

THE FRIENDS OF KENNINGTON PARK

England & Wales · Charity number 1188922

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-04-06

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

Contact

Address Prince Consort Lodge
Kennington Park
Kennington Park Place
London
SE11 4AS

Phone 07771958003

Email friends@kenningtonpark.org

Website www.kenningtonpark.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE INHABITANTS OF SOUTH LONDON ("THE AREA OF BENEFIT"), TO PROVIDE OR ASSIST IN THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES FOR RECREATION AND OTHER LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE WITH THE OBJECT OF IMPROVING THE CONDITIONS OF LIFE FOR THE INHABITANTS OF THE AREA OF BENEFIT IN PARTICULAR BY SUPPORTING THE PRESERVATION, CONSERVATION, IMPROVEMENT AND PROTECTION OF KENNINGTON PARK.

Activities: The Friends of Kennington Park work with Lambeth Council and local people to make the park the best it can be. We promote the development and improvement of facilities for recreation and leisure. We raise awareness of the park's important heritage and of its trees, plants and wildlife to help encourage interest and conservation. We hold regular events and work in partnership with local groups.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science, Amateur Sport, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Lambeth
- Southwark

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£15,136	£11,757	-	-
2024-03-31	£16,205	£14,147	-	-
2023-03-31	£15,525	£15,379	-	-
2022-03-31	£4,644	£7,723	-	-
2021-03-31	£9,910	£9,828	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Marietta Frances Crichton Stuart	Chair	2020-02-25
Colin Anthony Hunte		2020-04-06
Marnie Joy Janet Searchwell		2020-04-06
Nicola Jane Smiton		2020-04-06
Rachel Jane Williams		2020-04-06
Rita Elizabeth Sammons		2020-04-06

THE FRIENDS OF KENNINGTON PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1188922

Accounts



Report of Trustees to Charity Commission - 2024– 2025

Introduction

The Friends of Kennington Park was registered as a charity by the Charity Commission in April 2020. Seven Trustees were appointed. Our status is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registration number 1188922.

Our Charitable purpose is defined as ***being for the benefit of the inhabitants of South London ("the area of benefit"), to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit in particular by supporting the preservation, conservation, improvement and protection of Kennington Park.***

Our financial year ran from 1st April 2024 to the end of March 2025. Our current income level means that we are classified as a small charity. Our accounts are audited annually by an independent Auditor and copies are available on our website.

This activity report covers the period starting from the AGM in September 2024.

Park Infrastructure – Improvement and Protection

2024/25 has been another busy year. As well as organising the annual programme of events and managing the day-to-day issues relating to the park, members of the committee have particularly focused on pressing the council to make greater progress on the tendering and contracting of the work for the refurbishment of the iconic 1970s skatebowl, a major component of the **capital development programme for the park.**

The delay was added to because of the council's insistence on reissuing the tender specification and for a review of the budget to ensure that there is sufficient funding for both phases of the project to be completed.

Due to the state of the Council's finances, there is currently a spending freeze and a complete review of the capital programme, so, apart from minor improvements to some of the pathways, there has been no progress on the park's capital programme which includes the new toilets the Friends have campaigned for or the proposed youth zone.

Events and Activities in the Park

FoKP has held a diverse programme of events this year – all events were free, open to everybody and well promoted through park posters and social media. The programme included nature and history walks, including a Chartist walk to commemorate the 1848 Rally. The Easter Egg Hunt was again held in the Flower Garden and was enjoyed by lots of local children. Working again with our

co-organiser Melanin Health & Wellness, the Summer Festival (KPF25) was a great success. It was slightly bigger than in 2024 with more commercial stallholders. The event included music, dance, and games as well as a wide range of workshops, including flower crown making, crafts, dance and drumming and a Surrey County Cricket Club session on ball skills.

Our successful (and important) monthly gardening sessions continue to be popular. One of our members continues to part fund this with a very generous annual donation, for which we are very grateful. This year, we organised our first Dog Show which, despite the pouring rain, was a great success and will be held again this year.

The Committee recognises the need to arrange events which will appeal to all ages and communities. Other ideas include a tree hugging competition and the possibility of an outdoor art event. We also hope to restore and enhance the Nature Trail. This project has been proposed by a local community group and is subject to securing funding.

In November there was a well attended Remembrance Day service at the park's war memorial.

There have been few commercial events licensed by the Council, but, with virtually no notice, in August 2025 (as a result of issues elsewhere in Lambeth), Bensons Funfair were given permission to come on to the south field of the heritage park with their rides and caravans for a 3 week residency. FoKP's view is that the park is not an appropriate location for this size of event for such a prolonged period.

Partnership Working and Protection of the Park

The working relationship between committee members and Lambeth Council management remains strong, as do relationships with local councillors. We continue to work in partnership with other park-based organisations such as Bee Urban and Trees for Cities to promote events and activities. Events such as the Summer Festival strengthen our ties with local businesses and organisations such as community services, schools, churches and colleges, also with community groups and independent traders. Junior Park run is now a weekly event in the park.

In addition, FoKP is an active on Lambeth's Park Forum and Local History Forum and a member of London-wide organisations helping us to keep in touch with developing issues, legislative requirements, etc. The Park was again awarded a Green Flag, has accreditation as a Green Heritage Site and received Gold awards from London in Bloom. We continue to encourage the council to proceed with the Field in Trust Initiative helping to ensure the long-term future of the park as a recreational space. Registration for the park has been delayed as the Council is trying to position itself to take all its parks through in one application.

Park Incidents

Unfortunately, earlier this year a dog being exercised in the fenced Dog Walking Area escaped, left the park and was sadly killed by a car. This is the second incident involving the death of a dog in the last couple of years. The uneven surface of the large dog area plus holes dug by animals means that it is not possible to ensure that the fencing fully lines up with the rise and fall of the ground. Small dogs can squeeze out of small gaps.

The responsibility for handling matters relating to the incident falls to the council not the Friends, but inevitably we have been drawn into the extensive communication. Our approach has been agreed by committee and trustees and we have tried to remain as neutral as possible while providing relevant information and support.

At a recent Junior Parkrun, there was a near miss incident when a large branch fell unexpectedly from a tree very close to a young child. Nobody was hurt but it was obviously a shock. The park has many large and old trees which the Tree team regularly inspect, but we will be reviewing with council staff what advice we should give park users.

The Parkrun organisers have also had reason to complain to the council about the use of park vehicles while the children are running. Again this is not an issue that affects the FoKP directly, but we have sought to help create an effective solution which creates a safe environment but allows important park services to continue to be delivered.

The park is no longer locked overnight and there has been increase in the number of rough sleepers in tents. The Friends have frequently reported these to Lambeth and Streetlink. Apart from the resulting litter, hedges in the Flower Garden have been reduced in height and some wooden benches had to be removed.

Governance

Financial Reporting and Updated Policies

As the result of commercial sponsorship for some of our events and the generosity of members our budget position is healthy. The usual financial protocols have been followed. Our Treasurer has prepared the final accounts which were submitted to our Auditors for review prior to the AGM. This year we have reviewed and updated a number of our policies and role descriptions.

Membership Numbers

Similarly, our membership levels are relatively stable although there has been a slight reduction in new members. We have a sizeable list of non member gardening volunteers. We are working to revitalise our promotional material and to develop a new membership drive.

Committee Membership and Trusteeship

A new trustee was co-opted part way through the year and was formally approved by the 2024 AGM.

There are currently 5 committee members and 6 trustees

Two trustees will be standing down at this year's AGM as part of the required rotation. Both are prepared to continue to stand.

Recruiting new Committee member continues to be difficult despite publicity among members in our regular e-bulletins. One of the Committee formally stood down at the AGM and was proposed and elected as a trustee. The Secretary also formally stood down from her role, but agreed to continue to act as Secretary until a replacement was found. To date, no replacement has been identified.

Very sadly one of the committees was involved in a serious accident resulting in significant injuries which curtailed her active involvement over many months.

Public Benefit Statement

FoKP continues to act in accordance with the necessary protocols and legislation required by the Charity Commission. This means that there is appropriate decision making and recording of decisions and there are protocols and policies in place. Specifically, this ensures that:

- money is appropriately spent, managed, and reported.
- decisions are made through the committee process and in accordance with our charitable purpose; these decisions are recorded in meeting notes and through the AGM process.
- the interests of the park and its users are the focus of our decision-making and actions.

Summary

We have continued to help create improvements in the park and to run a successful programme of events. Progress on some of major developments in the park have been slower than anticipated mainly due to technical difficulties with only one fully completed and launched. Work has currently halted on the restoration of the skatebowl due to the Council's review of the Capital Programme, FoKP Committee members continue to liaise with the Council on this.

We have unfortunately not been able to add additional committee members this year, but we are pleased to have welcomed a co-opted trustee. Recruiting new committee members and event organisers remains a priority.

Marietta Crichton Stuart – Trustee and Chair of FoKP

September 2025

Recommendation

The AGM is recommended to endorse the report of the Trustees.

The Friends of Kennington Park

Report and
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended
31ST March 2025

HW Associates Limited
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

The Friends of Kennington Park

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The Friends of Kennington Park

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Management Committee presents its annual report with the financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31st March 2025.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The Friends of Kennington Park is a registered charity (1188922) run by volunteers. The address is Prince Consort Lodge, Kennington Park Place, London, SE11 4AS. The objects of the organisation are set out in the constitution:

for the benefit of the inhabitants of South London ("the area of benefit"), to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit by supporting the preservation, conservation, improvement and protection of Kennington Park

HM Revenue and Customs accepted The Friends of Kennington Park as a charity for tax purposes under the reference XT26286 with effect from 12 May 2008. Following the period end 2020 The Friends of Kennington Park was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("CIO", 1188922) on 6th April 2020 with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Friends of Kennington Park is a registered charity governed by trustees and managed by a management committee elected at the Annual General Meeting.

