

SPEEN ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

England & Wales · Charity number 1191276

Details

Other names SAA

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2020-09-14

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

Contact

Address 37 Groveland Road
Speen
Newbury
RG14 1ST

Phone 07775506929

Email speenallotments@gmail.com

Website www.speenallotments.org.uk

Activities

Objects: TO FURTHER OR BENEFIT THE RESIDENTS OF THE PARISH OF SPEEN, NEWBURY, BERKSHIRE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA, WITHOUT DISTINCTION OF GENDER, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, RACE OR OF POLITICAL, RELIGIOUS, OR OTHER OPINIONS BY PROVIDING ALLOTMENT FACILITIES IN THE INTERESTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR RECREATIONAL LEISURE TIME OCCUPATION WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF IMPROVING THEIR CONDITIONS OF LIFE.

Activities: We make allotments available to the general public within the Speen Parish boundary, or from elsewhere if and as necessary to ensure all allotments are actively cultivated

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Disability, Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation

Geography

- West Berkshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£4,820	£4,876	-	-
2023-12-31	£1,959	£1,539	-	-
2022-12-31	£2,592	£2,012	-	-
2021-12-31	£1,921	£1,500	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
John Headland	Chair	2021-09-29
COLIN MANSELL CDipAF		2020-09-11
Jonathan Matthew Fitch		2021-09-29
Lynnette Roberts		2020-09-11
Martin Wiltshire		2020-09-11
Nicola Jenkins		2020-09-11
Rebecca Jenkins		2025-03-28
Tom Haworth		2024-03-20

SPEEN ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1191276

Accounts



Speen Allotment Association CIO
Charity Number 1191276
Trustees Annual Report
2024

Speen Allotment Association (SAA) became a CIO on 14 September 2020. This is the charity's annual report covering the period from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2024.

Objectives

To further or benefit the residents of the parish of Speen, Newbury, Berkshire and the surrounding area, without distinction of gender, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious or other opinions, by providing allotment facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreational leisure time occupation with the objective of improving their healthy lifestyle choices, including physical and mental well-being.

Public benefit

The Trustees are made aware of the Constitution and the three Charity Commission guideline documents on public benefit PB1, PB2 and PB3.

Trustees

John Headland – Chair
Nicola (Nicky) Jenkins – Secretary
Colin Mansell – Treasurer
Martin Wiltshire
Lynne Roberts
Jonathan Fitch

Governance

The CIO constitution is that of an association with voting members other than the Trustees. The Board of Trustees is elected by the members and comprises the CIO's management team. The Constitution provides for up to nine (9) Trustees. We have three vacancies.

Each Trustee is made aware of the contents of the charity's constitution and their terms of office, holding their posts for at least two years before retiring and offering themselves for re-election.

SAACIO Trustees meet formally on a quarterly basis at minuted meetings. Individually, Trustees are involved informally in dealing with day-to-day issues on site that arise that affect members.

Background

SAA has a 70-year lease on the land at Station Road, Speen, Newbury.

The land bordering the allotments on its southern and western sides is now owned by David Wilson Homes (DWH) who are currently pursuing various planning applications with West

Berkshire Council (WBC) to deliver a major housing development that will have implications for the allotments and its members.

Throughout 2024 the Trustees monitored planning applications submitted by DWH and made representations where appropriate to DWH, Speen Parish Council and WBC. At the time of writing this report the Trustees are aware that all planning applications have been granted and designated outline planning consent. The building works are now in full flow. The Trustees are monitoring how DWH is complying with relevant planning conditions particularly those that have both direct and indirect implications for the allotments/members.

The Trustees recognise that some planning and development issues require further clarification, namely:

- the, as yet undeveloped, emergency access road (EVAR) adjoining our southern border;
- the state of the trees overhanging the EVAR and our site;
- designation of the strip of land adjacent to our western border;
- Station Road access to our main gate;
- security and the placement of bollards on the EVAR;
- the impact building work will have in terms of building dust etc ingress;
- potential changes to the flow of water into our site, and;
- the possibility of bus stop development on Station Road which will, in effect, remove members' ability to park alongside our site.

Trustees attended meetings of the Speen Parish Council's Planning Committee, WBC and made representations on behalf of the SAA members regarding the adverse impact the proposed parking would have.

