

THE FRIENDS OF UPTON COUNTRY PARK

England & Wales · Charity number 272450

Details

Other names	THE FRIENDS OF UPTON COUNTY PARK
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1976-12-08
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address 23 Godmanston Close
Poole
Dorset
BH17 8BT

Phone 07853 190622

Website www.uptoncountrypark.org

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE EDUCATIONAL AND PHYSICAL RECREATIONAL ASPECTS OF THE UPTON COUNTRY PARK AREA (WHICH, FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS CONSTITUTION, SHALL BE DEEMED TO INCLUDE UPTON HOUSE AND ITS ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS) AND TO IMPROVE THE AREA AND THE FACILITIES AND AMENITIES WITHIN IT FOR SO LONG AS, IN THE OPINION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE THAT AREA SHALL BE MAINTAINED AS A COUNTRY PARK AND AS A PLACE OF ARCHITECTURAL AND NATURAL BEAUTY.

Activities: To promote the educational and physical recreation aspects of Upton Country Park area (which includes Upton House) and to improve the area and facilities and amenities within it for so long as, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, that area shall be maintained as a Country Park and as a place of architectural and natural beauty.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations, Provides Human Resources
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities

Geography

- Area of benefit: POOLE
- Poole

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£31,397	£18,686	-	-
2023-12-31	£29,349	£28,964	-	-
2022-12-31	£24,515	£34,984	-	-
2021-12-31	£17,655	£81,707	-	-
2020-12-31	£2,763	£52,088	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Caroline Leppan		2019-04-08
Diana Butler		2023-05-15
Kathy Dinmore		2014-04-07
Lindsey Mumford		2023-05-15
MARY CARR		
MR MIKE YEOMANS		
Maggie Wood		2019-04-08
Nick Woods		2020-08-12
Robert Griffin		2024-06-01

THE FRIENDS OF UPTON COUNTRY PARK

England & Wales - Charity number 272450

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

	Period start date				Period end date		
From	01	01	2024	To	31	12	2024

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name

The Friends of Upton Country Park

Other names charity is known by

FUCP

Registered charity number (if any)

272450

Charity's principal address

Upton Country Park

Poole

Dorset

Postcode

BH17 7BJ

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	Mr M. Yeomans	President		
2	Vacant	Chair		
3	Mrs L. Mumford	Treasurer		
4	Ms K. Dinmore	Secretary		
5	Mrs D. Butler	Publicity Officer		
6	Mrs M. Carr			
7	Mr R. Griffin		12/06/24 to 31/12/24	
8	Mrs C. Hall			
9	Mrs C. Leppan			
10	Mrs M. Wood			
11	Mr N. Woods			
	Additional Executive Committee Members - Non Trustee			
	Mrs B. Baggs	Membership Secretary		
	Group Nominated Representatives - Non Trustee			
	Mr P. Wemyss	Creekmoor Community Association		
	Mr J. Biggs	Poole and East Dorset Art Society		
	Mrs S. Preston	Lytchett Minster and Upton Floral Club		

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Bankers	Barclays Bank plc	
Insurers	Markel International Insurance Company Limited	20 Fenchurch Street, London. EC3M 3AZ
Independent Examiner	Mr Sau Kee Li CTA ATT	87 North Road, Poole, Dorset. BH14 0LT

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

--

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution Adopted 29 th March 1999 Amended: 4 th April 2005, 3 rd April 2006, 8 th April 2013, 30 th March 2015, 20 th June 2022
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Independent Association of Members
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Elected and nominated from the membership annually and approved at the AGM. Co-opted during year by Executive Committee if required.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

<p>You may choose to include additional information, where relevant, about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees; • the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works; • relationship with any related parties; • trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them. 	<p>Membership of the Charity is open to individuals and organisations interested in Upton Country Park and Upton House.</p> <p>The FUCP activities are managed through an Executive Committee.</p> <p>The Executive Committee met on 3 occasions during the year. (owing to the vacancy of the Chair position, the President has acted as Chair and will do so until a new Chair has been elected)</p> <p>All members of the Executive Committee give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefits.</p>
--	---

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To promote the educational and physical recreational aspects of Upton Country Park.

To improve the area and facilities and amenities within it.

- Liaison with BCP council, regarding refurbishments, improvements and upgrades in the Park and House.
- Raise, or assist in raising of funds for Upton Country Park
- Represent collectively all persons and organisations interested in Upton Country Park and to encourage the use of Upton Country Park.
- Operating the Kiosk at the rear of Upton House.
- Providing stewards to enable the public to view parts of Upton House and generate not only local interest, but also the interest from holiday visitors.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

In all these activities, the Trustees have given consideration to the Charity Commission guidelines on public benefit. These main activities have contributed finances and support to enhance the facilities within Upton Country Park. The final element of the Welcome Centre project was completed in 2024 with opening of a new volunteer area.

Volunteers interface with the Public whilst undertaking their roles, providing invaluable help and information about Upton Country Park.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Volunteers have been instrumental in fund raising and ensuring that visitors have been kept informed about Upton Country Park and FUCP.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

FUCP and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council (BCP) have met during the year to cooperate on fundraising schemes in support of enhancements to the Park and House.

In 2023 FUCP successfully obtained a grant of £780 from the International Tree Foundation, for some hedgerow trees. This grant was used in 2024 purchasing 700 Whips (one year old trees) to restore the hedge lines.

In 2023 FUCP had agreed to fund £3,500 for the acquisition of some wildlife monitoring and surveillance equipment for use in the Park by our volunteer group. During 2024, £3,004.93 was used to acquire the equipment.

£840 was donated for the Walled Gardens box hedging.

The FUCP Refreshment Kiosk was open by our volunteers on 127 days during the year, between February and December. This generated a sales income of £22,780. This is down approximately 2.5% on previous year. The kiosk also decided to open during the UCP Christmas Fayre in late November/December for two days. This proved to be successful raising over £500.

Upton House was opened to the public by FUCP volunteers on 17 occasions for house tours and sales of books and souvenirs. This generated £1,064 in income, a decrease of 27.5% over last year.

7 new members joined FUCP during the year, and membership as at 31st December 2024 comprised 128 of which 3 are Honorary Members.

As Treasurer, I wish to acknowledge the support and help of the charity's invaluable volunteers and trustees without whom the achievements during this period would not have been possible.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Cash at bank at 31/12/2023 was £84,868 comprising £83,911 in unrestricted funds.

£160,000 was again re-invested in 2 separate interest bearing 1 year bonds. (£80,000 each)

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Summary of Project Funding 2024:-

Projects completed by FUCP:-

Moth Traps & Surveillance to date	£3,005
Walled Gardens Box Hedging	£840.00

Donations to the Borough of Poole for Projects:-

Library & Dining Room Restoration	£3,800
Glass on Cabinet in Dining Room	£190.00

Total £ 7,835

Contingent Liabilities Allocated:-

Moth Traps and Surveillance Equipment	£957
---------------------------------------	------

Total £957

Section F

Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report, prepared by Lindsey Mumford (Treasurer and Trustee 01/01/24 to 31/12/24), above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Mike Yeomans	Lindsey Mumford
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	President	Treasurer and Trustee
Date	30/04/25	30/04/25