ACTIVITIES

- Awarded a Green flag for the 14th year and London in Bloom awards for the park and flower garden
- Hosted Volunteer gardening sessions throughout the year
- Ran 4th annual Kennington park Summer Festival - another great success, bigger than before.
- New style Easter Egg Hunt developed catering for a larger number of children
- Organised successful inaugural Dog Show in September
- Designs for a new Nature Trail in the park developed - funding being sought
- Continued collaborative working with Lambeth Council to advance larger capital investment projects
- Ran regular calendar of events: a stall for RSPB Garden Birdwatch; dawn chorus, bat and history walks

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Grants and the support of our donors and members have provided an income of £15,136 (2024: £16,205). A surplus of £3,379 (2024: £2,058) was recorded. The Friends of Kennington Park apply this income to the promotion of their objectives. In the event that income exceeds expenditure such surplus is not distributed but is retained by the Friends for the promotion of these objectives. A statement of financial activities is set out on page 5.

The Friends of Kennington Park

STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Management Committee is required to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation as at the end of the financial year and of the Income & Expenditure for that year. In preparing those statements, the committee is required to:

- Select the appropriate accounting policies and apply them consistently (see Note 1);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the organisation will continue its activities.

The Management Committee members are responsible for ensuring that the organisation keeps accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the organisation and which enable it to ensure the financial statements comply with the constitution of the organisation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the organisation by taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:



Marietta Crichton Stuart (Chair)

Dated 23 - 9 2025



Vilde Aagenæs (Treasurer)

Dated 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Member of The Friends of Kennington Park

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

We have audited the financial statements of The Friends of Kennington Park for the year ended 31 March 2025 as set out on pages 4 to 7. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out therein and the requirements of the Management Committee.

This report is made solely to the members, as a body, in accordance with the constitution of The Friends of Kennington Park. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee

As described in the Statement of The Management Committee's Responsibilities the management committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the constitution.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, the financial statements are properly prepared in accordance with the constitution and the information given in the management committees' report is consistent with the financial statements. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the management committee has not kept proper accounting records and if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the management committee in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities, of the state of the affairs as at 31st March 2025.
- the information provided in the Management Committee Report is consistent with the financial statements.

HW Associates Ltd.

HW Associates Limited

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Portmill House

Portmill Lane

Hitchin

Herts SG5 1DJ

11th November 2025.

September 2025

The Friends of Kennington Park

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

	NOTE	2025 £	2024 £
FIXED ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		4,257	920
Savings Account		<u>17,013</u>	<u>16,942</u>
		21,270	17,862
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors (Amounts due within one year)	2	<u>(564)</u>	<u>(551)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>20,706</u>	<u>17,311</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u><u>20,706</u></u>	<u><u>17,311</u></u>
RESERVES			
Restricted funds			-
General Funds		<u>20,706</u>	<u>17,311</u>
		20,706	17,311

The Draft Financial Statements were considered by the Board of Management on 23 September 2025



Marietta Crichton Stuart (Chair)



Vilde Aagenæs (Treasurer)

The Friends of Kennington Park

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025

	NOTES	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £
<u>INCOME</u>					
Memberships, Sales & Donations Received		2,932	-	2,932	8,147
Festival income and donations		10,535	-	10,535	8,040
Garden donations		1,600	-	1,600	-
Interest Received		69	-	69	18
Total incoming resources		<u>15,136</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,136</u>	<u>16,205</u>
<u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>					
Management and administration		2,178	-	2,178	4,836
Festival		8,037	-	8,037	8,276
Events		515	-	515	-
Gardens		1,027	-	1,027	1,035
Total resources expended		<u>11,757</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,757</u>	<u>14,147</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		3,379	-	3,379	2,058
Transfers between funds/Accruals		-	-	-	-
Fund balances brought forward at 1st April 2024		<u>17,338</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,338</u>	<u>15,253</u>
Fund balances carried forward at 31st March 2025		<u>20,717</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,717</u>	<u>17,338</u>

The Friends of Kennington Park

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
INCOME		
Memberships, Sales & Donations	2,932	8,147
Festival	10,535	8,040
Gardens	1,600	-
Bank Interest	<u>69</u>	<u>18</u>
	15,136	16,205
LESS GENERAL EXPENDITURE		
Management & Administration	1,602	4,229
Accountancy Fees	552	580
Festival	8,037	8,276
Events	515	-
Gardens	1,027	1,035
Bank charges and interest	<u>24</u>	<u>27</u>
	(11,757)	<u>(14,147)</u>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	3,379	2,058

The Friends of Kennington Park

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2024 TO 31 MARCH 2025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31st MARCH 31st MARCH 2025

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Accounting conventions

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2. SUNDRY CREDITORS & ACCRUALS

	2025	2024
	£	£
Accountancy Fees	564	551
Other Creditors	-	-
	<u>564</u>	<u>551</u>

3. GRANTS AND NAMED PROJECTS RECEIVED

	2025	2024
	£	£
Festival Project	8,300	8,040
Gardens Project	1,600	-
	<u>9,900</u>	<u>8,040</u>



THE FRIENDS OF KENNINGTON PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1188922

Accounts

Report of Trustees to Charity Commission - 2023– 2024

Introduction

The Friends of Kennington Park was registered as a charity by the Charity Commission in April 2020. Seven Trustees were appointed. Our status is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registration number 1188922.

Our Charitable purpose is defined as ***being for the benefit of the inhabitants of South London ("the area of benefit"), to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit in particular by supporting the preservation, conservation, improvement and protection of Kennington Park.***

Our financial year ran from the end March 2023 to the end of March 2024. Our current income level means that we are classified as a small charity. Our accounts are audited annually by an independent Auditor and copies are available on our website.

This activity report covers the period from the last AGM held in September 2023.

Park Infrastructure – Improvement and Protection

2023/24 has been another busy year. As well as organising the annual programme of events and managing the day-to-day issues relating to the park, members of the committee have continued to be actively involved in shaping the council's **capital development programme for the park**.

The programme originally comprised several elements – the restoration of the iconic 1970s skatebowl, development of a new children's play area, creation of a youth zone, the improvement of the toilet facilities and pathways and the provision of drinking water fountains.

The new **children's play area** has continued to be extremely popular and is a meeting place for many of the children taking part in the Junior Parkrun which happens every Sunday morning. The water fountains have proved popular with humans, dogs and other wildlife, a young fox was seen using the dog bowl of one fountain.

Unfortunately, there have been significant delays with the work on **the skatebowl** due to technical difficulties. This was always a challenging project, but the hoped-for simpler restoration options have not proved possible leaving only a costly and complex solution which will require additional funding. Work on the project was suspended for a short period in the earlier part of the year until additional funds were secured. In the end funding was primarily sourced by redirecting money intended for the other projects, referred to above.

One of the reasons for agreeing to the transfer of funds from other projects was because our hopes of installing modern toilet facilities in the park continued to be thwarted. Despite support for our proposal from project officers and the Councillor representative, Lambeth Council's Planning officers are insisting on the retention of the old cottage style buildings based solely on their aesthetic value. Modernising the toilet facilities within them is a more expensive option than creating a new purpose-built block and may not allow for the auto-locking option which forms part of the new block option.

Early progress was being made on the design of a **youth zone** and consultation had begun with local youth groups based on the concept of a modular design featuring both activity and social

space. The need to reassign funds means that this project has now stalled. The possibility of securing additional funding will be explored later this year.

Work on the **pathways** which are prone to flooding was designed to take place alongside the development of each individual project. This means that the pathway near the children's play area has been completed with the surface changed and additional drainage added.

Events and Activities in the Park

FoKP has already held a diverse programme of events this year – all events were free, open to everybody and well promoted through posters and social media. The programme included nature and history walks, including a Dawn Chorus Walk at 5am to mark the International Day and a Chartist walk to commemorate the 1848 Rally. The Easter Egg Hunt was again held in the Flower Garden and was a great success. Working again with our co-organiser Melanin Health & Wellness, the Summer Festival (KPF24) was a great success. It was bigger and better than in 2023 with more commercial and community stallholders and more workshop activities for both children and adults. This year Surrey County Cricket Club supported us by organising cricket practice games. Reluctantly, we had to turn many commercial stallholders away. Many more wanted to be involved than we felt able to accommodate. This was done to ensure that the event retain its character and allowed visitors space to picnic, dance and do exercise routines. Next year is the 5th anniversary of the festival, so we will need to carefully consider how to manage the event to continue to keep the right balance of activities. Our successful (and important) monthly gardening sessions continue to be popular.

The Committee recognises the need to arrange events which will appeal to all ages and communities and has plans for a Dog Show in October. Other ideas include a tree hugging competition and the possibility of an outdoor art event. Plans for later in the year and into 2025 also include the possible restoration and enhancement of the Nature Trail. This project has been proposed by a local community group and is subject to securing funding.

Partnership Working and Protection of the Park

The working relationship between committee members and Lambeth Landscapes staff and management remains strong, as do relationships with local councillors. We continue to work in partnership with other park-based organisations such as Bee Urban and Trees for Cities to promote events and activities. Events such as the Summer Festival strengthen our ties with local businesses and organisations such as community services, schools, churches and colleges, also with community groups and independent traders. This year we worked closely with one of the leading figures in the Brandon Estate, a large housing estate adjacent to the park, a useful connection, which we hope to continue.

