

ROTHERFIELD MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST CIO ANNUAL REPORT PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 2024

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1208064

Formation

Rotherfield Millennium Green Trust CIO ("RMGTCIO") was registered with the Charity Commission on 30th April 2024. It was established to take over the assets and operations of the Rotherfield Millennium Green Trust ("RMGT") which was approved by the Charity Commission on 3rd September 2024.

Aims

To preserve and enhance the Green in perpetuity, for the benefit of people and nature, and to engage with our community to encourage their use and understanding of the Green.

Objectives

- To provide the parish of Rotherfield and its visitors with a safe and accessible amenity area for quiet and informal recreation, exercise and activities consistent with the shared enjoyment of the whole land
- To encourage the local community and schools to use the Green as an educational resource which has historical, ecological and countryside management interest
- To maintain and enhance the wildlife interest and landscape value of the Green, consistent with the character and ecology of the High Weald

The Green.

The Millennium Green directly adjoins the village and consists of 13 acres of sloping meadow, copse and willow carr with a spring, stream and pond. Divided into 6 fields each with their own character, the unspoilt rural quality of the whole is sustained by a summer cattle grazing rotation.

There is also an orchard of heritage apple varieties. .

Access is by surfaced paths from the High Street, Station Road, the top of New Road. and additionally by an unmade permissive path from the bottom end of New Road.

Internal access is by a mix of made and unmade paths, timber bridges and boardwalks.

Benches are sited to allow enjoyment of the views

Activities on the Green

The Green is used by walkers with and without dogs from early morning to late evening every day of the year. The forest school enclosure is used by Rotherfield primary school Wednesday afternoons in term time. The Rotherfield and Mark Cross bonfire society hold their Summer fair on the Green

Apples and blackberries are picked by walkers in season. The unreachable apples are then picked and sent for juicing locally, the profit going into Green funds. 2024 was the second year of juice production.

The Green is maintained by a team of over 30 volunteers at the monthly work party, additional maintenance such as hedge cutting and board walk maintenance being undertaken by Trustees.

Keeping a look out for any day to day problems is our team of 7 wardens, with additionally a scheduled Trustee walk around the Green before each of our 6 meetings per year.

26 bird boxes are maintained and monitored.

2 benches were replaced in the year.

A colour newsletter "Greenpiece" is produced twice a year.

The most significant non routine work undertaken in 2024 involved tree surgery to deal with extensive ash die back, and to fell 3 very large Western Red Cedars which were crowding out the 9 Black Poplars sourced from Wakehurst Place and planted at the time of the Green's creation.

We have recycled some of the timber for fencing.

It is a fundamental principle of our management that apart from such specialist tasks all the routine care of the Green is undertaken by the local community for reasons of both cost and engagement.

In order to maintain the Green we have an on-site secure store for equipment including a small tractor

The Friends of the Green

Just over 100 households donate annually to be registered as "Friends" of the Green.

They each receive a copy of Greenpiece.

The following accounts have been examined and approved by an independent accountant and were approved by the trustees at the AGM on 10th July 2025

ROTHERFIELD MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST CIO					
Registered Charity No. 1208064					
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS					
Period ended : 31st December 2024 (Note 1)					
 NOTE: These are the merged accounts for the former charity, Rotherfield Millennium Green Trust ("RMGT", Charity Comm no.1072267) and the new entity Rotherfield Millennium Green Trust CIO ("RMGTCIO", Charity Comm no. 1208064) which has replaced RMGT					
	Notes	RMGTCIO 2024	RMGT 2024	COMBINED 2024	RMGT 2023
Receipts					
Subscriptions	2	845	3,061	3,906	4,097
Donations	3,7	185	364	549	1,946
Grants		-	500	500	500
Giftaid for prior year		-	781	781	665
Bank interest		64	206	270	137
Other	4	250	-	250	-
Total Receipts		1,344	4,912	6,256	7,345
Payments					
New equipment		-	1,636	1,636	50
Equipment maintenance	5	313	-	313	126
Maintenance of Green	6	358	1,484	1,842	592
Forest School project	7	-	-	-	1,742
Insurance expense		-	714	714	560
Printing & reproduction	8	265	67	332	509
Hire of village hall		50	153	203	187
Dog-related expenses	9	500	70	570	508
Bank charges		20	-	20	-
Postage		28	-	28	-
Other	10	-	189	189	136
Total Payments		1,534	4,313	5,847	4,410
Excess of payments over receipts for the period		(190)	599	409	2,935
Balance brought forward		-	15,938	15,938	13,003
Funds Transferred from RMGT to RMGTCIO		16,537	(16,537)	0	-
Balance carried forward		16,347	-	16,347	15,938
Current Assets:					
Bank Current Acct		576	-	576	525
Bank Deposit Acct		15,771	-	15,771	15,393
Petty cash		-	-	-	20
		16,347	-	16,347	15,938
Represented by:					
Capital reserve		-	-	-	7,000
Maintenance and improvements fund		16,347	-	16,347	8,938
		16,347	-	16,347	15,938

