

FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

England & Wales · Charity number 1188060

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-02-19

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

Contact

Address 69 Brompton Farm Road
Rochester
ME2 3QX

Phone 07968380588

Email secretary@friendsofbroomhill.org.uk

Website friendsofbroomhill.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF ROCHESTER AND THE SURROUNDING AREA THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR EDUCATION, RECREATION OR OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE NEED OF SUCH FACILITIES BY REASON OF THEIR YOUTH, AGE, INFIRMITY OR DISABLEMENT, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP OR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES OR FOR THE PUBLIC AT LARGE IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITION OF LIFE OF THE SAID INHABITANTS. THESE FACILITIES WILL BE IN THE AREA KNOWN AS BROOMHILL PARK AND THE OLD ORCHARD, STROOD, KENT.

Activities: To promote for the benefit of the public at large the provision of facilities for education, recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities. These facilities will be in the areas known as Broomhill Park and The Old Orchard, Strood, Rochester, Kent.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Medway

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£2,955	£4,946	-	-
2024-03-31	£16,252	£10,493	-	-
2023-03-31	£1,108	£5,635	-	-
2022-03-31	£3,235	£1,944	-	-
2021-03-31	£2,595	£4,750	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
MAY EVE DRAPER	Chair	2021-09-29
ANDREW MILLSOM BA		2021-09-29
Barbara Harrison		2022-07-06
COLIN PEARSON		2021-09-29
DAVID PARK		2021-09-29
John Lawrenson		2023-07-05
Susan Fletcher		2021-09-29

FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

England & Wales - Charity number 1188060

Accounts



Charity Number 1188060

FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

www.friendsofbroomhill.org.uk

Registered Office:

69 Brompton Farm Road, Rochester, Kent, ME2 3QX

Annual Report & Accounts 2025

for the period of 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025

prepared by Susan Fletcher (Treasurer)

7 May 2025

Introduction

The Friends of Broomhill (“FoB”) are dedicated to the improvement and enrichment of Broomhill Park situated in Strood, Kent, ME2 3NB. The FoB own the Old Orchard, a nine-acre woodland site, adjacent to the Park which was purchased for £45,000 in May 2018. This area was purchased with donations from the general public, companies and match funding from Medway Council. Our aim was to incorporate the Old Orchard into a unified and extended Broomhill Park that will be protected from development to stop the loss of irreplaceable habitat and to enhance it for both community use and nature. Our Management Plan (revised in 2021) sets out our proposals, projects and recommendations to guide improvements to the Old Orchard. Without management, woodlands become overgrown, dark and will eventually die. It is not clear when the land ceased to be managed as an orchard, but it had become an area of scrubby woodland with mature hawthorn being the dominant species. Very few of the former orchard trees remain. Our recent project to create a pocket orchard (a small group of fruit trees) has been undertaken to maintain a link to its past use.

Structure

The FoB were inaugurated in May 2007, registered as a charity in 2013, and became a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) in February 2020. The charity is registered with the Charity Commission under registration number 1188060 and we are governed by our Constitution dated February 2020. Our Constitution does not allow us to sell the Old Orchard so it is listed in our Accounts with a historic value of £45,000. If the FoB were to dissolve at any time, this land would be gifted to another Trust to be protected for all time. The day-to-day management is undertaken by all of our seven trustees who meet six times per year to review and plan future activities, oversee finances and deal with any ongoing matters. The purchase of the Old Orchard has increased responsibility for the charity and therefore robust management arrangements, insurances, liabilities and health and safety have been fully considered. Our membership currently stands at 115 members.

Trustees

David Park (Secretary)

May Draper (Chair)

Susan Fletcher (Treasurer & Membership Secretary)

Barbara Harrison (Trustee)

John Lawrenson (Trustee)

Andrew Millsom (Trustee)

Colin Pearson (Grants Officer)

Bank

CAF Bank, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, ME19 4TA.

Public benefit

Our valuable greenspace in Strood has many public benefits. We aim to maintain and preserve the Old Orchard as a healthy habitat for wildlife and for people to enjoy the benefits of improved physical and mental wellbeing. Woodlands are also vitally important in the fight against climate change as trees remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and release oxygen back into the air.

An extensive amount of work has been completed over the last seven years. We began by improving pedestrian access through the Old Orchard by clearing and widening the main paths, some of which were completely overgrown with brambles, whilst leaving some areas relatively undisturbed to provide sanctuary for wildlife. This task greatly improved sightlines for the safety of our visitors. Signage was put in place, entrances from the Park into the Old Orchard were improved to make them more accessible with handrails and steps on steep slopes, wood chippings laid on paths, benches installed and a variety of Spring bulbs planted. We are planting trees, scrub, wildflowers and bulbs to increase biodiversity. 1,000 English Bluebells in the green were planted in May 2024, and we recently received two donated chestnut trees. We are carefully controlling some of the dense scrub by means of removal to create pockets of light. Overcrowding causes insufficient light to hit the woodland floor which limits the diversity of the ground flora. Sunlight enables a more extensive range of vegetation to grow which supports a wider range of insect life and this will in turn support birds. Improvements for wildlife were also made by the installation of a bug hotel, bird boxes and hedgehog boxes.

The FoB secured two separate grants to help us establish a pocket orchard in the lower glade of the Old Orchard for the benefit of the local community. With assistance from LumberZac Tree Services, and a lot of painstaking work by our volunteers over many months, we prepared the ground. We sourced 26 apple, pear, plum and quince varieties with Kentish connections from a local nursery, and the first batch of 14 fruit trees were planted in January 2025. This is the first stage of this exciting project. Raspberry, redcurrant, blackcurrant and gooseberry plants were also planted in the vicinity. Birds, butterflies and insects will greatly benefit as their habitat will be increased with these new additions.

We applied to the Woodland Trust for free tree packs (dog rose, hazel, crab apple and dogwood) and were very grateful to receive 60 saplings in March 2025. We also received a very kind donation of saplings which were left for us by an anonymous donor. All of these were planted as hedging for the pocket orchard which will provide some new woodland growth and structural diversity for the benefit of wildlife.

Our volunteers assist with maintaining both the Park and the Old Orchard. Our Thursday morning workgroup (10am to 12pm) focuses on the Old Orchard with tasks such as path clearing, pruning, bulb and tree planting, clearing vegetation and removing fallen branches or trees. Our Sunday morning workgroup (10am to 12pm) focuses on the Park and is held on the first Sunday of the month from September until May (excluding January). If this falls during a bank holiday weekend, we postpone to the second Sunday of the month. We carry out light gardening tasks such as pruning, clearing vegetation and litter picking. Our task days benefit the public in many ways. They are a great opportunity for more social contact with others who share the same interests, they encourage physical activity, and also provide a sense of community spirit with team work to achieve a common aim. During the course of the last year, our task days have resulted in over 1,200 hours of work by 23 volunteers with an average of 13 volunteers attending each session.