In addition, FoKP is a member of both Lambeth-wide and London-wide organisations helping us to keep in touch with developing issues, legislative requirements, etc. The Park was again awarded a Green Flag, has accreditation as a Green Heritage Site and received Gold awards from London in Bloom. In the late winter/early Spring a large number of hedging whips were planted on the park extension. The purchase of these was supported by London CPRE grant funding and the input of Lambeth Council's Environment officer. The planting is designed to improve biodiversity in that area of the park and to help extend the Bee Highway. FoKP are also encouraging the Council to proceed with the Field in Trust Initiative helping to ensure the long-term future of the park as a recreational space. There have been further delays as the Council is trying to position itself to take all Lambeth parks through in one application.

Governance

Financial Reporting and Updated Policies

As the result of commercial sponsorship for some of our events and the generosity of members our budget position is healthy. The usual financial protocols have been followed. Our Treasurer has prepared the final accounts which were submitted to our Auditors for review prior to the AGM. This year we have reviewed and updated a number of our policies and role descriptions.

Membership Numbers

Similarly, our membership levels are relatively stable although there has been a slight reduction in new members.

Committee Membership and Trusteeship

A new trustee was co-opted part way through the year and will be formally proposed to the 2024 AGM. Two trustees will be standing down as part of the required rotation. Both are prepared to continue to stand.

Recruiting new Committee member continues to be difficult despite publicity among members in our regular e-bulletins. One of the 2023 committee plans to stand down at the AGM and is being proposed as a trustee. He will be sadly missed on the committee, but his presence as a trustee (if elected) helps maintain the number of independent trustees.

Public Benefit Statement

FoKP continues to act in accordance with the required protocols and legislation, required by the Charity Commission. This means that there is appropriate decision making and recording of decisions and there are protocols and policies in place. Specifically, this ensure that:

- money is appropriately spent, managed, and reported.
- decisions are made through the committee process and in accordance with our charitable purpose; these decisions are recorded in meeting notes and through the AGM process.
- the interest of the park and its users are the focus of our decision-making and actions.

Summary

We have continued to help create improvements in the park and to run a successful programme of events. Progress on some of major developments in the park have been slower than anticipated mainly due to technical difficulties with only one fully completed and launched. Work continues on the restoration of the skatebowl with FoKP Committee members closely involved.

We have unfortunately not been able to add additional committee members this year, but we are pleased to have welcomed a co-opted trustee. Recruiting new committee members and event organisers remains a priority.

Marietta Crichton Stuart – Trustee and Chair of FoKP

September 2024

The AGM is recommended to endorse the report of the Trustees.

The Friends of Kennington Park

Report and
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended
31st March 2024

HW Associates Limited
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

The Friends of Kennington Park

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MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Management Committee presents its annual report with the financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31st March 2024.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Friends of Kennington Park is a registered charity governed by trustees and managed by a management committee elected at the Annual General Meeting.

ACTIVITIES

- The Friends have worked with Lambeth Council, gardening volunteers and other volunteer groups to help maintain and improve the park. Plans for the Capital Programme investment in the park are ongoing with a new children's playground opened in July 2023, this has proved extremely popular. New drinking water fountains were installed in the park to reduce plastic bottle usage. Work continues to achieve a restoration of the park's iconic skate bowl. PIL money was spent on new park benches.
- To celebrate the 175th anniversary of the 1848 Chartist rally in the park an audio trail was launched. It was devised, written, narrated and produced by Committee members. It is also linked to the Friends' website.
- The park retained its Green Flag for the 13th year and, after inspection, London in Bloom again awarded the park and flower garden gold status.
- The Friends have had a range of events during the last twelve months, these include monthly volunteer gardening sessions; RSPB garden bird watch, sharpening gardening tools, history and bat walks, a dawn chorus walk and an Easter Egg hunt. A Junior Park run continues to be held each Sunday morning in the park.
- Members receive regular electronic newsletters with park news and the website is kept up to date.
- A very successful third free community Kennington Park Festival was held in July 2023. This was organized by the Friends in collaboration with local partners, sponsors and Lambeth Council.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Grants and the support of our donors and members have provided an income of £16,205 (2023: £15,525). A surplus of £2,058 (2023: £146) was recorded. The Friends of Kennington Park apply this income to the promotion of their objectives. In the event that income exceeds expenditure such surplus is not distributed but is retained by the Friends for the promotion of these objectives. A statement of financial activities is set out on page 5.

The Friends of Kennington Park

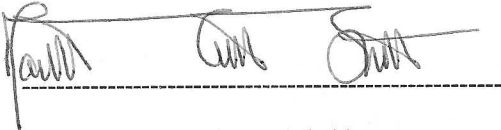
STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Management Committee is required to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation as at the end of the financial year and of the Income & Expenditure for that year. In preparing those statements, the committee is required to:

- Select the appropriate accounting policies and apply them consistently (see Note 1);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the organisation will continue its activities.

The Management Committee members are responsible for ensuring that the organisation keeps accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the organisation and which enable it to ensure the financial statements comply with the constitution of the organisation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the organisation by taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:



Marietta Crichton Stuart (Chair)

Dated 21/9/24 2024



Vilde Aagenaes (Treasurer)

Dated 1/10 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Member of The Friends of Kennington Park

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

We have audited the financial statements of The Friends of Kennington Park for the year ended 31 March 2024 as set out on pages 4 to 7. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out therein and the requirements of the Management Committee.

This report is made solely to the members, as a body, in accordance with the constitution of The Friends of Kennington Park. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee

As described in the Statement of The Management Committee's Responsibilities the management committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the constitution.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, the financial statements are properly prepared in accordance with the constitution and the information given in the management committees' report is consistent with the financial statements. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the management committee has not kept proper accounting records and if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the management committee in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities, of the state of the affairs as at 31st March 2024.
- the information provided in the Management Committee Report is consistent with the financial statements.

HW Associates Ltd

HW Associates Limited

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Portmill House

Portmill Lane

Hitchin

Herts SG5 1DJ

13 September 2024

The Friends of Kennington Park

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

	NOTE	2024 £	2023 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		920	11,857
Savings Account		16,942	3,925
Debtors		-	-
		<u>17,862</u>	<u>15,782</u>
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors (Amounts due within one year)	2	<u>(551)</u>	<u>(529)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>17,311</u>	<u>15,253</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>17,311</u>	<u>15,253</u>
RESERVES			
General Funds		<u>17,311</u>	<u>15,253</u>
		17,311	15,253

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board of Management on 13 August 2024.

Marietta Crichton Stuart (Chair)

Vilde Aagenaes (Treasurer)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

	NOTES	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME					
Memberships, Sales & Donations Received		8,147	-	8,147	8,916
Festival income and donations		8,040	-	8,040	5,442
Garden donations		-	-	-	1,100
Cash income					65
Interest Received		18	-	18	2
Total incoming resources		16,205	-	16,205	15,525
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Direct charitable expenditure		-	-	-	4,950
Management and administration		4,836	-	4,836	3,385
Festival		8,276	-	8,276	5,807
Gardens		1,035	-	1,035	1,238
Total resources expended		14,147	-	14,147	15,379
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		2,058	-	2,058	146
Fund balances brought forward at 1st April 2023		15,253	-	15,253	15,107
Fund balances carried forward at 31st March 2024		17,311	-	17,311	15,253

The Friends of Kennington Park

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME		
Memberships, Sales & Donations	8,147	8,981
Festival	8,040	5,442
Gardens	-	1,100
Bank Interest	<u>18</u>	<u>2</u>
	16,205	15,525
LESS GENERAL EXPENDITURE		
Management & Administration	4,229	2,799
Accountancy Fees	580	529
Festival	8,276	5,807
Gardens	1,035	1,238
Dev/Fund	-	4,950
Bank charges and interest	<u>27</u>	<u>57</u>
	(14,147)	<u>(15,379)</u>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	2,058	146

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2023 TO 31 MARCH 2024

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31st MARCH 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Accounting conventions

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2. SUNDRY CREDITORS & ACCRUALS

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accountancy Fees	551	529
	<u>551</u>	<u>529</u>

3. GRANTS AND NAMED PROJECTS RECEIVED

	2024	2023
	£	£
Festival Project	8,040	5,442
Gardens Project	-	1,100
	<u>8,040</u>	<u>6,542</u>



THE FRIENDS OF KENNINGTON PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1188922

Accounts

Report of Trustees to Charity Commission - 2022– 2023

Introduction

The Friends of Kennington Park was registered as a charity by the Charity Commission in April 2020. Seven Trustees were appointed. Our status is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registration number 1188922.

Our Charitable purpose is defined as ***being for the benefit of the inhabitants of South London ("the area of benefit"), to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit in particular by supporting the preservation, conservation, improvement and protection of Kennington Park.***

Our financial year ran from the end March 2022 to the end of March 2023. Our current income level means that we are classified as a small charity. Our accounts are audited annually by an independent Auditor and copies are available on our website.

This activity report covers the period from the last AGM held in September 2022

Park Infrastructure – Improvement and Protection

2022/23 has been a busy year. As well as organising the annual programme of events and managing the day-to-day issues relating to the park, members of the committee have been actively involved in shaping the council's **capital development programme for the park**.

The programme comprises several elements – the restoration of the iconic 1970s skatebowl, development of a new children's play area, creation of a youth zone, the improvement of the toilet facilities and pathways and the provision of drinking water fountains.