During the prolonged dry spells in 2024 the Trustees had to use the mains water supply by introducing quantities of water into the existing water infrastructure. This proved to be an extremely onerous task. As a result, the Trustees sought advice from local contractors to identify a method of integrating the mains water supply into the existing infrastructure without losing water to the river whilst minimising the cost to members. A project outline was developed but unfortunately it proved difficult to obtain quotes from contractors in time to commence the planned work ahead of the 2024 'growing season'.

I'm pleased to report the project was successfully completed in 2024 and we have now completed the initial phase of water supply improvement by adding a mains water feed into the main header tank to ensure tanks are full in periods of drought. In addition new water storage tanks have been installed across the site to maximise the impact of access to water.

Activities and achievements

The past year has seen us make strides forward on several fronts and, despite the weather doing its best to challenge us, it was a good year overall for SAACIO trustees and members, as partially evidenced by the annual plot judging, with some excellent 'allotmenting' across the site. Indeed:

- Our membership remained stable with all pilots fully allocated and a healthy waiting list in place. This ensured good continuity, not to mention the delight of new members of all ages joining our association;
- Our annual events proved popular once again with welcome contributions from members for the Speen Fete, BBQ, food bank and working parties;
- Our major spend was our water project in 2024, which as a result gave rise to a deficit of around £60 for the reporting period. Detail is included as part of the Trustees' attached accounting reports;
- Plot fees and shed rental costs remained stable covering the reporting period;
- We extended the raffle ticket allocation to 1,000 tickets in 2024 and approximately £650 was made, before costs, as a result of our efforts. This fund-raising vehicle remained an invaluable income stream;
- We presented prize winners cups for best plot, runner up and best newcomer at our summer BBQ alongside the raffle ticket draw. The weather complied and a great time was had by all! Thanks to all who made it happen as well as the generous raffle donations from neighbouring businesses and individuals;
- Trustees met on a number of occasions and were able to discuss strategies for maintaining the site, with one eye continuously on the housing development. To achieve these objectives the Trustees again successfully applied to Greenham Trust's Tree Project;
- Members continued to harvest as much water as possible and most members with sheds have now fitted guttering. Storing harvested water remained a priority, as it will in the future;
- We continued to maintain positive relations with Speen Parish Council and other local Councillors. In future we will apply for grant aid to assist with any agreed improvements.
- Throughout the summer the Trustees encouraged Members to donate their surplus produce to the West Berkshire Food Bank. Deliveries were made to the food bank each Monday.
- The Secretary has managed the waiting list very effectively this year by, yet again, generously giving her time in order to meet prospective members on site whenever appropriate. It is pleasing to see that some members are encouraging their friends to help, thereby promoting our core objective.

Brief Financial Notes

The SAA's primary sources of income continue to be allotment rents and Membership fees. Alternative, on-line methods of payment, introduced directly as a result of Covid, have continued and it is pleasing that Members have accepted these arrangements wholeheartedly.

Annually, SAA provides access to a supply of compost/manure purchased at favourable. In 2024 a supplier delivered some 250 (80ltr) bags of compost and all were pleased with the quality.

The Trustees' budget aimed to break-even, whilst trying to maintain rent levels that are noticeably lower than the Town Council's; the latter includes water supplies.

Mains water was used when necessary in periods of drought. The Trustees arranged for the mains supply to feed into the existing infrastructure and took regular meter readings for cost monitoring purposes. As yet no charges to members have been levied and the costs continue to be monitored.

The Treasurer prepares an annual budget ahead of the AGM and this is used by the Trustees to determine whether or not any increase will be necessary. Rent levels are voted on by members at the time of an AGM and increases take effect from the following year.

Refundable deposits for new members were introduced when the CIO started to cover the costs involved in restoring to a reasonable standard any plots given up where no work had been undertaken. This initiative has been well-received and is working well.

The CIO now has a reserves policy and provides members with a Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Reserves are earmarked separately for tree and water projects, sheds, refundable deposits and a general fund.

The accounts show that the CIO made a small loss over the reporting period in line with previous years and expectations.