Broomhill Park and the Old Orchard also provide a great opportunity for local children to take an interest and pride in their surroundings. The FoB hold task sessions for Further Education students and staff from Abbey Court Community Special Foundation School. This is a special school for pupils between the ages of 3-19 with severe and profound learning difficulties. We meet for an hour a week during term time with a group of older students and carry out tasks such as litter picking and sowing wildflower seeds.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty to have regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity. We understand the charity's purposes as set out in our Constitution. The Trustees are able to explain how its activities support its purposes, and understand how the charity benefits the general public. To underpin these activities, the FoB have public liability insurance.

Awards Achieved

The FoB were delighted to be awarded “Outstanding” from the RHS South and South East in Bloom Awards and “Gold” from the Kent Wildlife Trust Wilder Kent Awards in 2024. A fantastic achievement by our hard-working volunteers to improve the habitat and environment for both our community and also wildlife in the area. We are also very proud to say that Broomhill Park has once again received the Green Flag Award for the 13th consecutive year.

Income

Total income for 2024/25 was £2,955.51. We were extremely grateful to receive three separate grants. £1,000.00 from Tesco Stronger Starts, which we added to the fund for our pocket orchard project, and two ward grants from Medway Councillors Zoe van Dyke (£149.00) and David Field (£200.00) for work to be undertaken by FoB in the Park to mend a safety barrier near the Hillyfields Close area. Our membership income (£482.38) has remained steady with renewals ongoing throughout the year and we are very grateful to members who have made a donation with their subscriptions (£143.75). Many thanks also to members who have raised £397.25 in 2024/25 by using Easyfundraising for their online shopping. Easyfundraising is a free fundraising platform where retailers send us a free donation based on the amount the shopper spends and with no extra cost to the shopper. Claims for Gift Aid were made to HMRC in respect of subscriptions and donations received between the period of 1 January 2024 to 31 October 2024. We received a total of £111.73 of Gift Aid during 2024/25. The opening of a savings account with CAF Bank has vastly increased the amount of bank interest received (£441.40).

Expenditure

Total expenditure in 2024/25 was £4,946.54. £3,895.24 was spent on the first stage of our pocket orchard project by purchasing fruit trees (£361.00), tree stakes, tree guards, compost etc (£128.07), tools (£618.27), fencing (£1,077.90), and assistance from LumberZac Tree Services (£1,710.00). This expenditure has been covered by the grants we received from Orchard Community Energy (£4,960.00) awarded in financial year 2023/24 and from Tesco Stronger Starts (£1,000.00) awarded in September 2024.

Our aims and plans for 2025/26

Care and maintenance of the fruit trees and the pocket orchard area will be ongoing. A further batch of 12 fruit trees will be planted in November/December 2025. We have the remainder of the grant money (£2,064.76) to cover the cost of the second stage of this project. The main paths in the Old Orchard will be kept clear with regular cutting back of vegetation for access and safety reasons. We will continue planting native bulbs and sowing wildflower seeds to increase biodiversity. Work is continuing on providing handrails on one of the entrances into the Old Orchard which will make it more accessible. We have continued to work closely on the planning for the landscaping of the extended parkland area at the top of Broomhill Park around the communications mast that had once been owned by Southern Water and contained two underground reservoirs. This land was then in private ownership until being purchased for development. The new parkland area will link up the Park and the Old Orchard. The reservoirs have been infilled and we are hopeful that the hard landscaping of the paths will begin in the Summer followed by planting in Autumn this year.

Conclusion

Support from the general public can make a huge difference to our work either through volunteering, becoming a member, making a donation, giving a grant, or leaving a gift in a will. Membership of the FoB benefits all our community as well as future generations. The membership fee provides vital funding to purchase tools, trees, plants, seeds and bulbs. The completion of the projects will greatly improve the area for the enjoyment of all and also provide a vital habitat for wildlife. Many thanks to all our members and hard-working volunteers for their continued support. All our work is ongoing and can only happen with donations and help from our wonderful volunteers.



Susan Fletcher, Treasurer

on behalf of the Trustees of the Friends of Broomhill

FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT - 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	2023-2024	2024-2025
	£	£
Income		
Subscriptions (net)	481.01	482.38
Donations from members (net)	238.34	143.75
Easyfundraising	176.81	397.25
HMRC Gift Aid	266.27	111.73
CAF Bank interest	46.21	441.40
Medway Council ward grants for repairs to Park safety barrier		349.00
Tesco Stronger Starts grant for Pocket Orchard		1000.00
Tree planting donation		30.00
Grants*	14710.00	
Orchard expenditure refund	58.80	
KADAR (King Arthurs Drive Association) donation for event	75.00	
Medway Council donation for funding events	200.00	
Total Income	16252.44	2955.51
Expenditure		
Website	127.73	136.78
CAF Bank fees	60.00	60.00
AGM costs	40.00	51.54
Stationery	21.99	7.00
Sundries		20.00
Refreshments	79.89	94.85
First aid supplies	3.85	8.18
Old Orchard Insurance	402.22	402.22
Pocket Orchard project (trees, tools, fencing, tree surgeon etc)		3895.24
Old Orchard planting	39.90	217.95
Old Orchard signage	16.80	52.78
Old Orchard entrance improvements project	9322.36	
Tools & Equipment	166.19	
Events	213.03	
Total Expenditure	10493.96	4946.54
Excess of income over expenditure	5758.48	-1991.03

* The Kent Community Foundation - £8,750.00

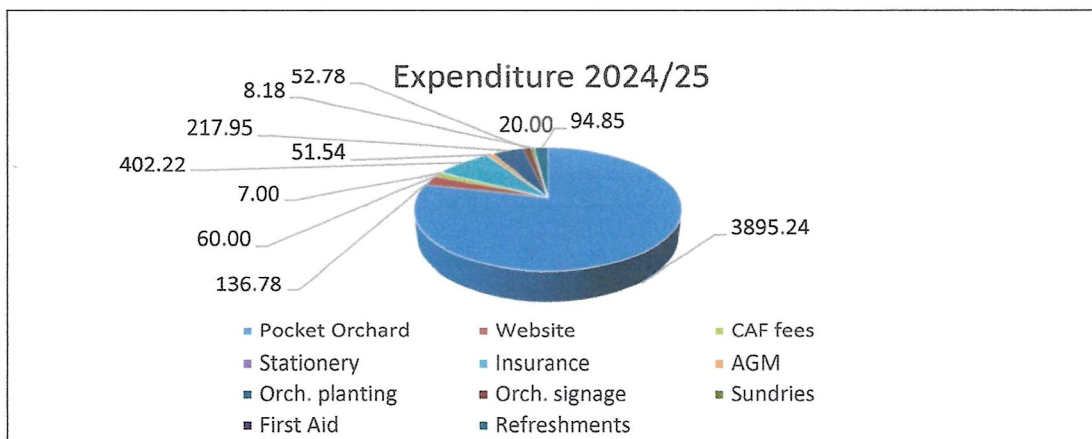
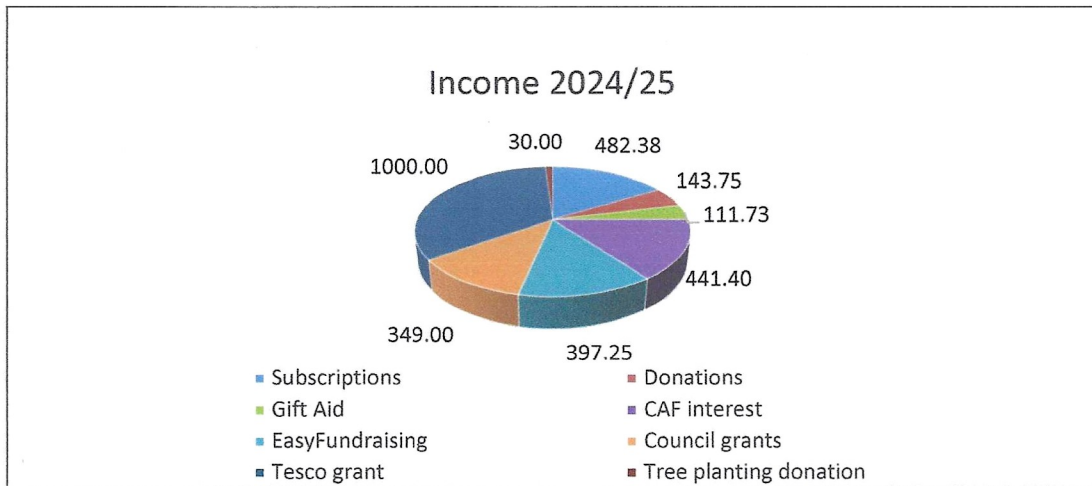
Orchard Community Energy - £4,960.00