Unfortunately, there have been significant delays with the work on **the skatebowl** due to technical difficulties. This was always a challenging project, but the hoped-for simpler restoration options have not proved possible leaving only a costly and complex solution which will necessitate additional funding. Work on the project has been suspended until funds can be found. All options, including commercial sponsorship, are being explored and discussions will take place with the Lambeth Council officer responsible for fundraising in September.

In contrast, the redesign of the **children's play area** has now taken place and is already proving to be very popular with local children. It was officially opened by Cllr Chowdhury on 19th July having passed the necessary RoSPA certification the previous week. A major disappointment for this element of the overall project is that it wasn't possible, despite repeated efforts, to replace the children's toilet block, a facility considered by FoKP committee members to be in a poor condition and not fit for purpose. This issue remains part of an ongoing debate with the Council's Planners about the need for modern toilet facilities on the site.

Early progress is now being made on the design of a **youth zone**. Consultation has begun with local youth groups based on the concept of a modular design featuring both activity and social space. This consultation process is seen as important by both FoKP and the Council.

Work on the **pathways** which are prone to flooding will take place alongside the development of each individual project.

Another time-consuming issue has been the re-opening and restoration of the resized **dog walking area**. This area was made available to park users again in 2022 having been requisitioned for use

by TfL some years ago to complete work on the Northern Line Extension project. The site will remain under the management of TfL for 5 years beyond the handover date and this is the source of a number of ongoing concerns and complications.

Securing the full restoration of the dog area facilities, which included park benches and litter bins, has proved difficult. An added problem is that the maintenance of the area is very poor. Complaints have been registered with the Council, individual councillors and Cabinet Members and in turn, via Parks senior management, with the TfL contractors. However, little progress is being made in resolving numerous issues. The formal agreement between the Council and TfL covering the handover and the 5-year period has very little in the way of enforcement protocols meaning that what was agreed in theory at the start of the project several years ago is not happening in practice. There are ongoing problems with the condition and maintenance of the dog area surface - flooding, bare patches, litter etc and the agreement to provide benches is not being fulfilled. The committee is not confident that matters will be resolved and are concerned that the parks budget will have to meet the cost of the work that has not been rectified by the contractor.

Large Commercial Events in the Park

A tricky issue of a very different nature arose in February following the Council's decision to allow Burberry to use the park as the venue for its London Fashion Week Show, an event which caused both delight and dismay with local people. Delight because of the international profile of the event and celebrity attendees. Dismay because mounting the show involved the erection of a temporary structure which occupied a significant area of the park's south field for 4 weeks, also requiring considerable traffic movements through the park. Many saw this event as an inappropriate use of a public parks, and it resulted in a small number of strongly worded objections being received by FoKP. Although these were predominantly handled by the Council's Events Team, the committee had the task of trying to steer a path through the two sides of the argument. From the Council's perspective its advantage was income generation. A proportion of the income will be invested directly in the park and therefore benefit all users. For park users there was a commitment that no further large commercial events would take place during the remainder of 2023.

Events and Activities for Local People

10th April 2023 marked the 175th anniversary of the 1848 Monster Chartist Rally which took place on Kennington Common. To mark this important milestone, we launched an audio trail, written by one committee member, narrated by another, and involving others in promotion and design. Posters containing information and QR codes are located around the park allowing visitors to listen to the recording and imagine the events unfolding in the field all that time ago. The recording is available on the FoKP website where it has already been accessed well over 200 times.

FoKP has already held a diverse programme of events this year – all events were free, open to everybody and well promoted through posters and social media. The programme included nature and history walks, including a Dawn Walk to mark the International Dawn Chorus Day and a Chartist walk to commemorate the 1848 Rally. The Easter Egg Hunt and the Summer Festival, both bigger and better than in 2021, were very successful as were all the monthly gardening sessions. The Committee recognises the need to arrange events which will appeal to all ages and communities and has plans for a possible dog show, tree hugging competition and an outdoor art event through the Autumn.

Partnership Working and Protection of the Park

The working relationship between committee members and Lambeth Landscapes staff and management remains strong, as do relationships with local councillors. We continue to work in partnership with other park-based organisations such as Bee Urban and Trees for Cities to promote events and activities. Events such as the Summer Festival strengthen our ties with local businesses and organisations such as community services, schools, churches and colleges, also with community groups and independent traders. This year we worked closely with one of the leading figures in the Brandon Estate, a large housing estate adjacent to the park, a useful connection, which we hope to continue.

In addition, FoKP is a member of both Lambeth-wide and London-wide organisations which support parks and the environment helping us to keep in touch with developing issues, legislative requirements, etc. The Park was awarded a Green Flag for the 13th year, has accreditation as a Green Heritage Site and received Gold awards from London in Bloom. Later this year, extensive hedging will be planted on the park extension supported by grant funding and designed to improve biodiversity in that part of the park. FoKP are also encouraging the Council to proceed with the Field in Trust Initiative helping to ensure the long-term future of the park as a recreational space.

Governance

Financial Reporting

As the result of commercial sponsorship for some of our events and the generosity of new and existing members our budget position is strong. The usual financial protocols have been followed. Although on maternity leave overseas, our Treasurer has prepared the final accounts which were submitted to our Auditors for review prior to the AGM.

Membership Numbers

Similarly, our membership levels are also healthy, having been strengthened by new members joining at recent events, both those we have organised and those we have attended.

Committee Membership and Trusteeship

A long-standing committee member stood down this year, although she agreed to remain a trustee for the remainder of the year. Two new volunteers were co-opted to the committee, one helping to strengthen the all-important area of social media, the other taking on the responsibilities of the Treasurer while the office holder is on maternity leave. One is sadly leaving the area, but the other has agreed to stand for election as committee members at the AGM as have the remainder of the committee.

Unfortunately, this year it has been necessary to consider the removal of one of the trustees due to a lack of participation in meetings and failure to respond to any communication, despite communication by mail, email and text. Due process has been followed in accordance with the Constitution. The trustee was advised in writing of the intended action and given the appropriate notice to respond explaining any mitigating circumstances. No response was received by the given deadline and there has been no response to email communication on other issues.

The AGM is therefore recommended to remove Colin Hunte as a Trustee.

If approved, the number of trustees for 2023/24 will therefore be 5. The minimum requirement is 3 and our aim is to restore the number to 7.

Public Benefit Statement

FoKP continues to act in accordance with the required protocols and legislation, required by the Charity Commission. This means that there is appropriate decision making and recording of decisions and there are protocols and policies in place. Specifically, this ensure that:

- money is appropriately spent, managed, and reported.
- decisions are made through the committee process and in accordance with our charitable purpose; these decisions are recorded in meeting notes and through the AGM process.
- the interest of the park and its users are the focus of our decision-making and actions.

Summary

We have built on the success of our 20th anniversary year and added a new feature to the park. We plan to extend our calendar of events with new activities such as tree hugging and a dog show. There has been a significant increase in membership applications in recent months and our partnership working has extended beyond previous partners.

Progress on some of major developments in the park have been slower than anticipated mainly due to technical difficulties while one has been completed and launched. Work continues with FoKP Committee members well represented on the Council's Capital Programme working groups. Consultation with local people is taking place on some key design elements of the remaining programme.

We have had additional committee members this year which has strengthened our capacity to act. Unfortunately, as reported above, our trustee numbers for next year will be reduced by two. We will seek to recruit new trustees in the coming year and to engage those new members who have offered support in developing new events and activities as well as supporting our established calendar of events.

Marietta Crichton Stuart – Trustee and Chair of FoKP

September 2023

The AGM is recommended to endorse the report of the Trustees.

The Friends of Kennington Park

Report and
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended
31st March 2023

HW Associates Limited
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

The Friends of Kennington Park

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Independent Auditor's Report	3
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Statement of Financial Activities	5
Income and Expenditure Report	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7

The Friends of Kennington Park

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Management Committee presents its annual report with the financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31st March 2023.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The Friends of Kennington Park is a registered charity (1188922) run by volunteers. The address is Prince Consort Lodge, Kennington Park Place, London, SE11 4AS. The objects of the organisation are set out in the constitution:

- for the benefit of the inhabitants of South London ("the area of benefit"), to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit in particular by supporting the preservation, conservation, improvement and protection of Kennington Park

HM Revenue and Customs have accepted The Friends of Kennington Park as a charity for tax purposes under the reference XT26286 with effect from 12 May 2008.

Following the period end 2020 The Friends of Kennington Park was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("CIO", 1188922) on 6th April 2020 with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Friends of Kennington Park is a registered charity governed by trustees and managed by a management committee elected at the Annual General Meeting.

ACTIVITIES

- The Friends have worked with Lambeth Council, gardening volunteers and volunteer groups to help improve the park. Plans for the Capital Programme investing in the park have progressed. PIL money was spent on cleaning the war memorial and new litter bins.
- The Park retained its Green Flag for the 12th year and the park and flower garden both received a Gold from London in Bloom
- The Friends have held a range of events throughout the last twelve months including monthly gardening sessions; history, bat and tree walks and an Easter Egg hunt; kept an up-to-date website and sent out regular Mailchimp communications to the membership. A Junior Park run is now held each Sunday morning in the park.
- The Friends organized a second Kennington Park Festival for park users, in collaboration with partners and sponsors. It was so successful a third one is planned for July 2023.
- The 175th anniversary of the Chartist rally is to be commemorated with a new audio park walk.
- The dog walk area at the north of the park re-opened and the Committee has been taking up various issues with the Council.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Grants and the support of our donors and members have provided an income of £15,525 (2022: £4,644). A surplus of £146 (2021: £3,078 deficit) was recorded. The Friends of Kennington Park apply this income to the promotion of their objectives. In the event that income exceeds expenditure such surplus is not distributed but is retained by the Friends for the promotion of these objectives. A statement of financial activities is set out on page 5.