John Headland

SAACIO

Charity Name Speen Allotment Association CIO		No (if any) 1191276		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2024	To	Period end date 31/12/2024	

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership fees	175		-	175	156
Allotment rents	1,081		-	1,081	1,009
Refundable deposits		275	-	275	200
Shed rents		80	-	80	80
Fundraising (net)	1,168		-	1,168	697
Manure/Compost	1,901		-	1,901	28
Donations	22		-	22	2
Other	29		-	29	
NWB interest	89		-	89	68
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	4,465	355	-	4,820	2,240
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	4,465	355	-	4,820	2,240
A3 Payments					
Insurance	355		-	355	344
Rent	103		-	103	103
Compost/Manure	2,280		-	2,280	-
Tree project	-		-	-	-
Fundraising costs	224		-	224	151
Site maintenance	1,460		-	1,460	86
Water usage	87		-	87	118
Water standing charges	56		-	56	45
BBQ	120		-	120	72
Equipment service	-		-	-	180
Equipment purchase	-		-	-	239
Admin	189		-	189	83
Other miscellaneous expenditure	2		-	2	118
Sub total	4,876	-	-	4,876	1,539
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	4,876	-	-	4,876	1,539
Net of receipts/(payments)	- 411	355	-	- 56	701
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	- 411	355	-	- 56	701

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	General fund	4,061		-
	Water project		-	
	Tree project		450	
	Refundable deposits		825	-
	Shed rents		240	-
	Total cash funds <small>(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))</small>		4,061	1,515



Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Sheds	600	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Colin Mansell	28/03/2025
	John Headland	28/03/2025

SPEEN ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1191276

Accounts



Speen Allotment Association CIO
Charity Number 1191276
Trustees Annual Report
2023

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Objectives and activities

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Public benefit

The Trustees are made aware of the Constitution and the three Charity Commission guideline documents on public benefit PB1, PB2 and PB3.

Trustees

John Headland – Chair
Nicola (Nicky) Jenkins – Secretary
Colin Mansell – Treasurer
Martin Wiltshire
Lynne Roberts
Jonathan Fitch

Governance

The CIO constitution is that of an association with voting members other than the Trustees. The Board of Trustees is elected by the members and comprises the CIO's management team. The Constitution provides for up to nine (9) Trustees. We have three vacancies.

Each Trustee is made aware of the contents of the charity's constitution and their terms of office, holding their posts for at least two years before retiring and offering themselves for re-election.

Since the last report two of the original founding Trustees retired as required by the Constitution and were re-elected at the CIO's AGM held in March 2023. Also at that meeting the former Chair and Trustee, Alan Foley, stood down as a Trustee. He was replaced as Chair by John Headland, an existing Trustee. Members expressed their gratitude to Alan for the hard work and effort he had made in dealing with the protracted lease negotiations with our landlord prior to the change of legal entity to a CIO

The Trustees meet formally on a quarterly basis at minuted meetings. Individually, Trustees are involved informally in dealing with day-to-day issues on site that arise that affect members.

Background

SAA has a 70-year lease on the land at Station Road, Speen, Newbury.

The land bordering the allotments on its southern and western sides is now owned by David Wilson Homes (DWH) who are currently pursuing various planning applications with West Berkshire Council (WBC) to deliver a major housing development that will have implications for the allotments and its members.

Throughout 2023 the Trustees monitored three planning applications submitted by DWH and made representations where appropriate to both the Speen Parish Council and WBC. At the time of writing this report the Trustees are aware that each of the three planning applications have been granted outline planning consent. The Trustees are monitoring how DWH is complying with the relevant planning conditions particularly those that have both direct and indirect implications for the allotments/members.

The Trustees organised a survey of its members in connection with one of the planning conditions associated with bus stops/parking in Station Road, Newbury, alongside the allotments. Trustees attended meetings of the Speen Parish Council's Planning Committee and made representations on behalf of the SAA members regarding the adverse impact the proposed parking would have.

The allotments benefit from a supply of water that runs through the site to the river Lambourn. This supply tends to dry up during prolonged hot weather such as we have encountered in recent years. Due to the uncertainty about the possible adverse effects the housing development might have on the natural water supply SRSL agreed during the lease negotiations to install a mains water supply at no cost to the SAA.

During the prolonged dry spell, the Trustees were compelled to use the mains water supply by introducing quantities of water into the existing water infrastructure. This proved to be an onerous task. As a result, the Trustees sought advice from local contractors to identify a method of integrating the mains water supply into the existing infrastructure without losing water to the river whilst minimising the cost to members. A project outline was developed but unfortunately it proved difficult to obtain quotes from contractors in time to commence the planned work ahead of the 2024 'growing season'. The project will be put to Members for discussion and agreement at the 2024 AGM in March.