Medway Council ward grant - £1,000.00

**FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT - 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025**

BALANCE SHEET

	2023-2024	2024-2025
	£	£
Cash at Bank		
Balance brought forward	19439.67	25198.15
Excess of Income over Expenditure	5758.48	-1991.03
Total Cash	25198.15	23207.12
 Balance at 31 March represented by:		
CAF Bank Current Account	25097.17	704.06
CAF Bank Gold Account		22429.71
Cash held by PayPal	100.98	43.35
Cash held by JustGiving		30.00
Balance carried forward to the next financial year	25198.15	23207.12
 Current Assets		
Old Orchard (historic value)	45000.00	45000.00
Tools	350.00	900.00
Total Current Assets	45350.00	45900.00
 Current Liabilities	0.00	0.00



FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

England & Wales - Charity number 1188060

Accounts



Charity Number 1188060

FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

friendsofbroomhill.org.uk

Registered Office:

**69 Brompton Farm Road
Rochester, Kent, ME2 3QX**

Annual Report & Accounts 2024 for the period of 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 prepared by Susan Fletcher, Treasurer

17th May 2024

Introduction

The Friends of Broomhill (“FoB”) are dedicated to the improvement and enrichment of Broomhill Park situated in Strood, Kent, ME2 3NB. The FoB own the Old Orchard, a nine-acre woodland site, adjacent to the Park which was purchased for £45,000 in May 2018. This area was purchased with donations from the general public, companies and match funding from Medway Council. This purchase has enabled us to preserve the woodland from development for all time. Our volunteers assist with maintaining both the Park and the Old Orchard by litter picking, general scrub clearing, bulb planting and maintaining the pathways.

Trustees

David Park (Secretary)

May Draper (Chair)

Susan Fletcher (Treasurer & Membership Secretary)

Barbara Harrison (Trustee)

Danielle Haughey (Communications Officer)

Louise Hubbard (Trustee)

John Lawrenson (Trustee)

Andrew Millsom (Trustee)

Colin Pearson (Grants Officer)

Bank

CAF Bank, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, ME19 4TA.

Our account with National Westminster Bank Plc was closed following a transfer of the balance to CAF Bank on 10 November 2023.

Structure

The FoB were inaugurated in May 2007, registered as a charity in 2013, and became a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) with charity number 1188060 in February 2020. We are governed by our Constitution dated February 2020 which does not allow us to sell the Old Orchard. If the FoB were to dissolve at any time, this land would be gifted to another Trust to be protected for all time. We have therefore listed the Old Orchard in our Accounts with a historic value of £45,000. Following the appointment of two new Trustees from our membership, our Board has increased from seven to nine Trustees. The Board meets six times per year to review and plan future activities, oversee finances and deal with any ongoing matters. Our membership currently stands at 127 members.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty to have regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity. The Trustees understand the charity's purposes as set out in our Constitution, they plan what the charity will do, are able to explain how the activities support its purposes, and understand how the charity benefits the general public. To underpin these activities, the FoB have public liability insurance.

We have 18 volunteers who regularly attend on task days. There are many benefits of volunteering – improves physical and mental health, more social contact by meeting new people, connection to the local community and a great sense of achievement.

We also work with the Further Education students and staff from Abbey Court Community Special Foundation School. This is a special school for pupils between the ages of 3-19 with severe and profound learning difficulties. We meet for an hour a week during term time and carry out tasks such as litter picking and footpath clearing.

The FoB held four free events for children during school holidays. We are very grateful to Medway Council and the King Arthurs Drive Residents Association for their generous funding. Funding received covered the full cost of these events which were well attended and drew a lot of people to Broomhill.

Awards Achieved

We were delighted to receive a Silver in the Kent Wildlife Trust Wilder Kent Awards, which is a reflection of the hard work our volunteers contribute towards improving the habitat and environment for both our community and wildlife. We are very proud that Broomhill Park once again received the Green Flag Award for the twelfth consecutive year, and we were also presented with a RHS South East in Bloom Award in the Community Gardening Category.

Income

Our total income has increased from £1,108.63 in 2022/23 to £16,252.44 in 2023/24.

We were delighted to be awarded three grants totalling £14,710.00 for three separate projects:

1. The Kent Community Foundation awarded us £8,750.00 from The Lower Thames Crossing Community Fund for improvements to the entrances to the Old Orchard from the Park. We were extremely pleased to receive this funding which enabled us to provide safer access with the use of better surfaces, handrails and steps on steep slopes. Our volunteers have been continuing the work at some of the other entrances into the Old Orchard;
2. Our successful application to Orchard Community Energy resulted in the FoB receiving funding of £4,960.00 to create community pocket orchards in The Old Orchard. We are very grateful for this money which has been ring-fenced for this exciting project. Work will commence later in 2024 and hopefully be completed by the end of 2025; and
3. Medway Councillor Zoe van Dyke kindly donated £1,000 from her ward grant which will be used for tree planting in the Park. This money has been ring-fenced for this project with the planting to be undertaken after completion of the work at the top of Broomhill Park.

Our membership numbers have remained fairly consistent with renewals ongoing throughout the year. We are very grateful to members who have made a donation with their subscriptions which totalled £238.34 in 2023/24. Three separate claims were made to HMRC for Gift Aid in respect of subscriptions and donations received between the period of 9 March 2022 to 31 December 2023. The FoB received three payments of £49.65, £141.21 and £75.41 respectively which amounted to a total of £266.27 received for Gift Aid during 2023/24.

We have also received additional income through our signing up to Easyfundraising, a free fundraising platform where retailers send us a free donation based on the amount the shopper spends and with no extra cost to the shopper. We are very grateful to our members who are using Easyfundraising for their online shopping. We have so far received two quarterly payments totalling £176.81.