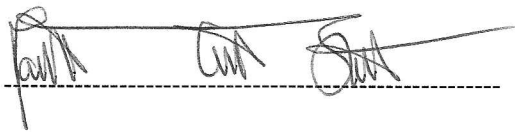
STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Management Committee is required to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation as at the end of the financial year and of the Income & Expenditure for that year. In preparing those statements, the committee is required to:

- Select the appropriate accounting policies and apply them consistently (see Note 1);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the organisation will continue its activities.

The Management Committee members are responsible for ensuring that the organisation keeps accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the organisation and which enable it to ensure the financial statements comply with the constitution of the organisation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the organisation by taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:



Marietta Crichton Stuart (Chair)

Dated: 4 September 2023



Vilde Aagenaes (Treasurer)

Dated: 4 September 2023

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Member of The Friends of Kennington Park

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

We have audited the financial statements of The Friends of Kennington Park for the year ended 31 March 2023 as set out on pages 4 to 7. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out therein and the requirements of the Management Committee.

This report is made solely to the members, as a body, in accordance with the constitution of The Friends of Kennington Park. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee

As described in the Statement of The Management Committee's Responsibilities the management committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the constitution.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, the financial statements are properly prepared in accordance with the constitution and the information given in the management committees' report is consistent with the financial statements. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the management committee has not kept proper accounting records and if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the management committee in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities, of the state of the affairs as at 31st March 2023.
- the information provided in the Management Committee Report is consistent with the financial statements.

HW Associates Limited
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
Portmill House
Portmill Lane
Hitchin
Herts SG5 1DJ

Mark Hjertzen BA FCA



Dated: 11 September 2023

The Friends of Kennington Park

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2023

	NOTE	2023 £	2022 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		11,857	7,109
Savings Account		3,925	8,522
Debtors		-	-
		<u>15,782</u>	<u>15,632</u>
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors (Amounts due within one year)	2	<u>(529)</u>	<u>(525)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>15,253</u>	<u>15,107</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>15,253</u>	<u>15,107</u>
RESERVES			
Restricted funds	4	-	4,592
General Funds		<u>15,253</u>	<u>10,515</u>
		<u>15,253</u>	<u>15,107</u>

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board of Management on 4 September 2023



Marietta Crichton Stuart (Chair)

Vilde Aagenæs (Treasurer)



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2023

	NOTES	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds 2022 £
INCOME					
Memberships, Sales & Donations Received		8,916	-	8,916	3,061
Festival income and donations		5,442	-	5,442	1,000
Garden donations		1,100	-	1,100	500
Cash income		65	-	65	80
Interest Received		2	-	2	4
Total incoming resources		15,525	-	15,525	4,644
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Direct charitable expenditure		-	4,950	4,950	3,941
Management and administration		3,385	-	3,385	989
Festival		5,807	-	5,807	1,593
Gardens		1,238	-	1,238	1,200
Total resources expended		10,429	4,950	15,379	7,723
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		5,096	(4,950)	146	(3,078)
Transfers between funds/Accruals		(358)	358	-	-
Fund balances brought forward at 1st April 2022		10,515	4,592	15,107	18,185
Fund balances carried forward at 31st March 2023		15,253	-	15,253	15,107

The Friends of Kennington Park

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME		
Memberships, Sales & Donations	8,981	3,141
Festival	5,442	1,000
Gardens	1,100	500
Bank Interest	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
	15,525	4,644
LESS GENERAL EXPENDITURE		
Management & Administration	2,799	386
Accountancy Fees	529	525
Festival	5,807	1,593
Gardens	1,238	1,200
Dev/Fund	4,950	3,941
Bank charges and interest	<u>57</u>	<u>78</u>
	(15,379)	(7,723)
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	<u>146</u>	<u>(3,078)</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2023

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31st MARCH 2023

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Accounting conventions

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2. SUNDRY CREDITORS & ACCRUALS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accountancy Fees	529	525
Other Creditors	-	-
	<u>529</u>	<u>525</u>

3. GRANTS AND NAMED PROJECTS RECEIVED

	2023	2022
	£	£
Festival Project	5,442	1,000
Gardens Project	1,100	500
	<u>6,542</u>	<u>1,500</u>

4. Restricted Funds by Project

	2023	2022
	£	£
Development and Fundraising	-	4,592
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>4,592</u>

THE FRIENDS OF KENNINGTON PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1188922

Accounts

The Friends of Kennington Park (FoKP) Trustees' Annual Report 2021/22

Introduction

The Friends of Kennington Park were registered as a charity by the Charity Commission in April 2020. Seven Trustees were appointed. Our status is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registration number 1188922. This report covers the year from the end July 2021 to July 2022.

Our purpose is defined as ***being for the benefit of the inhabitants of South London ("the area of benefit"), to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit in particular by supporting the preservation, conservation, improvement and protection of Kennington Park.***

Our current income level means that we are classified as a small charity.

Park-based Activities and Events in 2021/2022

In the year prior to July 2021, very few events were organised due to lockdown restrictions. We had managed to organise a successful `Love Kennington Park` competition, with prizes sponsored by a local resident, to reinstate our monthly gardening sessions and to organise some small events - in the park and online. The lifting of lockdown restrictions has allowed us to run a near normal programme of events and Committee and Trustee Meetings since Summer 2021.

When it became clear that restrictions were to be fully lifted, we decided to plan our first ever Kennington Park Festival. The aim was to create a lively, fun event which would celebrate the return to (near) normal life, showcase local communities and organisations and bring people of all ages into the park to share in the activities. One of the positives of the lockdown period was the increased number of local people using the park, in particular the increased diversity of communities and ages. The purpose of the festival was to build on this and to encourage further engagement. We established a partnership with a local CIC (*Community Interest Company*), Melanin Health and Wellness, and were supported with sponsorship from Berkeley Homes, a national developer with strong community links in the local area. Planning and running the event, held over on August Bank Holiday Monday, was a huge volunteer effort by all involved and we were delighted by its success in terms of number of attendees, the extent of the involvement of local dance and musical groups and the range of creative activities for children and adults.

Later in the year, we held the formal launch of our new History Hut with its colourful and informative display boards showcasing notable events in the park and immediate area over the last 150+ years, recording the contributions of famous, infamous and less well-known local people. The Hut was opened by our local MP in December 2021. Various councillors and local schoolchildren were present as well as FoKP members and local residents. The feedback on this project has been excellent and we believe that it has helped people of all ages understand the history and importance of the park. We know that it has been used by some schools as part of their local history curriculum.

An Anniversary Year

2022 marks the 20th anniversary of The Friends of Kennington Park, established in July 2002 to help restore what was then a much-neglected park. As well as marking the anniversary with a special 20th logo and leaflet, our aims for the year include increasing our membership, improving our communication and continuing to hold events and activities which better engage and involve local people.

We started to try to fulfil these ambitions by launching an inaugural Easter Egg Hunt, originally planned for 2021 but, like so many things, a casualty of Covid. One of our committee members designed and managed an event aimed at young children. The event was promoted in a low-key way using our links with the recently established Kennington Park Junior Parkrun. We wanted to test the location and the egg-hunting challenge with a small group of children with a view to using the design as a template for a bigger event in 2023. Other small events in the park included the RSPB Garden Bird Watch where we partnered with another local organisation, Bee Urban, allowing us to offer tool sharpening advice and practice in addition to bird identification. Other FoKP events included a memorial service for a WWII bombing tragedy, history walks and our ever-popular bat walks.

One major achievement for the year has been to hold a second Kennington Park Festival! This time in mid-July while schools were still open and could take part. The success of the previous year's festival inspired us to create a bigger and better event. We continued our partnership with Melanin Health and Wellness and Berkeley Homes and were delighted to also involve Thriving North Lambeth and Active Communities. Again, planning the event was time consuming, but increased financial backing allowed us the opportunity to recruit some paid support. With greater planning time we were much better prepared with publicity and colourful posters decorated the park gates and fences for several weeks. On the day, we were blessed with excellent weather, over 1500 attendees and a wide range of artistic performances from local groups and schools. Many local councillors and our MP attended.

The festival and our attendance at another local event have allowed us to promote the work of FoKP and to substantially increase our membership numbers which now exceed the pre-pandemic levels. It has also allowed us the opportunity to establish relationships with new local councillors - recent ward boundary changes have resulted in significant changes. Our electronic mailbox continues to receive hundreds of emails covering a wide range of topics - queries, suggestions, complaints, plaudits. We do our best to respond to them all directly or refer them to a more appropriate source.

Earlier in the Summer, the annual Green Flag and London in Bloom Awards inspections returned to their normal format. This year the challenge to maintain the park has been even greater than usual as there has been very little corporate volunteering to supplement the work of the Council teams and our membership volunteers and the weather has not always been helpful! We have been awarded a Green Flag for the 12th year in succession and a Green Heritage Park Award for the second year - one of only two parks in Lambeth to achieve this. We await the outcome of this year's London in Bloom judging with eager anticipation.

In September we plan to hold an inaugural Dog Show involving prizes for fun categories and activities. This event is a response to the large increase in dog owners now visiting the park. If successful, this is likely to become an annual event, another important element of our plan to increase engagement with local communities and to build membership numbers and park enthusiasts.

Committee and Trustees Issues

A major consideration for the committee and the Trustees this year has been an end of year review of the Constitution and the operating principles which support it.