Activities and achievements

Once again, the Trustees tried to operate on a 'Service as usual' basis throughout the period of this report but this was affected by both the early storms and later the sustained period of dry weather that wrought havoc for many members in terms of crop production.

We were able to participate in the local annual Speen Fete where we had a stall with produce donated by our members. Money from the stall and the sale of our own raffle tickets provided us with a small amount of additional income and we were able to celebrate our first winner with the draw made at our annual BBQ for members and invited guests in July

The Trustees met on a number of occasions and were able to discuss strategies for maintaining the site, with one eye continuously on the housing development. To achieve these objectives the Trustees again successfully applied to Greenham Trust's Tree Project.

Members continue to harvest as much water as possible and most members with sheds have now fitted guttering.

Throughout the summer the Trustees encouraged Members to donate their surplus produce to the West Berkshire Food Bank. Deliveries were made to the food bank each Monday.

Throughout the reporting period membership has been consistent. The Secretary has managed the Waiting List exceptionally well is again able to meet prospective members on site whenever appropriate. It is pleasing to see that some members are encouraging their friends to help, thereby promoting our core objective.

Financial Review

The SAA's primary sources of income continue to be allotment rents and Membership fees. Historically these were paid in cash at the AGM held in March but Covid changed all that. Alternative, on-line methods of payment introduced directly as a result of Covid, have continued and it is pleasing that Members have accepted these arrangements wholeheartedly.

Annually, SAA provides access to a supply of farmyard manure but in 2021 the quality of what was delivered raised concerns and therefore the Trustees sought alternative arrangements. In December a supplier delivered some 225 (80ltr) bags of compost so we are hoping that the proof of the pudding!

The Trustees budget to break-even whilst trying to maintain rent levels that are noticeably lower than the Town Council's; the latter includes water supplies.

SAA's use of mains water began in August following the sustained period of dry weather that had affected the supply of natural water. The Trustees arranged for the mains supply to feed into the existing infrastructure and took regular meter readings for cost monitoring purposes. This proved invaluable as the charges levied were far in excess of what was expected. After challenging the invoicing organisation, it emerged that there had been an error on its part regarding the type of meter that had been installed and normal service was resumed after exchanges of messages and further meter readings.

The Treasurer prepares an annual budget ahead of the AGM and this is used by the Trustees to determine whether or not any increase will be necessary. Rent levels are voted on by members at the time of an AGM and increases take effect from the following year.

Refundable deposits for new members were introduced when the CIO started to cover the costs involved in restoring to a reasonable standard any plots given up where no work had been undertaken. This initiative has been well-received and is working well.

The CIO now has a reserves policy and provides members with a Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Reserves are earmarked separately for Tree and Water projects, sheds, refundable deposits and a general fund.

The accounts show that the CIO made a small surplus over the reporting period in line with previous years and expectations.

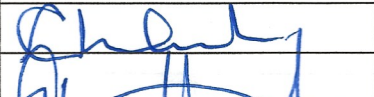

Speen Allotment Association CIO			1191276	CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	01/01/2023	To	31/12/2023	

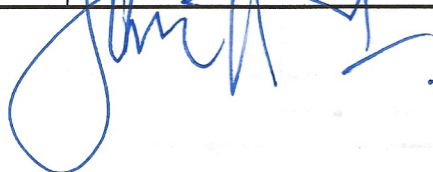
Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership fees	156		-	156	144
Allotment rents	1,009		-	1,009	1,046
Refundable deposits		200	-	200	200
Shed rents		80	-	80	80
Fundraising (net)	697		-	697	331
Manure/Compost	28		-	28	760
Donations	2		-	2	1
Other				-	18
NWB interest	68		-	68	11
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,959	280	-	2,239	2,591
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,959	280	-	2,239	2,591
A3 Payments					
Insurance	344		-	344	318
Rent	103		-	103	103
Compost/Manure	-		-	-	788
Tree project	-		-	-	501
Fundraising costs	151		-	151	
Site maintenance	86		-	86	65
Water usage	118		-	118	40
Water standing charges	45		-	45	
BBQ	72		-	72	98
Equipment service	180		-	180	14
Equipment purchase	239		-	239	
Admin	83		-	83	
Other miscellaneous expenditure	118		-	118	86
Sub total	1,539	-	-	1,539	2,012
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,539	-	-	1,539	2,012
Net of receipts/(payments)	419	280	-	699	579
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-