Expenditure

Our expenditure has increased from £5,635.52 in 2022/23 to £10,493.96 in 2023/24. £9,322.36 of this expenditure was in relation to improvements to the entrances into the Old Orchard from the Park for which we received a grant of £8,750.00. The decrease in our expenditure on planting in the Old Orchard from £519.57 in 2022/23 to £39.90 in 2023/24 was partly due to our successful application to I Dig Trees who kindly gave us a donation of 150 native trees.

Our aims and plans for 2024/25

We are looking forward to commencing the work to create community pocket orchards within the Old Orchard area at Broomhill. This is an amazing opportunity for us to plant fruit trees which will provide food for the community as well as boosting the habitat for wildlife. We have sourced 26 apple, pear and plum varieties with Kentish connections. These pocket orchards, together with our recent planting of 150 native species of trees, will add to the diversity of the Old Orchard to improve the area for birds, butterflies and insects.

In July 2023, Hillstone Homes began the development of the area around the communications mast at the top of Gorse Road. The area had been owned by Southern Water and contained two underground reservoirs. The infilled reservoirs will be landscaped to create an open area with a path network, benches and a new viewpoint which will look over the Thames and Medway. Completion is anticipated to be early 2025, after which the FoB will be offered the chance to own and maintain the area.

Four detached houses are being constructed by Hillstone Homes on the South West corner of the site between Gorse Road and the allotments. Whilst this is outside of Broomhill Park, we have followed the planning process for many years to ensure the best outcome for Park users.

Conclusion

Following our successful applications for grants, we are very pleased to say that our total cash at bank has increased from £19,439.67 in 2022/23 to £25,198.15 in 2023/24. The completion of the projects will greatly improve the area for the enjoyment of all and also provide a vital habitat for wildlife.

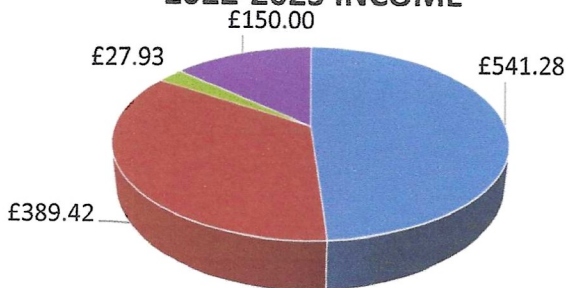
Many thanks to all our members and hard-working volunteers for their continued support.

Susan Fletcher
Treasurer
on behalf of the Trustees of
The Friends of Broomhill

FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT - 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

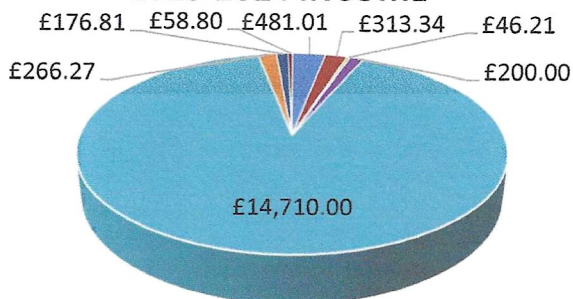
		2022-2023	2023-2024
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES		£	£
Income			
Grants			14710.00
Easyfundraising			176.81
HMRC Gift Aid			266.27
Orchard expenditure refund			58.80
Subscriptions (net)		541.28	481.01
Donations from members (net)		264.42	238.34
KADAR (King Arthurs Drive Association) donation for event		75.00	75.00
CLIFARA (Cliffe Active Retirement) donation		50.00	
CAF Bank interest		27.93	46.21
Medway Council donation for funding events		150.00	200.00
	Total Income	1108.63	16252.44
Expenditure			
Orchard improvements			9322.36
Events			213.03
Website		113.26	127.73
CAF Bank fees		72.00	60.00
AGM costs		63.29	40.00
Stationery		52.89	21.99
Tools & Equipment		174.22	166.19
Sundries		3.50	
Refreshments		83.88	79.89
Planting (orchard)		519.57	39.90
Signage (orchard)		701.60	16.80
Insurance (orchard)		402.22	402.22
Engraved brick seat (orchard)		2951.24	
Build a Bug House event and repairs (orchard)		297.19	
Make Wildflower Seed Eggs Easter event (orchard)		79.69	
Build a Bird Box event (park)		11.17	
First aid supplies		52.30	3.85
Donation to Kent Wildlife Trust (in memory of G. Maytum, a member)		57.50	
	Total Expenditure	5635.52	10493.96
	Excess of income over expenditure	-4526.89	5758.48
BALANCE SHEET			
Cash at Bank	Balance brought forward	23966.56	19439.67
	Excess of Income over Expenditure	-4526.89	5758.48
	Total cash	19439.67	25198.15
Balance at 31/03/2024			
represented by:	CAF Bank	19226.79	25097.17
	NatWest Current Account	145.18	0.00
	Cash held by PayPal and Just Giving	67.70	100.98
	Balance carried forward to next financial year	19439.67	25198.15
Current Assets	Old Orchard (historic value)	45000.00	45000.00
	Tools	250.00	350.00
	Total Current Assets	45250.00	45350.00
Current Liabilities		0.00	0.00

2022-2023 INCOME



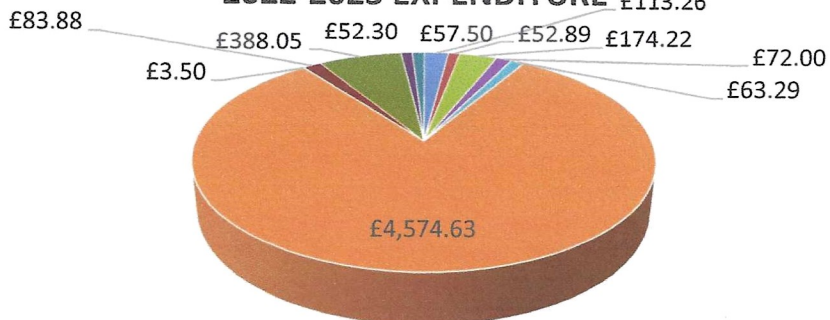
- Subscriptions
- Donations
- CAF Bank interest
- Medway Council funding

2023-2024 INCOME



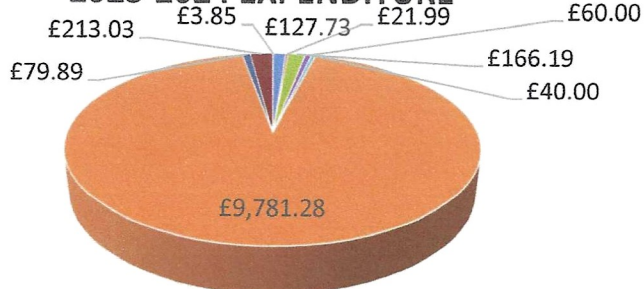
- Subscriptions
- Donations
- CAF Bank interest
- Medway Council funding
- Grants
- Easyfundraising
- Gift Aid
- Orchard cost refund

2022-2023 EXPENDITURE



- Website
- Stationery
- Tools
- CAE fees
- AGM
- Old Orchard
- Sundries
- Refreshments
- Events
- First aid
- Donation to KWT