On application to become a charity we used a model CIO constitution. During the first year of operation we identified some operational issues which needed to be clarified and codified. Not as fundamental changes to the Constitution, but modifications to the operating principles we had used prior to charity registration.

The issues were initially considered by the Committee who made recommendations to the Trustees on some issues and suggested options for others. A report was prepared and shared electronically with Trustees prior to a face-to-face meeting. At this meeting, the issues raised were discussed in detail and the Trustees agreed specific modifications. These have been adopted as a new set of operating principles. The areas they cover include:

- Clearer definition of FoKP membership category requirements
- Clarification of committee membership requirements and performance standards
- AGM meeting management
- Representation of FoKP – media handling policy

During the year, our committee has undergone a quite significant change with 2 committee members standing down because of family commitments and one no longer being eligible to serve because of conflicts with work. We are delighted to have been able to welcome two new committee members who have already made excellent contributions.

As we seek to extend the number of events in our programme of activities, we recognise the need to increase our capacity so will be seeking new committee members and/or co-optees.

One of our Trustees will be leaving us at the AGM, but we are pleased that a former committee member has agreed to stand as a replacement, subject to election.

Our AGM this year will be held in early September, and we will be publishing a special anniversary newsletter to mark the achievements of the last 20 years and to highlight future plans.

Major Works - continuing involvement

Over the last few years, one area of the park has been the site of a major TfL development associated with the Northern Line Extension. In Spring 2022, their work was completed. Over the preceding years we had been involved in many meetings about plans to return the area to park use and so we looked forward to

the early reinstatement of our large dog walking area, now even more important than before because of the large number of dogs visiting the park. Sadly, we were to be disappointed, and it was some months before the area was reopened and full reinstatement is yet to occur. This therefore continues to be one of our priorities.

The implementation of key phases of the Capital Development Programme for the park, also one of our major priorities, has not been without its issues. Due to complex technical issues, progress on the first project, the reinstatement of the iconic 1970's skatebowl, has been much slower than hoped. Committee members continue to be closely involved with all the programme groups and the FoKP Chair is a key part of the overarching planning group. Some initiatives will be implemented this year, eg new toilets and water fountains, but the reopening and enhancement of the skatebowl and the development work on the refurbishment and enhancement of children's play area are now likely to be deferred until 2023. Good progress is being made on the outline design proposals for the play area and we anticipate the release of procurement documents by Lambeth Council very soon. Once initial proposals have been submitted and considered we expect to run a consultation exercise with playground users on some aspects of the plan.

Partnership Working

Many of our events and activities are done in partnership with local organisations, but inevitably our most important partnership is with Lambeth Council. We work closely with the Lambeth parks team to enhance the natural environment of the park, deliver improvements and new facilities and ensure that the park is safe, enjoyable and accessible for all. We offer practical support through volunteering, ideas and proposals, securing funding and constructive challenge, keeping the pressure on them to deliver agreed objectives when these seem to be slipping. We benefit from their guidance and support when holding **our** large events. We have sought to formalise our working through a Partnership Agreement which the Council are currently considering.

Financial Reporting

Our finances and financial reporting have returned to normal this year because of the reintroduction of our events programme and the consequent increase in new members and membership renewals. We have also received a significant number of donations which is very encouraging.

The usual financial protocols have been followed and the accounts have been submitted to our Auditors for review prior to the AGM.

Public Benefit Statement

Managing the charity has been simpler this year with arrangements for Committee and Trustee meetings returning to pre-restriction practice. This has allowed us to more easily ensure that FoKP continues to act in accordance with the required protocols and legislation, meaning that:

- money is appropriately spent, managed, and reported.

- decisions are made through the committee process and in accordance with our charitable purpose
- the interest of the park and its users are at the heart of our decision-making and actions

Summary

The lifting of lockdown restrictions has allowed us to return to our normal operating practice and to hold many of our regular events. We have used our 20th anniversary year to add new events to our calendar and to repeat the success of the first Kennington Park Festival, changing the date to allow for schools to be more directly involved than in the first year. There has been a significant increase in membership applications in recent months and our partnership working has extended beyond previous partners.

Progress on major developments in the park have been slower than anticipated mainly due to technical difficulties or the need to secure action by others, but work continues, and FoKP Committee members are well represented on working groups.

We recognise the need to add new committee members to give us additional capacity and will work to achieve this.

Marietta Crichton Stuart - Trustee and Chair of FoKP

August 2022

The Friends of Kennington Park AGM 2022

Election of FoKP Trustees for 2022/23

Trustees Standing Down

Rachel Papps Williams

Colin Hunte - as required to comply with Charity Commission rules.

Trustees Continuing

Marietta Crichton Stuart

Rita Sammons

Marnie Searchwell

Nichola Smiton

Trustee Seeking Election/Re-election

Andrew Horsler

Colin Hunte

The AGM held on 6th September 2022 confirmed the election of the 4 continuing Trustees and of Colin Hunte and Andrew Horsler.

Rita Sammons

FoKP Secretary

September 2022

The Friends of Kennington Park

Report and
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended
31st March 2022

HW Associates Limited
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

The Friends of Kennington Park

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The Friends of Kennington Park

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Management Committee present its annual report with the financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31st March 2022.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The Friends of Kennington Park is a registered charity (1188922) run by volunteers. The postal address is Prince Consort Lodge, Kennington Park Place, London, SE11 4AS. The objects of the organisation are set out in the constitution:

- for the benefit of the inhabitants of South London ("the area of benefit"), to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit in particular by supporting the preservation, conservation, improvement and protection of Kennington Park

HM Revenue and Customs have accepted The Friends of Kennington Park as a charity for tax purposes under the reference XT26286 with effect from 12 May 2008.

Following the period end 2020 The Friends of Kennington Park was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("CIO", 1188922) on 6th April 2020 with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Friends of Kennington Park is a registered charity governed by trustees and managed by a management committee elected at the Annual General Meeting.

ACTIVITIES

- The Friends have worked with Lambeth Council, gardening volunteers and volunteer groups to help improve the park. The Park retained its Green Flag for the 11th year and was awarded a Gold and Silver Gilt from London in Bloom
- The Friends have held a range of events throughout the last twelve months including history walks, an Easter Egg hunt; kept an up-to-date website and sent out with regular Mailchimp communications to the membership. The friends also organized a first Kennington Park Festival for park users, in collaboration with partners. It was so successful a second one is planned for July 2022. A Junior Park run is now held each Sunday morning in the park
- The winning entries for the Friends' competition about what the park meant to people were displayed in noticeboards through the park (<https://www.kenningtonpark.org/competition>). The competition took place at the end of last reporting year, with financials and promotions of winners was done in this reporting year.
- The new History Hut was officially opened in December 2021 by Florence Eshalomi MP

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Grants and the support of our donors and members have provided an income of £4,644 (2021: £2,805). A deficit of £3,078 (2021: £44 deficit) was recorded. The Friends of Kennington Park apply this income to the promotion of their objectives. In the event that income exceeds expenditure such surplus is not distributed but is retained by the Friends for the promotion of these objectives. A statement of financial activities is set out on page 5.

The Friends of Kennington Park

STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Management Committee is required to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation as at the end of the financial year and of the Income & Expenditure for that year. In preparing those statements, the committee is required to:

- Select the appropriate accounting policies and apply them consistently (see Note 1);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the organisation will continue its activities.

The Management Committee members are responsible for ensuring that the organisation keeps accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the organisation and which enable it to ensure the financial statements comply with the constitution of the organisation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the organisation by taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:

Marietta Crichton Stuart (Chair)

Dated: 6 September 2022

Vilde Aagenaes (Treasurer)

Dated: 6 September 2022

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Member of The Friends of Kennington Park

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

We have audited the financial statements of The Friends of Kennington Park for the year ended 31 March 2022 as set out on pages 4 to 7. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out therein and the requirements of the Management Committee.

This report is made solely to the members, as a body, in accordance with the constitution of The Friends of Kennington Park. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee

As described in the Statement of The Management Committee's Responsibilities the management committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the constitution.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, the financial statements are properly prepared in accordance with the constitution and the information given in the management committees' report is consistent with the financial statements. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the management committee has not kept proper accounting records and if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the management committee in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities, of the state of the affairs as at 31st March 2022.
- the information provided in the Management Committee Report is consistent with the financial statements.

Mark Hjertzen BA FCA
HW Associates Limited

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
Portmill House
Portmill Lane
Hitchin
Herts SG5 1DJ

8 September 2022

The Friends of Kennington Park

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	NOTE	2022 £	2021 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		7,109	10,170
Savings Account		8,522	8,519
Debtors		-	-
		<u>15,632</u>	<u>18,689</u>
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors (Amounts due within one year)	2	<u>(525)</u>	<u>(504)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>15,107</u>	<u>18,185</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>15,107</u>	<u>18,185</u>
RESERVES			
Restricted funds	4	4,592	9,825
General Funds		<u>10,515</u>	<u>8,360</u>
		<u>15,107</u>	<u>18,185</u>

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board of Management on 6 September 2022.