A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	419	280	-	699	579

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	General fund	3,119		-
	Water project		750	
	Tree project		450	
	Refundable deposits		600	-
	Shed rents		240	-
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))		3,119	2,040
B2 Other monetary assets	Details			
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details			
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details			
	Sheds	Restricted	600	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details			
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Colin Mansell	20/03/2024	
		John Headland	20/03/2024	



SPEEN ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1191276

Accounts



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Each Trustee is made aware of the contents of the charity's constitution and their terms of office, holding their posts for at least two years before retiring and offering themselves for re-election.

Since the last report two of the original founding Trustees retired as required by the Constitution and were re-elected at the CIO's AGM held in March 2022.

The Trustees meet formally on a quarterly basis at minuted meetings. Individually, Trustees are involved informally in dealing with day-to-day issues on site that arise that affect members.

Background

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Throughout 2022 the Trustees monitored the planning applications submitted by DWH and made representations where appropriate to both the Speen Parish Council and WBC. At the time of writing this report the Trustees are aware that some works have commenced on part of the development site that has no direct implications for the allotments/members.

The Trustees continue to monitor the housing development progress in terms of compliance with the associated planning consent/conditions which contain references to the allotments.

The allotments benefit from a supply of water that runs through the site to the river Lambourn. This supply tends to dry up during prolonged hot weather such as we have encountered in recent years. Due to the uncertainty about the possible adverse effects the housing development might have on the natural water supply SRSL agreed during the lease negotiations to install a mains water supply at no cost to the SAA.

In late 2021 the mains water supply was installed and during the period of this report the Trustees used the supply for the first time during the period of intense weather.

Activities and achievements

Once again, the Trustees tried to operate on a 'Service as usual' basis throughout the period of this report but this was affected by both the early storms and later the sustained period of dry weather that wrought havoc for many members in terms of crop production.

We were able to participate in the local annual Speen Fete where we had a stall with produce donated by our members. Money from the stall and the sale of raffle tickets provided us with a small amount of additional income. The removal of Covid restrictions enabled us to hold our annual BBQ for members and invited guests, albeit slightly later in the year than was originally planned.

The Trustees met on a number of occasions and were able to discuss strategies for replacing the removed trees and for introducing plans to create areas for new hedging, trees and wildflowers to encourage biodiversity. To achieve these objectives the Trustees successfully applied to Greenham Trust's 25th Anniversary Tree Project, supporting the Queen's Green Canopy initiative, and working parties successfully planted a number of new fruit trees and hedging on site.

Members continue to harvest as much water as possible and most members with sheds have now fitted guttering.

Throughout the summer the Trustees encouraged Members to donate their surplus produce to the West Berkshire Food Bank. Deliveries were made to the food bank each Monday. Members also made donations of produce to the parish church for its harvest festival service.

Throughout the reporting period membership has been consistent. The Secretary has managed the Waiting List exceptionally well is again able to meet prospective members on site whenever appropriate. It is pleasing to see that some members are encouraging their friends to help, thereby promoting our core objective.

Financial Review

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Charity Name Speen Allotment Association CIO	No (if any) 1191276
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CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2022	To	Period end date 31/12/2022
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership fees	144		-	144	80
Allotment rents	1,046		-	1,046	695
Refundable deposits		200	-	200	225
Shed rents		80	-	80	80
Fundraising (net)	331		-	331	363
Manure	760		-	760	458
Donations	1		-	1	20
Other	18		-	18	
NWB interest	11		-	11	
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	2,311	280	-	2,591	1,921
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	2,311	280	-	2,591	1,921
A3 Payments					
Insurance	318		-	318	316
Rent	103		-	103	189
Manure	788		-	788	385
Tree project	501		-	501	15
Site maintenance	65		-	65	261
Water project	40		-	40	9
BBQ	98		-	98	-
Equipment service	14		-	14	87
Admin			-		132
Other miscellaneous expenditure	86		-	86	106
Sub total	2,012	-	-	2,012	1,500
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	2,012	-	-	2,012	1,500
Net of receipts/(payments)	299	280	-	579	421
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	299	280	-	579	421

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	General fund	3,119		-
	Water project		913	