2023-2024 EXPENDITURE



- Website
- Stationery
- Tools
- CAE fees
- AGM
- Old Orchard
- Refreshments
- Events
- First Aid

FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

England & Wales - Charity number 1188060

Accounts



Charity Number 1188060

FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

friendsofbroomhill.org.uk

Registered Office:

69 Brompton Farm Road
Rochester, Kent, ME2 3QX

Annual Report & Accounts 2023 for the period of 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 prepared by Susan Fletcher, Treasurer

14 May 2023

Introduction

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Trustees

David Park (Secretary)
May Draper (Chair)
Susan Fletcher (Treasurer and Membership Secretary)
Barbara Harrison
Danielle Haughey (Communications Officer)
Andrew Millsom
Colin Pearson

Banks

CAF Bank, 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Malling, ME19 4TA
National Westminster Bank Plc, 56 High Street, Strood, Rochester, Kent, ME2 4AG

Structure

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Our Constitution does not allow us to sell the Old Orchard. If the FoB were to dissolve at any time, this land would be gifted to another Trust to be protected for all time. We have therefore listed the Old Orchard in our Accounts with a historic value of £45,000.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty to have regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity. The Trustees understand the charity's purposes as set out in our Constitution, they plan what the charity will do, are able to explain how the activities support its purposes, and understand how the charity benefits the general public. To underpin these activities, the FoB have public liability insurance.

Income

We are very grateful to all our existing members who have renewed their membership. Our PayPal account has continued to be successful in attracting new members and is convenient for existing members to renew online from our website. Our online banking with CAF Bank has continued to be an efficient way for us to manage our funds. We are also now very pleased to receive quarterly interest on our CAF account which has amounted to £27.93 for 2022/23.

Our subscription revenue has decreased from £806.31 in 2021/22 to £541.28 in 2022/23, but this was mainly due to a high number of subscriptions being received in 2021/22 after the previous year end.

Many thanks to members who have paid a donation with their membership. Donations have dropped from £2,253.66 in 2021/22 to £389.42 in 2022/23. Although this is a large decrease, we did receive an exceptionally high amount of donations in 2021/22 from several families for memorial planting in the Old Orchard. Many thanks also to the King Arthurs Drive Residents Association for their donation of £75.00 which they raised at their Jubilee street party celebration in 2022. A donation of £50 from CLIFARA (Cliffe Active Retirement) was in appreciation for the talk given to this group by our Secretary.

The FoB have held three free events to encourage children to become more involved in nature - Make a Bird Box, Build a Bug House, and Make Wildflower Seed Eggs and Easter Trail. We are very grateful to Medway Council for their generous funding towards these events.

A claim has been made to HMRC for gift aid in respect of subscriptions and donations received during the last financial year. This sum will appear in our accounts for 2023/24.

Expenditure

Our expenditure has increased from £1,943.78 in 2021/22 to £5,635.52 in 2022/23. £2,951.24 was in relation to the brick seat in the Old Orchard. The engraved tiles were purchased by individuals and companies who contributed towards the purchase of the Old Orchard in 2018. Covid delayed our progress with this, but we were very happy to finally get this project completed in 2022.

Our spending on signage to make it easier for visitors to navigate through the Old Orchard has increased from £342.00 in 2021/22 to £701.60 in 2022/23. We have installed route markers indicating an accessible green route, a red route with steep gradients and exit points. The increased expenditure on planting of native species of trees and bulbs from £120.85 in 2021/22 to £519.57 in 2022/23 has also made a great improvement to increase the biodiversity of the area. Our total expenditure on the Old Orchard was £4,574.63.

Conclusion

We are very grateful to everyone who has supported us either by continuing to be a member, by donating to us or by being a volunteer at our task sessions.

Although we have made a net loss of £4,526.89, we consider this financial year to have been a successful one for the FoB as we have seen the completion of our engraved brick seat project and our work in the Old Orchard has greatly progressed to improve the area for visitors and to preserve the woodland as an important wildlife habitat.

Our aim is to incorporate the Old Orchard into a unified and extended Broomhill Park. Our project for 2023/24 is to complete the disabled friendly path in the lower part of the Old Orchard to provide access for all. At the time of writing this report, we can confirm that our grant application to make our Old Orchard entrances accessible for all users has been approved. A date to carry out the work is being negotiated.

Many thanks again for your support.

Susan Fletcher
Treasurer
on behalf of the Trustees of
The Friends of Broomhill

FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT - 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