Marietta Crichton Stuart (Chair)

Vilde Aagenaes (Treasurer)

The Friends of Kennington Park

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

	NOTES	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds 2021 £
INCOME					
Memberships, Sales & Donations Received		3,061	-	3,061	2,254
Grants Received	3	-	1,500	1,500	500
Cash income		80	-	80	-
Interest Received		4	-	4	51
Total incoming resources		<u>3,144</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>4,644</u>	<u>2,805</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Direct charitable expenditure		-	6,734	6,734	1,637
Management and administration		989	-	989	1,212
Total resources expended		<u>989</u>	<u>6,734</u>	<u>7,723</u>	<u>2,849</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		2,155	(5,234)	(3,078)	(44)
Transfers between funds/Accruals		-	-	-	-
Fund balances brought forward at 1st April 2021		<u>8,110</u>	<u>10,075</u>	<u>18,185</u>	<u>18,229</u>
Fund balances carried forward at 31st March 2022		<u>10,265</u>	<u>4,842</u>	<u>15,107</u>	<u>18,185</u>

The Friends of Kennington Park

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

	2022		2021
	£		£
INCOME			
Memberships, Sales & Donations	3,141		2,254
Festival	1,000		-
History Boards	-		-
Gardens	500		500
Bank Interest	<u>4</u>		<u>51</u>
	4,644		2,805
LESS GENERAL EXPENDITURE			
Management & Administration	386		648
Accountancy Fees	525		504
Play Improvement Appeal	-		420
Festival	1,593		-
History Boards	-		-
Gardens	1,200		1,217
Dev/Fund	3,941		-
Bank charges and interest	<u>78</u>		<u>60</u>
	(7,723)		(2,849)
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	<u>(3,078)</u>		<u>(44)</u>

The Friends of Kennington Park

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2021 TO 31 MARCH 2022

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31st MARCH 2022

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Accounting conventions

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2. SUNDRY CREDITORS & ACCRUALS

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accountancy Fees	525	504
Other Creditors	-	-
	<u>525</u>	<u>504</u>

3. GRANTS RECEIVED

	2022	2021
	£	£
Festival	1,000	-
Gardens	500	500
	<u>1,500</u>	<u>500</u>

4. Restricted Funds by Project

	2022	2021
	£	£
Development and Fundraising	4,592	9,622
Festival	-	-
History Boards	-	-
Gardens	-	203
	<u>4,592</u>	<u>9,825</u>

THE FRIENDS OF KENNINGTON PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 1188922

Accounts

The Friends of Kennington Park (FoKP) Trustees Annual Report 2020/21

Dated – September 2021

Introduction

The Friends of Kennington Park were registered as a charity by the Charity Commission in April 2020. Seven Trustees were appointed. Our status is a **Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)**, registration number 1188922. This report covers the period from our registration to end of August 2021 and thus includes the 2020 and 2021 AGMs.

Our purpose is defined as *being for the benefit of the inhabitants of South London ("the area of benefit"), to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit in particular by supporting the preservation, conservation, improvement and protection of Kennington Park.*

Our current income level means that we are classified as a small charity.

This is the Trustees' first Annual Report, and it describes a far from normal period. We came into existence as a charity just after the start of the Coronavirus pandemic. The continued pandemic, its restrictions and lockdowns, has drastically reduced the number of park-based and other community events we have been able to arrange or attend and has created added complications for the events which have taken place. It also meant that we were unable to hold our usual AGM in 2020, turning instead to sharing documents via the website and receiving comment via email. The process worked well, but lacked the more detailed discussions which usual characterise our AGM. The absence of a face-to-face AGM and of other local events has had a negative impact on our income, reducing the number of members recruited and those renewing, limiting the opportunities for donations and book sales. All this, despite the park being much more heavily used than usual.

Despite these difficulties, a lot of work has been taking place to support the improvement and protection of the park by Trustees and other volunteers. The following sections of the report summarise what has happened in the first year since our registration as a charity.

Park-based Activities and Events in 2020/2021

Several FoKP events had been planned for 2020/21 including an inaugural Easter Egg Hunt. We had also expected the park to become the location for a new Junior Parkrun in the late Spring. Neither of these events occurred and our regular activities such as volunteer gardening sessions, local history walks, and celebration of the 1848 Chartist Rally also had to be cancelled. There have also been no Corporate Volunteering Groups working in the park.

We liaised closely with Lambeth Council to ensure that we were aware of, and complied with, their requirements as each stage of the pandemic unfolded. As a result, we were unable to hold events over an extended period. We did manage to hold **two Bat Walks** with restricted numbers of attendees who all pre-registered and a virtual park walk on Zoom during Lambeth Heritage Month. We reintroduced **volunteer gardening sessions** as soon as this was permitted, but continued restrictions limited the numbers who could attend and reduced our ability to work with Goodgym and the other volunteer groups who support our gardening and litter-picking events. Those sessions that have taken place have been well supported.

The significant increase in use of the park, while positive in many respects, had a number of detrimental impacts on facilities, grassed areas and trees plus increased litter. As a result, we were in regular liaison with council staff about ways to both prevent and manage problems.

As a more positive reflection of the use of the park during the year, in March 2021, at the suggestion, and with the financial support, of a park user, we launched a '**Love Kennington Park**' **competition** designed to capture what the park had meant to people during lockdown. Large posters and signwriting were featured in the park and the competition was promoted extensively through social media. Categories included photos, videos, poetry, drawings and prose and there were prizes for adults and children. We received a wide range of entries; winners' contributions have been displayed in the park since the end of June and on our website and we have received a lot of positive comments about the initiative and the quality of entries. Again, a considerable amount of volunteer work contributed to the success of this project.

As a more permanent recognition of the place of the park in the local community, we have been working hard on the research, design, and development of a **local history display for the park**. The display, which has been partly supported by Lambeth Council and by Surrey Cricket Club, is designed to provide information about people and events associated with the park and the immediate surrounding area. In addition to the work by expert advisers, commissioned by us, many volunteer hours have gone into the research and into the design. One of our Trustees is leading the project, directing the research and has undertaken all the final design work. For this work she received a fee of £2500, paid by Lambeth Council.

We have started discussions with school representatives with a view to planning a **schools-based local history project** later this year, focused on the new display and we have already designed a series of quizzes.

As a reflection of unusual times, the **London in Bloom** inspections for 2020 were virtual, as were those for the **Green Flag Award**. However, this July there was an actual London in Bloom inspection with additional volunteer gardening and litter picking sessions. As on previous occasions, we worked closely with the council to ensure that the park and the FoKP activity programme were well presented. The Park has been highly successful in recent years winning both LiB gold and silver awards.

Major TfL Works and a new Capital Development Programme by Lambeth Council

Over the last few years, the park has been the site of a major TfL development associated with the Northern Line Extension. The Chair of FoKP has been extensively involved in the many meetings associated with this project since its inception. The frequency and importance to the park of these meetings has increased throughout the year as the project reaches its conclusion and a key area of the park will be returned to the council and parks users. The changing financial profile of the project, the time lapse between the initial agreements and its completion and several other factors have made the handover discussions complex and time-consuming. Extensive lobbying by the FoKP Chair has resulted in a far better outcome for the park than seemed likely at the start of the year. Work on this will continue until completion which is scheduled for Autumn 2021.

Following many years of engagement and negotiations by FoKP, Lambeth Council have agreed to invest a sizeable capital sum into the park. As well as **essential improvement work on some badly deteriorating toilets, drains and pathways**, we have campaigned for the **restoration of the iconic 1970s skatebowl**, one of only two of its type remaining in London, the **extension and improvement of the children's play area** and a **youth activity zone** focused on exercise and leisure for teenagers

and young people. We are working closely with the Council's Fundraising Officer to secure additional funding for all the projects.

Work on the skatebowl restoration was initiated by FOKP before formal agreement was reached with the council. This included securing expert advice from a UCL professor about the design of the bowl, contacting a structural engineer with relevant expertise and drafting a design brief for the council to use in commissioning the first stage of its investigative work. The council has since established a Skatebowl Restoration Steering Group, led by a senior project manager. The Group's membership includes the UCL professor, the structural engineer, local skaters and an FoKP Trustee.

Considerable progress has been made in undertaking investigative work and early-stage planning and the project will continue through 2021/22 and 2022/23.

In addition, we have also identified FoKP representatives for the overarching Capital Development Project Steering Group and for two other Project Groups. These groups are yet to meet, but in preparation we have already undertaken an initial survey of park users about the capital development programme, and further consultation is scheduled. We also undertook a month-long survey of the use of the children's play area which demonstrated just how popular the current facility is despite its limited size and now rather battered state.

Trustee Development

When we sought to register as a charity, the committee were confident that many elements of our previous practice and procedures as a community organisation would still apply. However, we were also aware that there were additional responsibilities on us all individually and collectively, as well as new reporting requirements. To ensure that we were as prepared as possible for our new role, we undertook a number of actions.

To help us assess the areas we may need to strengthen as an organisation, we undertook a self-assessment questionnaire. Called **Better Friends**, this is a tool published and assessed by Parks Community UK. The effectiveness scores we received from the assessment were as follows:

- Organisation and Structure – 76%
- Meetings and Activities – 83%
- Strengths - Numbers, Skills, Inclusiveness & Partnerships – 68%
- Effectiveness and Ambition – 77%

The scores and commentary were considered by the Trustees and other committee members, and it was agreed that our focus should be on diversifying and increasing our membership base, building and recruiting new skills, and on partnership working and inclusivity. These reflected issues we had already identified in previous committee discussions.

A number of the projects described above and planned for the period 2021 - 2023 will provide excellent opportunities to help us achieve these goals.

One specific action to help involve the diverse communities which surround the park has been the development of a partnership with local community groups to plan and run a new event, The Kennington Park Festival on 30th August 2021. We received financial and resource support from 3 local businesses and the event was managed through volunteers. It was a huge success with a wide

range of performers from different communities taking part. We hope to develop this into an annual event. We are currently undertaking a review of the event to assist in future event planning.