Tree project		450	
Refundable deposits		425	-
Shed rents		160	-
Total cash funds	3,119	1,948	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

Agreement Error Agreement Error OK

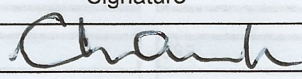
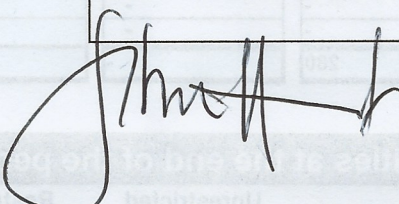
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Details		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Restricted	600	-
	Sheds		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Details		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Colin Mansell	24/5/23
	JOHN HEADLAM	24/MAY/23

		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		3,119	1,948	-

SPEEN ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

England & Wales - Charity number 1191276

Accounts



Speen Allotment Association CIO

Charity Number 1191276

Speen Allotment Association (SAA) became a CIO on 14 September 2020. This report covers the period from that date to 31 December 2021 as the SAA's reporting year is to 31 December.

Objectives and activities

To further or benefit the residents of the parish of Speen, Newbury, Berkshire and the surrounding area, without distinction of gender, sexual orientation, race or of political, religious, or other opinions by providing allotment facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreational leisure time occupation with the objective of improving their conditions of life.

Public benefit

The Trustees are made aware of the Constitution and the three Charity Commission guideline documents on public benefit PB1, PB2 and PB3.

Trustees

Alan Foley – Chair
Nichola (Nicky) Jenkins – Secretary
Colin Mansell – Treasurer
Martin Wiltshire
Lynne Roberts
John Headland
Jonathan Fitch

Governance

Since the SAA CIO was formed two of the original founding Trustees have resigned and were replaced at the CIO's AGM held in September 2021.

The CIO constitution is that of an association with voting members other than the trustees. The Board of Trustees is elected by the members and comprise the CIO's management team.

Each Trustee is made aware of the contents of the charity's constitution and their terms of office, holding their posts for at least two years before retiring and offering themselves for re-election.

Background

Prior to becoming a CIO, the SAA was an unincorporated association of members with a group of volunteer members comprising a Management Committee. The SAA has been on the same site for over 100 years and has rented the site from Sir Richard Sutton Limited (SRSL), the landlord. There are approximately 50 allotments within the site curtilage.

The change of status to a CIO was made necessary by a decision of the SRSL to include the allotment site in a package of land to become a housing development. The land is within

both a local area of outstanding natural interest and conservation area. It is also within the site of the second Battle of Newbury (October 1644).

After protracted lobbying and with support from the Speen Parish Council and residents, SRSL withdrew the allotment site from the housing development package. A new 70-year lease was negotiated and SAA's legal adviser agreed that becoming a CIO was imperative. The CIO was registered with the Charity Commission with effect from 14 September 2020.

As a consequence of the new lease, eight allotments were given up to SRSL to become part of the housing development and a new area of land bordering the original site was made available to the SAA as compensation and to provide new replacement allotments.

The SAA was notified by SRSL that it sold the land package to David Wilson Homes in December 2021.

The allotments benefit from a small natural supply of water that runs through the site to the river Lambourn. This supply tends to dry up during prolonged hot weather such as we have encountered in recent years. Due to the uncertainty about the possible adverse effects the housing development might have on the natural water supply SRSL agreed during the lease negotiations to install a mains water supply at no cost to the SAA. SRSL also made a financial contribution to the SAA to cover the ongoing costs associated with the new water supply and to compensate the SAA for fruit trees that had to be removed from the allotment plots given up.

SRSL also provided new sheds to replace those that had been situated on the surrendered plots.

The Trustees continue to monitor the housing development progress in terms of compliance with the associated planning consent which contains references to the allotments.

Activities and achievements

Notwithstanding the impact of Covid and the intrusive works undertaken by SRSL to install protective metal fencing along the southern and western borders of the site and the mains water supply, the Trustees have tried to operate on a 'Service as usual' basis throughout the period of this report.

Seven new allotments were measured, marked and made available to members, and all but two were taken up. One member who is an apiarist moved his beehives onto one of the new plots.

Two of the new sheds are for members' use. One houses equipment and smaller hand tools whilst the other, the First Aid kit and other paraphernalia for general use.

