

THE CAMPDEN SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT

AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR OF 13 MONTHS ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

THE CAMPDEN SOCIETY

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR OF 13 MONTHS ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

GENERAL INFORMATION

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Elizabeth Devas	Chair	Re-elected	27th April 2023
Julianne Davis	Deputy Chair		
Vanessa Rigg	Secretary		
Geoffrey White	Treasurer		
Loyd Grossman CBE		Re-elected	27th April 2023
Norman Knight		Resigned	27th April 2023
Alex O'Donnell		Elected	27th April 2023
Sue Pritchard		Elected	27th April 2023
David Roberts			

ADDRESS OF CHARITY

The Old Police Station
High Street
Chipping Campden
Gloucestershire GL55 6HB

CHARITY NUMBER

261665

BANKERS

Lloyds Bank plc
19 High Street
Evesham
Worcestershire
WR11 4DQ

THE CAMPDEN SOCIETY
COMMITTEE'S REPORT
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR OF 13 MONTHS ENDED 31 JANUARY 2024

The Committee is pleased to provide this report and the accounts of the Society for the financial year which commenced 1 January 2023 and ended 31 January 2024.

The Society is an unincorporated association formed pursuant to a Constitution which was most recently amended and restated on 27 April 2023. A copy of the Constitution is posted to the Society's website; www.thecampdensociety.org.

The Society is established for the public benefit for the following purposes: -

1. To secure the protection of the architectural and historic quality of Campden, its open spaces and its natural setting.
2. To promote high standards of planning, architecture and landscaping in Campden.
3. To stimulate interest in and concern for the character and beauty of Campden.
4. To promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment within Campden, including by, but without limitation, promoting energy efficiency, the reduction of carbon emissions by householders and businesses and the promotion of terrestrial biodiversity within Campden.
5. To preserve and conserve for the public benefit the whole of Wolds End Orchard as a traditional orchard and the education of the public in its history and traditions.
6. To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by making the Wolds End Orchard accessible for residents and visitors to Chipping Campden to visit and holding educational events.

'Campden' means the town of Chipping Campden, the village of Broad Campden and their surrounding areas.

As the Society is a registered charity, the members of the Committee are considered to be the Society's charity trustees for the purposes of the Charities Act 2011. Pursuant to such Act, the Committee is required to prepare an annual report and accounts of the Society. As the Society is an unincorporated association with an annual turnover which does not exceed £250,000, the Charities Act allows the Society's accounts to be prepared on a receipts and payments basis consisting of an account summarising all money received and paid out by the Society in the financial year and a statement giving details of its assets and liabilities at the end of the financial year. Such an account and a statement for the financial year which commenced 1 January 2023 and ended 31 January 2024 (together with comparative figures for the financial year which commenced 1 January 2022 and ended 31 December 2022) will be found later in this document.

The Committee's agreed reserves policy is to maintain free reserves in unrestricted funds sufficient to ensure that the Society is able to respond expeditiously to any ad hoc requirement for funding of a grant, the funding of any other expense to be made or incurred in pursuance of the Society's objects or the funding of any unexpected expense arising in relation to WEO. As of December 2023, the Committee's view was that £10,000 is the minimum sum needed to observe such policy.

Elizabeth Devais
Chair
9 April 2024

Geoffrey White
Treasurer
9 April 2024

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RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

	12 Months ended 31 December 2022		13 Months ended 31 January 2024	
	£	£	£	£
Incoming Resources				
Member subscriptions		1,575		2,125
Donations		678		66,324
Grants Received		4,415		-
Apple Juice Sales		732		1,005
Honey Sales		-		69
Fees				75
Interest				15
Total		<u>7,400</u>		<u>69,613</u>
Resources Expended				
Insurance	-	328	-	364
Admin and meetings costs	-	1,034	-	652
WEO running costs	-	5,268	-	2,059
Gifts	-	50	-	50
Total	-	<u>6,680</u>	-	<u>3,125</u>
Surplus for Period		<u><u>720</u></u>		<u><u>66,488</u></u>

Note : donations received in the period include £60,954 of COIF investments and £5,000 cash transferred from Campden Conservation Trust Fund