In a further response to the assessment, we have sought to develop best practice by registering with advisory groups and related bodies, attending training and information sessions, contributing comments, and sharing ideas. For example:

- Registration with Small Charities Consortium (SCC), which led to:
 - Various committee members attending training courses
 - SCC weekly bulletins and information being shared with the committee when appropriate
 - Approaches to SCC linked organisations for funding and support eg The Fore
- Registration with numerous national and local bodies working in parks eg National Park City, Parks for London, Go Parks, London Green Network, etc giving us access to good practice examples and advice such as Guidance for working with volunteers during the pandemic

We continue to be active members of the Lambeth Park's Forum which allows us to comment on local developments and to share ideas and experiences between parks. Meetings are regularly attended by senior Lambeth Council officers giving us additional direct access to them.

AGM – July 2021

We were delighted to be able to hold an in-person AGM, hosted by one of the local churches and in an outdoor space, thereby allowing us to be as fully Covid secure as practicable. The attendance was less than normal but the meeting was quorate. There was both a formal agenda and two presentations.

Financial Reporting

There have been many fewer transactions this year because of the extended periods of inactivity. The usual financial protocols have been followed and the accounts were submitted to our Auditors for review prior to the AGM held in July. They have now been authorised and will be available on the website.

Trustee Resignations and Appointments

In accordance with the constitution, two Trustees are required to stand down each year.

Adam Blacklay resigned as a Trustee and Committee Member with effect from this AGM due to his relocation. **Rita Sammons** agreed to stand down in accordance with the requirements but stood for re-election and was reappointed by the meeting.

There is no requirement to elect additional Trustees at this stage, but the Committee are keen to add expertise so will be seeking new Trustees and also new committee members.

A draft copy of this report was submitted to and endorsed by the AGM.

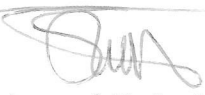


Public Benefit Statement

Despite the difficulties caused by successive lockdowns and restrictions, the Trustees, committee and individual officers have continued to meet (online and in person) to ensure that FoKP acts in accordance with the required protocols and legislation by ensuring that:

- money is appropriately spent, managed, and reported.
- decisions are made through the committee process and in accordance with our charitable purpose
- the interest of the park and its users are at the heart of our decision-making and actions

Summary

Our first year as a charity has been an unusual one due to the Coronavirus pandemic. However, it has also given us the opportunity to refocus some of our efforts and to make significant progress on some of the projects which will support the continued improvement and development of the park in the coming years. Engaging the community in these and other activities and securing the additional funding necessary to ensure completion of the full programme will be the focus of our activity in 2021/22, alongside the return of our regular programme of activities.



Marietta Crichton Stuart – Trustee and Chair of FoKP

7th September 2021

The Friends of Kennington Park

Report and
Financial Statements

For the Year Ended
31st March 2021

HW Associates Limited
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

The Friends of Kennington Park

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The Friends of Kennington Park

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Management Committee present its annual report with the financial statements of the organisation for the year ended 31st March 2021.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

The Friends of Kennington Park is a voluntary body. The address is Prince Consort Lodge, Kennington Park Place, London, SE11 4AS. The objects of the organisation are set out in the constitution:

- for the benefit of the inhabitants of South London ("the area of benefit"), to provide or assist in the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the area of benefit in particular by supporting the preservation, conservation, improvement and protection of Kennington Park

HM Revenue and Customs have accepted The Friends of Kennington Park as a charity for tax purposes under the reference XT26286 with effect from 12 May 2008.

Following the period end 2020 The Friends of Kennington Park was registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("CIO", 1188922) on 6th April 2020 with the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Friends of Kennington Park is managed by a management committee elected at the Annual General Meeting.

ACTIVITIES

- The Friends have worked with Lambeth Council, gardening volunteers and volunteer groups to help improve the park.
- The Friends have held a range of events throughout the year (though some were cancelled due to COVID-19), kept an up-to-date website about the park with news of activities and Covid19 guidelines, sent out with regular Mailchimp communications to the membership.
- The Friends ran a competition for residents to share their artistic expressions of the park during lockdown given it became a more central feature of daily life for many. There were a range of responses in various formats, including Paintings, Drawings, Photos, Videos and Poetry. The winners were announced here - <https://www.kenningtonpark.org/competition>

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Grants and the support of our donors and members have provided an income of £2,805 (2020: £9,910). A deficit of £44 (2020: £82 surplus) was recorded. The Friends of Kennington Park apply this income to the promotion of their objectives. In the event that income exceeds expenditure such surplus is not distributed but is retained by the Friends for the promotion of these objectives. A statement of financial activities is set out on page 5.

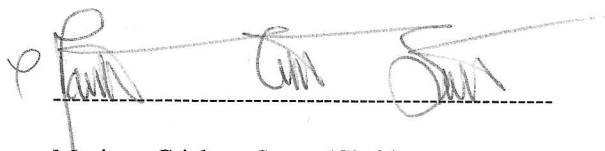
STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Management Committee is required to prepare financial statements for each accounting year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation as at the end of the financial year and of the Income & Expenditure for that year. In preparing those statements, the committee is required to:

- Select the appropriate accounting policies and apply them consistently (see Note 1);
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the organisation will continue its activities.

The Management Committee members are responsible for ensuring that the organisation keeps accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the organisation and which enable it to ensure the financial statements comply with the constitution of the organisation. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the organisation by taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Management Committee and signed on its behalf by:



Marietta Crichton Stuart (Chair)

Dated: 7th July 2021



Vilde Aagenaes (Treasurer)

Dated: 7th July 2021

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Member of The Friends of Kennington Park

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

We have audited the financial statements of The Friends of Kennington Park for the year ended 31 March 2021 as set out on pages 4 to 7. These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out therein and the requirements of the Management Committee.

This report is made solely to the members, as a body, in accordance with the constitution of The Friends of Kennington Park. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Management Committee

As described in the Statement of The Management Committee's Responsibilities the management committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the constitution.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, the financial statements are properly prepared in accordance with the constitution and the information given in the management committees' report is consistent with the financial statements. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the management committee has not kept proper accounting records and if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the management committee in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion, we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities, of the state of the affairs as at 31st March 2021.
- the information provided in the Management Committee Report is consistent with the financial statements.

HW Associates Ltd.

HW Associates Limited

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Portmill House

Portmill Lane

Hitchin

Herts SG5 1DJ

M Hjertzen

M. Hjertzen

Dated: 25th August 2021


The Friends of Kennington Park

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	NOTE	2021 £	2020 £
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash at bank and in hand		10,170	10,265
Savings Account		8,519	8,468
Debtors		-	-
		<u>18,689</u>	<u>18,733</u>
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors (Amounts due within one year)	2	<u>(504)</u>	<u>(504)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>18,185</u>	<u>18,229</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u><u>18,185</u></u>	<u><u>18,229</u></u>
RESERVES			
Restricted funds	4	9,825	10,962
General Funds		<u>8,360</u>	<u>7,267</u>
		<u>18,185</u>	<u>18,229</u>

The Financial Statements were approved by the Board of Management on [xx] July 2021


 Marietta Crichton Stuart (Chair)


 Vilde Aagenaes (Treasurer)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021

	NOTES	General Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £	Total Funds 2020 £
<u>INCOME</u>					
Memberships, Sales & Donations Received		2,254	-	2,254	2,261
Grants Received	3	-	500	500	7,600
Cash income		-	-	-	-
Interest Received		51	-	51	49
Total incoming resources		<u>2,305</u>	<u>500</u>	<u>2,805</u>	<u>9,910</u>
<u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>					
Direct charitable expenditure		-	1,637	1,637	7,856
Management and administration		1,212	-	1,212	1,972
Total resources expended		<u>1,212</u>	<u>1,637</u>	<u>2,849</u>	<u>9,828</u>
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources		1,093	(1,137)	(44)	82
Transfers between funds/Accruals		-	-	-	-
Fund balances brought forward at 1st April 2020		<u>7,017</u>	<u>11,212</u>	<u>18,229</u>	<u>18,147</u>
Fund balances carried forward at 31st March 2021		<u>8,110</u>	<u>10,075</u>	<u>18,185</u>	<u>18,229</u>

The Friends of Kennington Park

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021

	2021 £	2020 £	
INCOME			
Memberships, Sales & Donations	2,254	2,261	
Kennington Chartist Project	-	3,600	
History Boards	-	3,500	
Gardens	500	500	
Bank Interest	<u>51</u>	<u>49</u>	
	2,805	9,910	
LESS GENERAL EXPENDITURE			
Management & Administration	648	1,440	
Accountancy Fees	504	504	
Play Improvement Appeal	420	-	
Kennington Chartist Project	-	3,350	
History Boards	-	3,500	
Gardens	1,217	864	
Dev/Fund	-	142	
Bank charges and interest	<u>60</u>	<u>28</u>	
	(2,849)	(9,828)	
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	<u>(44)</u>	<u>82</u>	

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR FROM 1 APRIL 2020 TO 31 MARCH 2021

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31st MARCH 2021

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Accounting conventions

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

2. SUNDRY CREDITORS & ACCRUALS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accountancy Fees	504	504
Other Creditors	-	-
	<u>504</u>	<u>504</u>

3. GRANTS RECEIVED

	2021	2020
	£	£
Kennington Chartist Project	-	3,600
History Boards	-	3,500
Gardens	500	500
	<u>500</u>	<u>7,600</u>

4. Restricted Funds by Project

	2021	2020
	£	£
Development and Fundraising	9,622	9,623
Play Improvement Appeal	-	419
Kennington Chartist Project	-	-
History Boards	-	-
Gardens	203	920
Total	<u>9,825</u>	<u>10,962</u>