The terms of the lease prevent us from selling produce on-site and Covid restrictions prevented us from running our annual BBQ for members and invited guests. We were able to participate in the local annual Speen Fete where we had a stall with produce donated by our members. Money from the stall and the sale of raffle tickets provided us with a small amount of additional income.

The Trustees met on a number of occasions taking account of social distancing rules and were able to discuss strategies for replacing the removed trees and for introducing plans to create areas for new hedging, trees and wildflowers to encourage biodiversity.

The Trustees took time to review its Rules & Regulations document to get away from prescriptive measures to ones that are perceived as Guidance and which include roles and responsibilities of Trustees and members. Members are encouraged to harvest as much water as possible and those members with sheds have been busy fitting guttering.

The contribution from SRSL for the water and tree-replacement projects has provided more work for the Trustees in terms of drawing up a reserves policy and procedures for monitoring expenditure under both headings.

Throughout the reporting period membership has been consistent. The Secretary has managed the Waiting List exceptionally well and been able to meet prospective members on site, respecting Covid's social distancing rules. It is pleasing to see that some members are encouraging their friends to help, thereby promoting our core objective.

Financial Review

The change of legal status to a CIO meant a change of bank accounts and this was accomplished with a few difficulties caused mainly by the limitations arising from the Covid lockdowns. Also, due to the nature of the lease SRSL requires the charity to have a more wide-ranging insurance policy. This has been achieved but has added to the charity's costs.

The SAA's primary source of income is allotment rents and traditionally this is paid in cash at the AGM held in March. As the AGM was not possible members were asked to pay electronically and the exercise proved successful, after one or two glitches. Six members are not connected to the internet and so other members, as friends, offered to pay other's using their own online facilities for which we were grateful. Additionally, some of the new sheds are rented by members who each pay a small annual rent. The rent is placed on reserve for shed maintenance or repairs.

Annually, SAA provides access to a supply of farmyard manure but in 2020 the supply came after the CIO was set up so two years data are included in the latest Receipts and Payments account.

The Trustees budget to make a small annual surplus whilst trying to maintain rent levels that are noticeably lower than the Town Council's; the latter includes water supplies. SAA's use of mains water is going to be on an 'as & when necessary' basis, with a recharging policy that will be fine-tuned as and when the facility needs to be used. This will ensure that water costs are kept to a minimum.

The Treasurer prepares an annual budget ahead of the AGM and this is used by the Trustees to determine whether or not any increase will be necessary. Rent levels are voted on by members at the time of an AGM and increases take effect from the following year.

Refundable deposits for new members were introduced when the CIO started to cover the costs involved in restoring to a reasonable standard any plots given up where no work had been undertaken. This initiative has been well-received and is working well.

The CIO now has a reserves policy and provides members with a Statement of Assets and Liabilities. Reserves are earmarked separately for Tree and Water projects, sheds, refundable deposits and a general fund.

The accounts show that the CIO made a small surplus over the reporting period in line with previous years and expectations.



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name
Speen Allotment Association CIO

No (if any)
1191276

CC16a

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 14/09/2020	To	Period end date 31/12/2021
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Membership fees	80	-	-	80	64
Allotment rents	695	-	-	695	719
Refundable deposits	-	225	-	225	75
Shed rents	-	80	-	80	-
Fundraising	363	-	-	363	-
Manure	458	-	-	458	-
Donations	20	-	-	20	8
NWB interest	-	-	-	-	2
SRSL one-off contribution	-	1,931	-	1,931	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,616	2,236	-	3,852	868
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,616	2,236	-	3,852	868
A3 Payments					
Insurance	316	-	-	316	-
Rent	189	-	-	189	-
Site maintenance	261	-	-	261	-
Administration	132	-	-	132	-
Equipment service	87	-	-	87	-
Manure	385	-	-	385	-
Tree project	-	15	-	15	-
Water project	-	9	-	9	-
Other miscellaneous expenditure	106	-	-	106	-
Sub total	1,476	24	-	1,500	-
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,476	24	-	1,500	-
Net of receipts/(payments)	140	2,212	-	2,352	868
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	140	2,212	-	2,352	868

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	General fund	2,299	-	-
	Water project		956	
	Tree project		950	
	Refundable deposits	-	275	-
	Shed rents	-	80	-
	Total cash funds		2,299	2,261

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

Agreement Error	Agreement Error	OK
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	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Sheds	Restricted	600	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Colin Mansell	28/03/2022