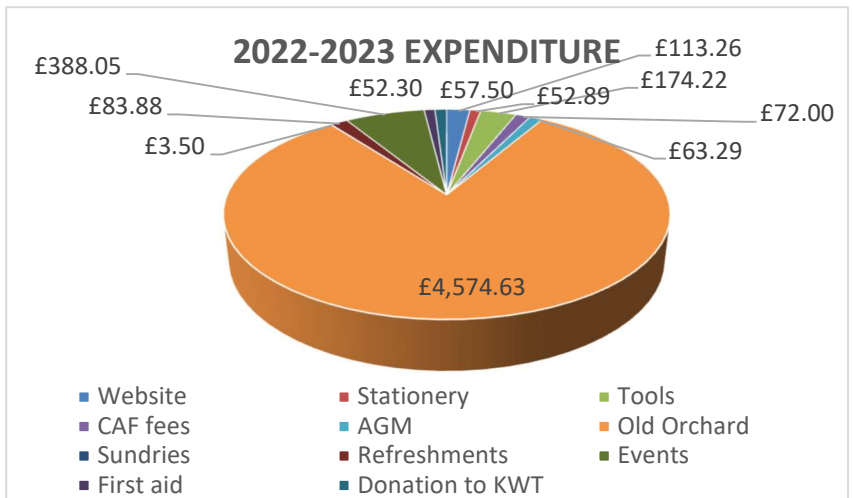
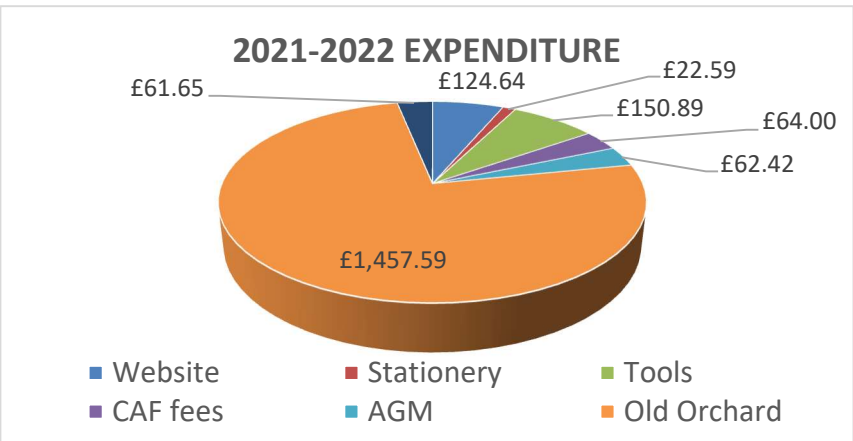
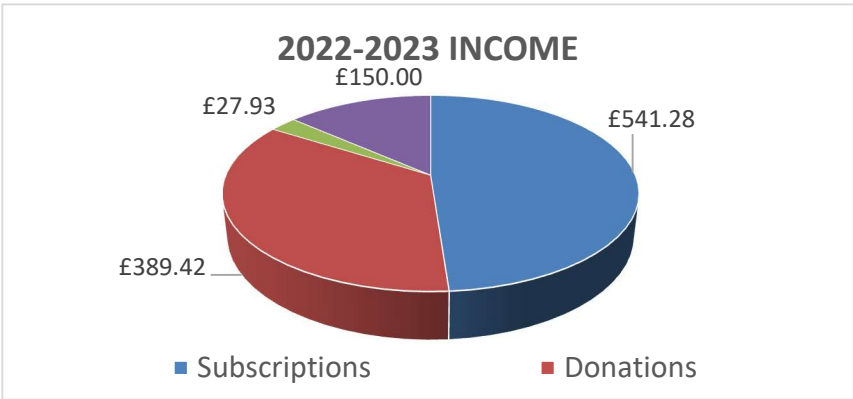
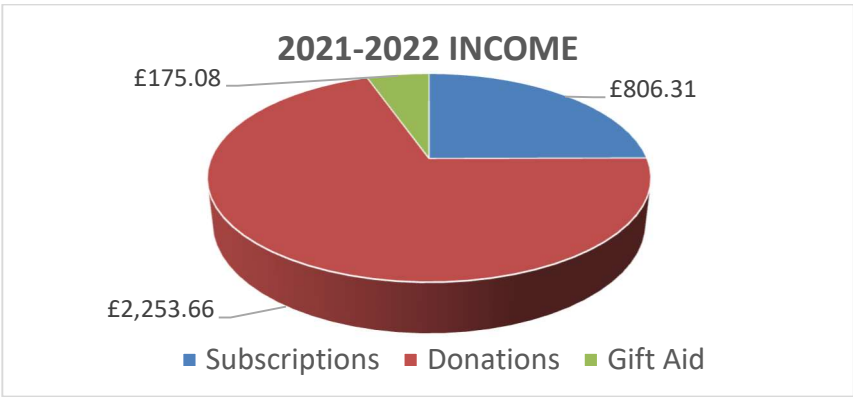
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	2021-2022	2022-2023
	£	£
Income		
Subscriptions (net)	806.31	541.28
Donations from members (net)	2253.66	264.42
KADAR (King Arthurs Drive Association) donation		75.00
CLIFARA (Cliffe Active Retirement) donation		50.00
CAF Bank interest		27.93
Medway Council funding for "Build a Bug House" event		150.00
HMRC Gift Aid	175.08	
Total Income	3235.05	1108.63
Expenditure		
Website	124.64	113.26
CAF Bank fees	64.00	72.00
AGM costs	62.42	63.29
Stationery	22.59	52.89
Tools & Equipment	150.89	174.22
Sundries	61.65	3.50
Tree Surgeon	650.00	
Refreshments		83.88
Planting (orchard)	120.85	519.57
Signage (orchard)	342.00	701.60
Insurance (orchard)	344.74	402.22
Engraved brick seat (orchard)		2951.24
Build a Bug House event and repairs (orchard)		297.19
Make Wildflower Seed Eggs Easter event (orchard)		79.69
Build a Bird Box event (park)		11.17
First aid supplies & rucksack		52.30
Donation to Kent Wildlife Trust (in memory of G. Maytum, a member)		57.50
Total Expenditure	1943.78	5635.52
Excess of income over expenditure	1291.27	-4526.89

FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT - 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

BALANCE SHEET

	2021-2022	2022-2023
	£	£
Cash at Bank		
Balance brought forward	22675.29	23966.56
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1291.27	-4526.89
	Total cash	23966.56
		19439.67
Balance at 31 March represented by:		
CAF Bank	23753.92	19226.79
NatWest Current Account	110.18	145.18
Cash held by PayPal and Just Giving	102.46	67.70
	Balance carried forward to the next financial year	23966.56
		19439.67
Current Assets		
Old Orchard (historic value)	45000.00	45000.00
Tools	200.00	250.00
	Total Current Assets	45200.00
		45250.00
Current Liabilities		0.00



FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

England & Wales - Charity number 1188060

Accounts



Charity Number 1188060

FRIENDS OF BROOMMILL

Registered Office:

**69 Brompton Farm Road
Rochester, Kent, ME2 3QX**

Annual Report & Accounts 2022

for the period of 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

Prepared by Susan Fletcher, Treasurer

8 September 2022

A brief introduction to myself: I became a volunteer of the Friends of Broomhill (FoB) in 2016; I was appointed as a trustee in July 2018; and I took over the roles of Membership Secretary in July 2019 and Treasurer in November 2021.

Current Assets

The Old Orchard was purchased in 2018 at a cost of £45,000. This asset will not be re-valued as the FoB constitution does not allow for the land to be sold. If FoB becomes dissolved, the land will be gifted to another Trust with the same or similar objects.

Income

Following an update to our website, it is now possible to receive membership money and donations via PayPal. This has proven to be very useful both for the donor and FoB. The PayPal charity rate is 1.4% + 20p per transaction but donors are invited to add to their payment to offset this fee if they wish, in which case we receive the full amount due. If donors choose not to add the fee, the charge is deducted from the payment before FoB receives it. For example, when a member pays £5.00 and does not add the 27p fee, FoB receives £4.73. £10.00 paid in one transaction incurs a 34p fee, so FoB receives £9.66. Similarly with all monies received through PayPal.

PayPal fees have amounted to £9.39 for the total monies received. However, members have paid £4.84 to offset some of these fees. We consider this method of receiving money to be efficient and cost effective. It has resulted in us receiving donations from non-members and hopefully will encourage new members to join us through our website. We thank everyone who has given money in this way.

Subscriptions have increased from £310.00 in 2020-21 to £806.31 in 2021-22. This is mainly because a high number of annual subscriptions due in the previous year were deposited in the 2021-22 financial year after the previous annual return date.

We are very grateful to members who have paid a donation with their membership. Donations have increased from £170.00 in 2020-21 to £2,253.66 in 2021-22. This substantial increase is due to several generous donations from families who want to remember loved ones by memorial planting in the orchard. We also received a £250.00 donation from Village Voices Publishing who awarded FoB with its Charity/Community Group of the Year for 2022.

Expenditure

Although there is a monthly fee for our account with CAF Bank (Charities Aid Foundation), it has enabled us to have online banking which was not available with our NatWest account. We have found this online access to be an invaluable tool for us, providing a much more efficient way of managing our funds.

The sundry items included a small gift for our retiring chairperson.

Conclusion

Due to the fantastic amount of donations received by FoB during 2021-22, we have made a net gain of £1,291.27. We are very grateful to everyone who has supported us. This money will be used to continue the progress our hard working volunteers have been making in the orchard.