THE CAMPDEN SOCIETY

BALANCE SHEET

	31 December 2022		31 January 2024	
	£	£	£	£
Land & Property at valuation Note 1		115,000		115,000
Current Assets:				
Treasurers account	7,523		8,597	
WECO account	1,689		1,146	
CCTF Account	-		5,003	
Total bank balances		9,212		14,746
COIF Charities Investment Fund Units				62,255
Total Assets		<u>124,212</u>		<u>192,001</u>
Represented by				
Accumulated Fund:				
At start of period		123,492		124,212
Surplus for period		720		66,488
Unrealised gain on COIF Charities Investment Fund Units				1,301
		<u>124,212</u>		<u>192,001</u>

Note 1

The land and property comprises Wolds End Orchard which was purchased by the Society for the sum of £50,000 in June 2007.
Wolds End Orchard was valued in August 2020 by Messrs Sheldon, Bosley Knight on an existing use basis, subject to the existing restrictive covenants, at £115,000.

THE CAMPDEN SOCIETY

Statement of Activities for the 13 month financial year ended 31 January 2024

During the financial year we were kept busy by various ongoing issues in the town, by our business-as-usual activities, by the matters that we have identified as being of importance and by the projects that come up without warning.

Activities.

- Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) As most of you know, Committee Member David Roberts is on the Town Council's Working Party for developing this important piece of planning guidance and a wider team of Members was involved in developing the Local Green Spaces proposals. Earlier this month we provided you with a commentary and prompts for your own responses. The consultation period lasts until 22 May and we will add the Society's own observations shortly.
- We have also recently commented on the CDC partial update of the Local Plan and we will be sending in our thoughts on the draft Chipping Campden Design Guide. We also gathered, and are continuing to gather, views from local architects, including myself, to develop a response to the draft Cotswold Design Guide.
- Over the financial year, we reviewed and commented on key planning applications including the development of Lloyds Bank in the High Street and the tree management on the Cley. We also supported residents at Olympick Drive over problems with the flood management on the Leasows; and the poor standard of finish of the landscaping. With our Committee Member Sue Pritchard as Lead, we monitored and reviewed the Planning Applications that came before the Town Council and where appropriate make representations to the Town Council Planning Committee and the Cotswold District Council and will be continuing to make such efforts. We have also conducted a survey of Litter Bin design which we hope will provide guidance on future purchasing.
- Julianne Davis will give an update on the developments of maintaining and enhancing Wolds End Orchard in a moment. I would like to give special thanks to Julianne, who is stepping down from the Society's Committee and the Orchard Sub-Committee, for the extraordinary time and effort Julianne has put into the Society's affairs and in particular Wolds End Orchard.
- We are looking at ways to further protect and increase the biodiversity of the town and Sue has volunteered to be on the Town Council's Climate Emergency Committee. We will be putting our thoughts to the Town Council about what the CEC should focus on with regards to the issues we think are most pertinent to Chipping Campden.
- Vanessa Rigg along with a small team commenced a project centred around on the Cam which, among other things, is planning to set up the regular testing the water quality of this important feature of our town.
- Towards the end of the financial year, in anticipation of the winding-up of the affairs of The Campden Conservation Trust Fund, the Fund's trustees arranged for the Fund's cash at bank and investments to be transferred to the Society. We are most grateful to the trustees for their support. The Committee's intention is to use such funds to finance conservation and other projects which will promote any of the first four of the Society's objects (that is, its objects other than those related to Wolds

THE CAMPDEN SOCIETY

End Orchard). We would like to thank Alex O'Donnell for joining the Committee from CCTF for a year and the valuable advice she has provided.

- We are committed to keeping our members updated about our work and activities relating to the Town and we have done this on a monthly basis by means of our newsletter, and we keep the town informed through the Campden Bulletin with a condensed update.

What will be happening this year?

