



**CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES**

Trustees' Annual Report (including Directors' report) for the period.

From: Period start date - 1st April 2023

to: Period end date - 31st March 2024

Charity name: Friends of Sywell Country Park

Charity registration number: 1200511

Company number: CE030278

Objectives and Activities

Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document.	Para 1.17	The objectives of the charity are twofold; Firstly; for the public benefit, to promote the conservation, protection, and improvement of the physical, natural, and social environment of Sywell Country Park. Secondly; to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation with a view to improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the surrounding area of Sywell Country Park and to advance public education in environmental matters and of ways of better conserving, protecting, and improving the same wheresoever.
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	The purchase of tools and materials that are to be used for recreational development and wildlife habitat improvements at Sywell Country Park.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.	Para 1.18	The trustees are aware of, and have had regard to, the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policy on grant making.	Para 1.38	The Charity does not plan to provide grants on a regular basis and when it is appropriate to do so this will require the unanimous agreement of the Trustees and the specific terms of any such grant to be agreed.
Policy on social investment including program related investment.	Para 1.38	Not applicable
Contribution made by volunteers.	Para 1.38	The charity has supported two thousand three hundred (2300) days of volunteering time at Sywell Country Park in 2023/24, which have been facilitated by the purchase of tools and materials.
Other.		

Achievements and Performance

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	○ The Friends of Sywell Country Park charity raised approximately £24,000 to pay for improvements to the visitor facilities and wildlife habitats. ○ We collected thousands of wildflower seeds from our meadows and woodlands and planted them throughout the park. ○ We planted 1100 new trees in the park. ○ We created a new wildflower meadow and a bank below the dam with help from Northants Butterfly Conservation charity. ○ We split and transplanted hundreds of snowdrops below the dam. ○ We doubled the size of the environmental education area. ○ We created a living willow wall in Spindle End wildlife refuge. ○ We replaced the broken sand digger in the Filter Bed play area. ○ We replaced the rotten sand pit in the Waterworks play area. ○ We rebuilt the raised herb bed in the Waterworks play area. ○ We installed a worm themed balance beam in Brock Wood. ○ We replaced 80% of the rotten squirrel run in Brock Wood. ○ We installed a fox and hare themed bench in Brock Wood. ○ We mulched more than 5000 trees to help them grow. ○ We put up a series of seasonal wildlife information posters. ○ We designed and installed a hedgerow information board. ○ We completed our planned woodland coppicing and thinning. ○ We constructed 10 log pile hibernacula around the park boundary. ○ We financed the construction of a new Tern raft.
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		○ We received an Avant multipurpose vehicle procured through Northants County Council.
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Additional Information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set.	Para 1.41	2023/24 was the first full year of operation of the Charity and whilst no specific objectives were the Trustees were very satisfied with the achievements
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set.	Para 1.41	2023/24 was the first full year of operation of the Charity and whilst no specific fundraising objectives were set the corporate donations exceeded expectations
Investment performance against objectives.	Para 1.41	Not applicable
Other.		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The charity had a starting fund of £5,080 which was provided by the previous friends of the park group which didn't have charitable status. At the end of the first full operating year (01/04/2023 > 31/03/24) the balance of funds had increased to £6,657
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held.	Para 1.22	Since the charity doesn't employ personnel or rent or own buildings, our ongoing liabilities are small, hence we hold a notional reserve of £2000 but these funds are not restricted and could be made available should the trustees deem it necessary.
Amount of reserves held.	Para 1.22	The full amount is £6,657
Reasons for holding zero reserves.	Para 1.22	Not applicable
Details of fund materially in deficit.	Para 1.24	Not applicable
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern.	Para 1.23	Not applicable

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	Most of the sources of funds are from corporate and public donations.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted.	Para 1.46	The charity makes no investments.
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	The charity can be described as low risk. It has no employees, it does not make investments. Expenditure is only made contingent on funding being available.
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document: for example, trust deed, memorandum, and articles of association, etc,	Para 1.25	A formal document based on the Foundation Model.
How is the charity constituted? For example, limited company, unincorporated association, CIO, etc.	Para 1.25	Charitable Incorporated Organisation and only voting members are its charity trustees.
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	Trustees are selected by invitation by a majority vote of the current trustees.

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	We have developed a set of RULES covering tasks and behaviours for all trustees which will be used for the induction of new trustees
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works.	Para 1.51	The Charity comprises a Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and 3 other personnel, two of which are Park Rangers
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Not applicable
Other		Not applicable

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name	Friends of Sywell Country Park
Other name the charity uses	Not applicable
Registered charity number	1200511
Charity's principal address	C/O Sywell Country Park, Washbrook Lane, Ecton, Northampton. NN6 0QX

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	Dave Sharrock	Chairperson		
2	Mike Gerrard	Treasurer		
3	Glenn Mallard	Joint secretary		
4	Anita Mallard	Joint secretary		
5	Geoff Simons	Park Ranger		
6	Rachel Axford	Park Ranger		

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

Director name	
Not applicable	

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year
Not applicable	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others.

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

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

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Other optional information

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Declarations

The company has taken advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the report above.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report (including directors' report) above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees/directors

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	MICHAEL GERRARD	
Position (for example Secretary, Chair, etc)	TREASURER.	
Date	18/10/24	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Friends of Sywell Country Park (FSCP)
Company number CE030278

Charity No
1200511

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Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/04/2023	To	Period end date 31/03/2024
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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					
Sales	4,138	-	-	4,138	-
Corporate Donation	19,600	-	-	19,600	5,080
General Public Donation	180	-	-	180	-
Interest	13	-	-	13	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	23,931	-	-	23,931	5,080
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	23,931	-	-	23,931	5,080
A3 Payments					
Purchase of materials and small tools	21,253	-	-	21,253	-
Refreshments for Volunteers	537	-	-	537	-
Insurance	288	-	-	288	276
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	22,078	-	-	22,078	276
A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	22,078	-	-	22,078	276
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,853	-	-	1,853	4,804
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	4,804	-	-	4,804	-
Cash funds this year end	6,657	-	-	6,657	4,804

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	Business current account	4,144	-	-
	Reserve account	2,513	-	-
			-	-
	Total cash funds	6,657	-	-
	(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 £
	None	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	None		-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
	None		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

NOTES

1. Cash / Last year

General Public donation figure in 2023 includes the £5,080 transferred from the Sywell Country Park friends. This now disbanded group did not have charitable status.

2. Accounting standards

In the interests of consistency the Charities receipts and payments accounts are prepared using the Free Agent accounting package provided as part of the Charities banking arrangement with Natwest

3. Sales

Amounts included in Sales include sales of scrap metal arising from Sywell Park activity and sales of firewood arising from Sywell Park activity and each gifted to the charity . No charity assets have been disposed of during the year.

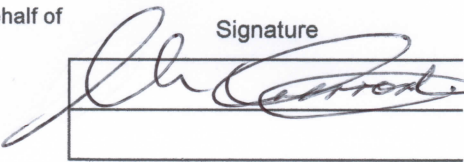
4. Assets

The charity has not aquired any assets during the year. All purchases of materials and small tools (individual value < £500) have been transferred / gifted to Sywell Country Park.

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None

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	MICHAEL GERRARD	18/10/24