0

SAVE RODNEY'S PILLAR

Period Ended 30th September 2020

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

CHARITY NUMBER:

1186259

ADDRESS OF CHARITY:

The Crest
Llandysilio
Llanymynech
SY22 6QZ

TRUSTEES:

David Roberts
Elizabeth Dawson
William James Lee
Stephen Williams
Lesley Burrowes
Heather Hobman
Colonel Richard Clive Hambleton
Frances Buckinghamham

BANKERS:

HNBC
Princess House
33 High Street
Shrewsbury
SY1 1SL

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER:

Mr Robert Davies
Robert Davies & Co
Marche Manor
Halfway House
Shrewsbury
SY5 9DE

TRUSTEES REPORT:

Save Rodney's Pillar became a registered charity on 11 November 2019 as a Service Provider. The objectives of the charity are to restore and preserve the monument "Rodney's Pillar".

The charity is controlled by trustees elected at general meetings and is run on a democratic basis.

The charity has undertaken fund raising activities during the period ended 30th September 2020 and raised awareness of the campaign to save Rodney's Pillar.