Rotherfield Millennium Green Trust CIO

Income and Expenditure

Category	2024 (£)	2023 (£)
Income	4,400	5,800
Expenditure	7,300	6,200

NOTES TO ACCOUNTS

Note 1 On 30th April, The Rotherfield Millennium Green Trust CIO (Charity Commission No.1208064) was registered by the Charity Commission to replace the entire operations of the RMGT (charity commission no. 1072267). Approval was received from the Charity Commission on 3rd September 2024 to transfer the RMGT's assets and undertaking into the CIO.

				RMGT CIO	RMGT	Combined	RMGT
				2024	2024	2024	2023
Note 2	Number of "Friends" of the Trust:			33	120	153	153
	Average subscription per Friend:			£25.61	£25.50	£25.53	£26.78
Note 3	Donations were received from:						
	Cawley			100	-	100	-
	Edwards			50	-	50	-
	Various relating to Forest School project			-	-	0	1,242
	Other			35	364	399	704
				185	364	549	1,946
Note 4	Other Income:						
	Apple juice sales (50 @ £3.50)			175	-	175	-
	Cake sales			75	-	75	-
				250	-	250	-
Note 5	Equipment maintenance						
	Hedge trimmer repair			283	-	283	-
	Tractor puncture repair			30	-	30	-
	Other			-	-	0	126
				313	-	313	126
Note 6	Maintenance of Green (major items):						
	Tree works			960	1,440	2,400	-
	Refund for tree works paid by RMGT (McCall)			(660)	-	(660)	-
	Other			58	44	102	592
				358	1,484	1,842	592
Note 7	Forest School project:						
	Income:	Donations (Note 3)		-	-	-	1,242
		Grant		-	-	-	500
	Expenses:	Roofing, timber etc		-	-	-	(1,742)
	Net cost to RMGT			-	-	-	-
Note 8	Printing & reproduction						
	Letters and forms for launch of QO			251	0	251	-
	Newsletter			0	67	67	-
	Envelopes			14	0	14	-
	Other			0	0	0	509
				265	67	332	509
Note 9	Dog related expenses						
	Annual supply of bags			464	0	464	407
	Bin emptying			36	70	106	101
				500	70	570	508
Note 10	Other expenses						
	Apple juicing & labels			0	189	189	-
	Website expense			0	0	0	86
	Other			0	0	0	50
				0	189	189	136

Management Committee meetings and actions.

The Trustees meet every other month.

The single most important and time consuming Trustee task in 2024 was progressing our transition to a CIO.

This was finally effected on 3rd September 2024. Registration of the CIO Title to the Green was still pending at year end.

The Trustees also decided to change the CIO bankers. A letter explaining the Trusts change of legal structure and Banker was sent to Friends and with the Rotherfield Parish News to 1300 local households.

A working group produced a draft 5 year Green management plan.

The AGM was held **July** in Rotherfield Village Hall. The guest speaker was Alan Loweth from the RSPB.

2 of the original benches were replaced with ones manufactured from recycled plastic

The Trustees and Officer details for the year

TRUSTEES

BRUNO BOHANE,ANDREW FERMOR,STEPHEN HALL (chair),SIMON KIPPING,CAROL KNATT,CHRISTOPHER KNATT, NORMA TIMMERMAN, PAUL TURNER, MICHAEL WHITE

ROGER BILLINGHAM resigned **as a** Trustee in September 2024

OFFICERS

Secretary JOHN RICHARDSON

Treasurer PHIL ROWCLIFFE

DECLARATION

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

SIGNATURE

FULL NAME Stephen Hall

POSITION Chair

DATE 18th September 2025