Susan Fletcher
Treasurer

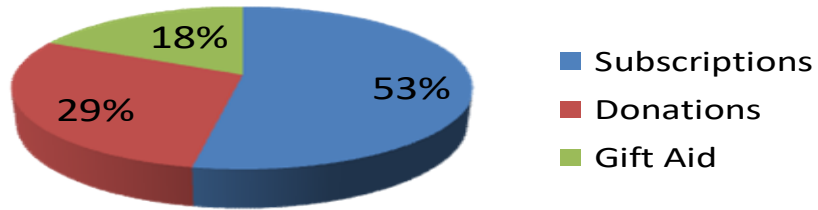
FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

Annual Financial Report - 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022

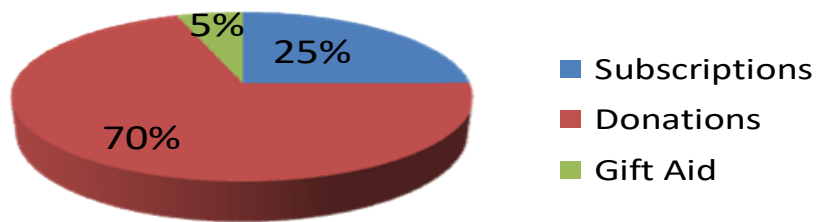
	2020-2021	2021-2022
INCOME	£	£
Subscriptions	310.00	806.31
Donations	170.00	2253.66
HMRC Gift Aid	105.00	175.08
TOTAL INCOME	585.00	3235.05
EXPENDITURE		
Website	109.53	124.64
CAF fees		64.00
AGM costs		62.42
Stationery	23.40	22.59
Tools & Equipment	112.66	150.89
Sundries		61.65
Tree Surgeon (orchard)		650.00
Planting (orchard)		120.85
Signage (orchard)		342.00
Insurance (orchard)		344.74
Costs incurred	465.00	
Legal fees	3324.00	
Old Orchard – project work	728.13	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	4762.72	1943.78
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE	-4177.72	1291.27
BALANCE SHEET	2020-2021	2021-2022
	£	£
Balance brought forward	26853.01	22675.29
Excess of Income over Expenditure	-4177.72	1291.27
	22675.29	23966.56
Balance at 31 March represented by:		
NatWest Current Account	7502.67	110.18
NatWest Old Orchard Account	15172.62	
CAF (Charities Aid Foundation) Account		23753.92
Balance carried forward	22675.29	23864.10
Cash held by PayPal and Just Giving		102.46
Drawn down after the end of the financial year		23966.56

INCOME

2020-2021

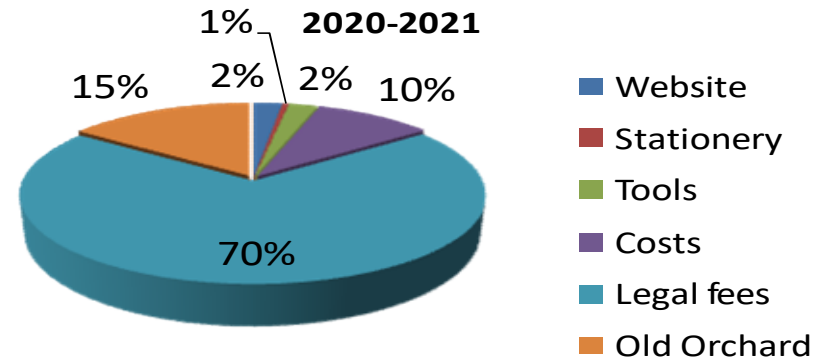


2021-2022

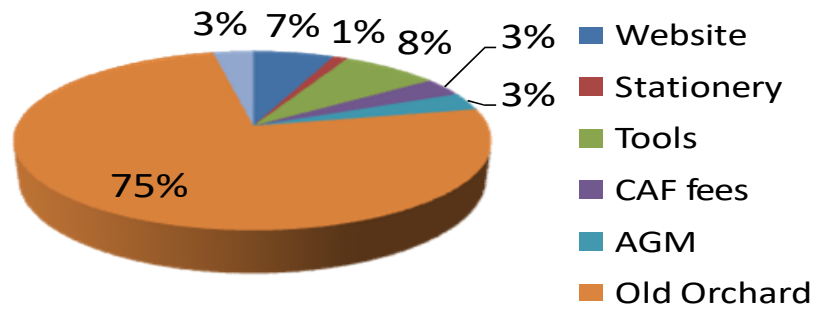


EXPENDITURE

2020-2021



2021-2022



FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

England & Wales - Charity number 1188060

Accounts



FRIENDS OF BROOMHILL

22 Admiralty Road
Upper Upnor, Rochester
Kent, ME2 4XY

15th September 2021

Friends of Broomhill – Double-Annual Report due to Covid 19 For Period 01/04/19 to 31/03/21

Report prepared by Andrew Millsom, FoB Treasurer

Overview

This report is a combination of the last two years of annual accounts due to Covid 19.

In '19-'20 the Old Orchard remained the main focus of fund raising and works and expenditure since its purchase by The Friends of Broomhill on 12th May 2018. This has provided the friends group with a valuable asset, the title deeds for land parcels TT6703, TT6704 and TT6705 were issued by Land Registry on 10th October 2018. In '20-'21 the Old Orchard title deeds TT6703, TT6704 and TT6705 were transferred from three named Trustees to the CIO, which ensures that the Old Orchard is now owned by the Trustees on behalf of the charity. The Park Enlargement Project was a major portion of work during '20-'21 and due to requiring legal involvement was the highest spend section too.

In '19-'20 donations increased from £540.00 to £590.00 and in '20-'21 donations increased by £115.00. However, subscription revenue decreased by 8% to £695.00 then to only £325.00 in '20-'21; the latter was due a high number of the annual subscriptions being deposited post the annual return date.

There have been no further Fun Days since 2018, this was exasperated by the Lockdown. Thus, income and expense for this historically major item remained £0.00 for both years.

In '19-'20 stationery and sundries increased from £46.04 to £143.23 but then decreased from £143.23 to £23.40 the following year. The website cost £128.40 (a reduction of £40.84) to host in '19-20 and in 20-21 website and domain name cost £109.53 (a further yearly reduction of £18.87) to host. The website was 12% of total expenditure, again excluding Old Orchard costs.

The tax reclaim monies received from HMRC in '19-'20 was £208.78 and then £105.00 in '20-21. A £2,000.00 ward grant received from one of our councillors for work in the Old Orchard.

There were sundry items such as task days in '19-'20 and the cost incurred for these was £217.99, but due to the lockdowns there were no planting sessions within the park, and thus zero expenditure on planting. In 20-'21 there were equipment purchases, the returning of World Pay incorrectly deposited money and other sundry items resulting in £565.66 costs. The Old Orchard costs were £728.13.

The most significant aspect of work in the last financial year was the Park Enlargement project. It took a lot of liaison with Medway Council Planning and Greenspaces and the developer to secure a comprehensive s.106. The legal cost for this was £3,324.00. The Trustees used the Old Orchard Fund money to pay for this, as we would be in receipt of s.106 maintenance money at completion and handover of a portion of the land. Unfortunately, the housing and reservoir project is on hold.

In conclusion the charity made a net gain of £899.31 in its total assets in '19-'20, when including the Old Orchard title deeds. The total asset at the end of March 2020 being £70,050.78. In '20-21 the charity has made a net loss of £2,155.72 in its total assets. At the end of March 2021, the total assets including the Old Orchard were £68,040.06.