- We will continue to monitor the progression of the Aston Road development, press for design excellence in the proposals and monitor how this project will impact the Town. We are currently looking at models that can 'bake in' good design and urban planning to the process of the land sale.
- We will continue to support Chipping Campden School in their development of the new town car park which will be created out of the existing car park at the front of the school.
- We will continue to support the residents of the Olympick Drive development in in whatever way we can.
- We will continue to monitor any developments at the Town Council regarding the future of the Craves.
- We will be looking at ways to improve the overall sustainability of the town and to promote zero carbon measures for the town.
- We will be making a call for volunteers for both the Orchard and the Cam Project.

Elizabeth Devas
Chair

9 April 2024

THE CAMPDEN SOCIETY

Treasurer's Report for the financial year ended 31 January 2024

I am pleased to be able to present this report in relation to the Society's accounts for the most recently completed financial year.

Such financial year covers the 13 calendar month period which ended on 31 January 2024. At the commencement of such financial year on 1 January 2023 the expectation had been that, as has been the case since the Society was formed, the financial year would match the calendar year which ended on the next succeeding 31 December. However, for the following reason, the Committee resolved to extend the financial year so as to end on 31 January 2024 and duly notified the Charity Commission of such change.

During the annual general meeting held in April 2023, Sally Lindner, the chair of trustees of the Society's affiliated charity The Campden Conservation Trust Fund ("CCTF") announced that the CCTF trustees had resolved that CCTF would be dissolved and all of its remaining property held as of the time of dissolution (being, in the event, a bank cash holding and a holding of investment units managed by CCLA Investment Management ("CCLA")) would be transferred to the Society. It had been hoped that such process would be completed by 31 December 2023 however, although the cash holding was transferred to the Society in December, CCLA did not complete the change of registered ownership of the investment units until 3 January 2024. In the circumstances, the Committee thought it was desirable that it extend the Society's financial year until 31 January so that the Society's accounts to be presented to members at the 2024 annual general meeting reflected the receipt of both CCTF's cash holding and its investments.

An additional consequence of such extension was that, as CCTF was dissolved prior to 31 January 2024, there was no obligation for the Society to produce combined Society/CCTF accounts (in addition to the Society's accounts) for the financial year ended on such date.

The Committee has further resolved that the financial year which commenced on 1 February will end on 31 December and that thereafter the Society will revert to calendar year financial years.

As can be seen from the following receipts and payments statement, excluding the donations represented by the CCTF funds, the Society made a surplus of £534 for the financial year ended 31 January 2024 (as compared with £720 for the financial year ended 31 December 2022).

The Society did not receive any grant proceeds for use in funding orchard related expenses during the most recent financial year (as compared with £4,415 during the 2022 financial year) but orchard related expenses were significantly lower at £2,030 (compared with £5,268). All such orchard related expenses were funded by (1) the proceeds of grants received during 2022, (2) the proceeds of sales of apple juice and (3) donations received for the specific purpose of funding the orchard. I should note it was agreed with the CCTF Trustees that the CCTF cash and investments which were transferred to the Society will not be used to fund orchard related expenses. It is for this reason that the Society opened a separate bank account, the CCTF Account, to which the CCTF transferred cash was credited.

I am most grateful to Mark Kirkbride for having kindly again acted as the Society's independent examiner and the efficient and timely manner in which he performed such role.

Geoffrey White

9 April 2024



Annual Report 2023

Projects, events, workshops, harvesting and Saturday morning work-parties continued throughout 2023. We would like to thank each and every one who has stayed involved with the orchard, for their time, good humour and hard work.

WEO's membership of Gloucestershire Orchard Trust provided free **tree pruning workshops** during the summer for younger fruit trees and winter sessions for the veteran trees. We are most grateful to the Trust and Martin Hayes for their support and advice throughout the year. In addition, a **scything workshop** was organised and well attended, and a grant from Caring for Cotswolds/Cotswold National Landscape was applied for and awarded in 2023 to cover part of the cost aerial pruning of the tall, ancient trees, is being paid this year following the recent completion of the work.

Tree identification work continued with five samples sent for DNA testing along with the collating of electronic records and development of a tree database. Visual identification sessions were undertaken during a visit from the Orchard specialist of the People Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Results of the DNA tests are awaited and the plan is to undertake another dozen DNA tests in 2024, using funding from part of a £1,000 grant awarded in 2023 (for payment in 2024 upon completion of activities) by the Finnis Scott Foundation.

