



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the year 2023

From: 01 Jan 2023

To: 31 Dec 2023

Charity name: **Sussex Ouse Restoration Trust**

Charity registration number: **1198840**

### Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>The restoration and preservation of appropriate structures on the Sussex River Ouse Navigation.</b></li><li>• <b>Providing information and education to the general public using the navigation and adjacent footpaths.</b></li><li>• <b>Maintaining and improving the bio-diversity of the navigation.</b></li></ul>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Maintenance work on Isfield Lock and its immediate surrounding area.</b></li><li>• <b>Informing walkers on the Sussex Ouse Valley Way about the navigation, restoration work and canals in general.</b></li><li>• <b>Removing invasive plant species from the lock's area.</b></li><li>• <b>Sale of redundant assets</b></li></ul>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<b>We did.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	<b>Not applicable.</b>
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	<b>Not applicable.</b>
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	<b>Over 520 hours were worked by volunteers (including trustees) on restoration and administration duties.</b>
Other		<b>Not applicable.</b>

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<b>The continued upkeep of the restored Isfield Lock and its adjacent area to provide the passing general public with information on the industrial history, archaeology and importance of the Sussex Ouse Navigation; especially in the 19th Century when its commercial significance was at its height.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	<b>Not applicable.</b>
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	<b>Not applicable.</b>
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	<b>Not applicable.</b>
Other		

## Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<b>Operating income exceeded expense largely due to the sale of redundant assets</b>
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	<b>We hold cash reserves to fund future projects. Due to a shortfall in suitable projects, these reserves continue to be high in comparison with our current expenditure levels. We hold additional reserves in an investment fund to provide us with income for our current expenses. These are derived from life membership subscriptions and a single unrestricted bequest.</b>
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	<b>Cash in the bank = £14,099 Unrestricted Investment's current value = £10,083</b>
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	<b>Not applicable.</b>
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	<b>Not applicable.</b>

Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	<b>1) Lack of alternative worksites meeting SORT's charitable objectives.</b> <b>2) Loss of our skilled but ageing volunteer workforce have caused the Trustees to plan to wind up the Charity in an orderly way.</b>
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#### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<b>SORT is entirely funded from members' subscriptions and donations.</b>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	<b>We invest in a reputable Charity Specific Investment Fund to provide income to fulfil restoration activities.</b>
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	<b>Lack of volunteers.</b>
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>Constitution</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>CIO (Association)</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<b>Not applicable in the year. The current trustees were directors of the trust as a limited company prior to its becoming a CIO.</b> <b>Future trustees will be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Sussex Ouse Restoration Trust
Other name the charity uses	SORT
Registered charity number	1198840
Charity's principal address	c/o 4 The Square, High Street, Leigh, Tonbridge, TN11 8RJ.

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	David Evans	Chair		
2	David Beveridge	Treasurer		
3	Roy Sutton			
4	Brain Newbury		Until 03 Oct 2023	

**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

Director name		
<b>Not applicable.</b>		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
<b>Not applicable.</b>		

**Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others**

Description of the assets held in this capacity	<b>Not applicable.</b>
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

**Additional information (optional)****Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

**Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)**

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

Other optional information

Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees’ report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity’s trustees

Signature(s)	David Evans	David Beveridge
Full name(s)	David Alexander Evans	David R Beveridge
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	02 October 2024	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
Sussex Ouse Restoration Trust

No (if any)  
1198840

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## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/2023	To	Period end date 31/12/2023
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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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	234	-	-	234	120
Subscriptions Received	425	-	-	425	568
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	3,003
Sundry income	2,202	-	-	2,202	321
Bank interest received	98	-	-	98	17
Dividends received	601	1,136	-	1,737	-
Profit/Loss on Investments	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b> (Gross income for AR)	<b>3,560</b>	<b>1,136</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,696</b>	<b>4,029</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>3,560</b>	<b>1,136</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,696</b>	<b>4,029</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Restoration expenses	1,776	-	-	1,776	355
Insurance	630	-	-	630	367
Computer running costs	133	-	-	133	140
Subscriptions	69	-	-	69	54
Accountancy	-	-	-	-	-
Postage and stationery	-	-	-	-	14
Printing	-	-	-	-	-
Event expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	-	13
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>2,608</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,608</b>	<b>943</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
Long Term Fund	-	10,021	-	10,021	-
Restoration Fund	-	10,017	-	10,017	-
Life Members	3,200	-	-	3,200	-
Special Donations	7,395	-	-	7,395	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>10,595</b>	<b>20,038</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>30,633</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>13,203</b>	<b>20,038</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>33,241</b>	<b>943</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>- 9,643</b>	<b>- 18,902</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 28,545</b>	<b>3,086</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>1,136</b>	<b>- 1,136</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>22,606</b>	<b>20,038</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>42,644</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>14,099</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,099</b>	<b>42,464</b>

## 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	Cash at Bank	14,099		-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>14,099</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	M&G Charifund	Long Term Fund	10,021	9,536
	M&G Charifund	Investment Fund	10,017	9,532
	M&G Charifund	Life Members	3,200	3,045
	M&G Charifund	Special Donations	7,395	7,038
		-	-	
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	<b>D Beveridge</b>	David Beveridge	26-Sep-24	
	<b>D Evans</b>	David Evans	26-Sep-24	