Income and Expenditure Account

Income 2019-2020

Grants	0.00	
Subscriptions	695.00	
Donations	590.00	
Other Activities	440.40	
Funday Income	0.00	
Sundry Income	43.00	
Old Orchard Fund	2,000.00	
HMRC Charities Tax Reclaim	208.78	
TOTAL		3,977.18

Income 2020-2021

Grants	0.00	
Subscriptions	325.00	
Donations	165.00	
Other Activities	0.00	
Funday Income	0.00	
Sundry Income	0.00	
Old Orchard Fund	2,000.00	
HMRC Charities Tax Reclaim	105.00	
TOTAL		2,595.00

Expenditure 2019-2020

Equipment	12.00	
Costs Incurred	255.96	
Planting Sessions	247.96	
Stationery & Sundries	143.23	
Website	128.40	
Funday Expenses	0.00	
Park Enlargement Expenses – exc Old Orchard	282.86	
Old Orchard – Project Work	2,007.46	
TOTAL		3,077.87

Excess of Income Over Expenditure **899.31**

Expenditure 2020-2021

Equipment	100.66	
Costs Incurred	465.00	
Planting Sessions	0.00	
Stationery & Sundries	23.40	
Website	109.53	
Funday Expenses	0.00	
Park Enlargement Expenses – exc Old Orchard	3,324.00	
Old Orchard – Project Work	728.13	
TOTAL		4,750.72

Excess of Income Over Expenditure **-2,155.72**

Balance Sheet 2019-2020

Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
	Current Account	7,278.27
	Old Orchard Fund	17,772.51
	Old Orchard (TT6703, TT6704, TT6705)	45,000.00
	Total Current Assets	70,050.78
Current Liabilities		0.00
Net Assets		70,050.78
ACCUMULATED FUND		70,050.78
BALANCE AT 01/04/19		24,151.47
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		899.31
BALANCE AT 31/03/20		25,050.78

Balance Sheet 2020-2021

Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
	Current Account	7,867.44
	Old Orchard Fund	15,172.62
	Old Orchard (TT6703, TT6704, TT6705)	45,000.00
	Total Current Assets	68,040.06
Current Liabilities		0.00
Net Assets		68,040.06
ACCUMULATED FUND		68,040.06
BALANCE AT 01/04/20		25,050.78
EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		-2,155.72
BALANCE AT 31/03/21		23,040.06

Income and Expenditure Account

Income

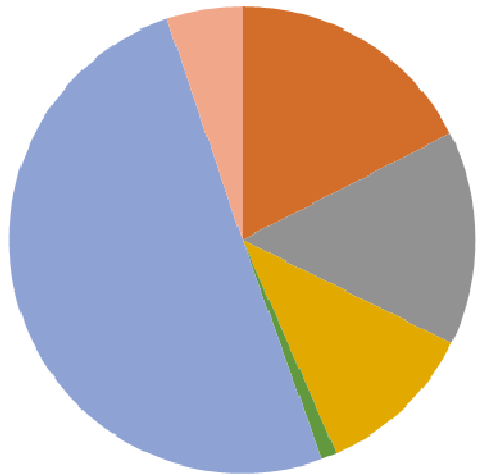
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	
Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Subscriptions	750.00	695.00	325.00	
Donations	50.00	590.00	165.00	
Talks and Other Activity Days	0.00	440.40	0.00	
Funday Deposit	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Sundry Income	0.00	43.00	0.00	
Savings Interest	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Old Orchard Fund	2,112.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
HMRC Charities Tax Reclaim	3,924.62	208.78	105.00	
TOTAL		6,836.62	3,977.18	2,595.00

Expenditure

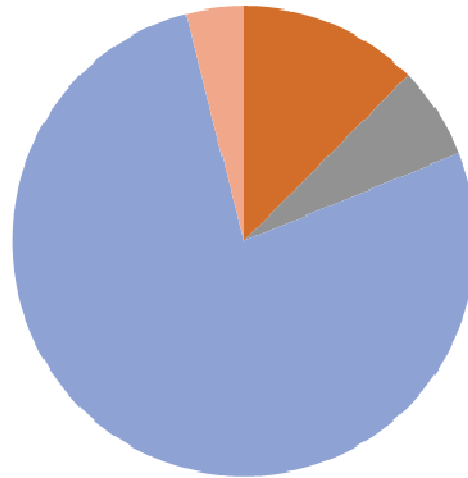
	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	
Equipment	0.00	12.00	100.66	
Costs Incurred – e.g. hall rental	148.97	255.96	465.00	
Planting Sessions	263.73	247.96	0.00	
Stationery & Sundries	46.04	143.23	23.40	
Website	169.24	128.40	109.53	
Funday Expenses	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Park Enlargement – Other Aspects exc Old Orchard	894.90	282.86	3,324.00	
Old Orchard – purchase & Project Work	44,124.66	2,007.46	728.13	
TOTAL		45,647.54	3,077.87	4,750.72
Excess of Income Over Expenditure		-38,810.92	899.31	-2,155.72

Income

2019-2020



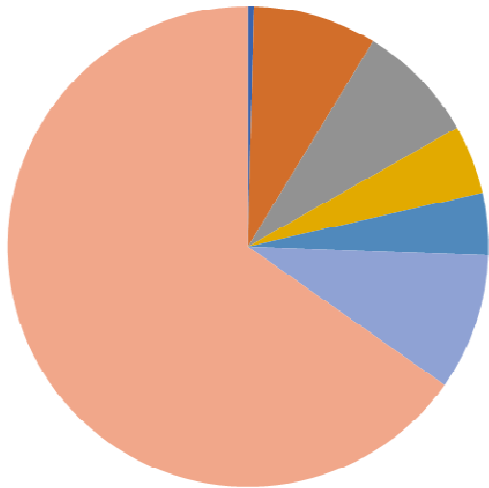
2020-21



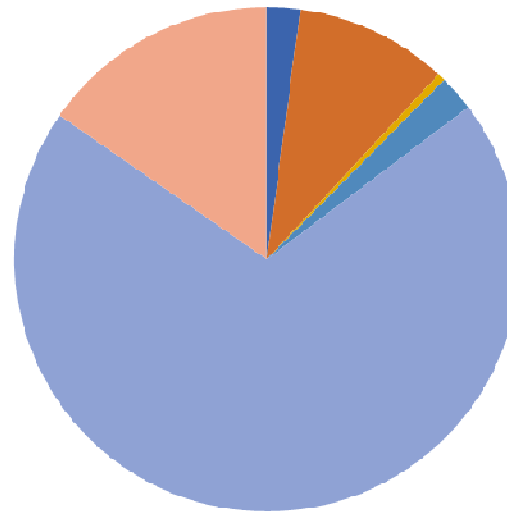
- Grants
- Subscriptions
- Donations
- Other Activities
- Funday Income
- Sundry Income
- Old Orchard Fund
- HMRC Charities Tax Reclaim

Expenditure

2019-2020



2020-21



- Equipment
- Costs Incurred
- Planting Sessions
- Stationery & Sundries
- Website
- Funday Expenses
- Park Enlargement Expenses
- Old Orchard Project Work