The apple harvest in autumn 2023 was less bountiful than 2022 - this was a trend throughout the UK and likely due to late frosts in April affecting blossom and pollination. Orcharders picked fruit in September and 24 dozen bottles of Wolds End Orchard Apple Juice were produced and are on sale to raise funds for orchard maintenance.

The Wildflower Bank supported by Cotswold National Landscape and the Glorious Grasslands Team delivered a magnificent display of Yellow Rattle flowers thanks to the preparation and seeding in 2022. A number of other species of wild flower have also been introduced - some of which were unfortunately also tasty pickings for the orchard's rabbit population.

2023 also saw the arrival of **honey bees** courtesy of Society Member, Andy Parker. Two hives have been set up in the far corner of the site behind a deadwood hedge with another to follow. A portion of each sale of honey from these hives goes towards upkeep of the Orchard.

Events during the year included the annual **Wassail** in January, supported by the Magnificent Campden Wassailers and The Sealed Knot Muscateers was attended by around 80 people. In March **local Brownies came to plant** our small tree orchard. **Blossom Weekend** in April was wet but popular; and for the second year in succession the orchard opened for **Campden Open Gardens** in June, focussing on summer wildflower treasures. We partnered with the **Court Barn Museum** on their **Great Escape Art Fund project** to welcome over 100 primary school children into the orchard over three visits, to learn about biodiversity and the importance of nature. The **Orchard Art Group** continued on the last Friday afternoons of the month and a community art project resulted in a magnificent new logo for the orchard, complete with apples and pears drawn, painted and collaged. New signage was designed for events and made up by Men in Sheds, helping to minimise the use of plastic in the orchard. Over 180 people enjoyed **Apple Day** in October which was expanded and hosted in conjunction with neighbour Jecca's House – and renamed **AppleFest**. Activities included the popular Apple Identification table led by Steve Oram from PTES; food and drink stalls; live music and the Shakespeare Mummers' amusing Apple Play.

The number of hours' work began to be logged during the year and from September to the end of December over 300 hours were recorded. Our thanks to everyone who has helped, from those undertaking the administration to those who climbed ladders, weeded, pruned, planted, wielded brush cutters or greeted visitors to the open days and events.

Grants and donations underpin all our projects in the orchard. We wish to thank all those individuals and organisations who have been supportive of our work including the **Cotswold Warden team** who kindly provided and installed a new gate between the orchard and Jecca's House.

During the year **Orchard Sub-Committee** members Donna Evans and Chris Leese resigned due to workloads and other commitments. We would like to formally thank them for their expertise and hard work during the last three years. The team was boosted during the year by co-opting Steven Law and Owen O'Connell. The Sub-Committee undertakes not only work in the orchard with other Orchardeers, but also administration, record keeping, fundraising, publicity and organisation of workshops and events. We are very keen to encourage one or two more people to join the Sub-Committee in order to continue the excellent work and achievements made to date.

If there is one message we would like Members to take away from this year's report is that we still need enthusiastic volunteers to help keep the orchard maintained, safe and open for the community.

We look forward to continuing our work and to welcoming as many of you as possible to join us at the 2024 events or helping out during the year.

Julianne Davis.

Chair

Wolds End Orchard Sub-Committee

Geoff Carr; John Ellis; Steven Law; Mike Newman; Owen O'Connell; Susie Tombs; Geoffrey White.

9 April 2024



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name
The Campden Society

**On accounts for the 13
month period ended**

31st January 2024

**Charity no
(if any)** 261665

Set out in

the 'Receipts and Payments' account showing a net surplus for the period of £66,488 and 'Balance Sheet' showing total assets of £192,001,

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the period ended **31 January 2024**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**Independent
examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date: 25/03/2024

Name:

Mark Kirkbride

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):**

Fellow Institute of Chartered Accountants

Address:

Greenbanks

Hoo Lane

Chipping Campden, GL55 6AZ

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of
any items that the
examiner wishes to
disclose.

None