

Chairman's Report 2021 – Ric Ellinger

I am pleased to be able to present my 6th Chairman's Report:-

2020/2021 has been dominated by the Covid pandemic, affecting all areas of our life. The Lye Field did not escape the impact. It was in March, just prior to the 2020 year end, when the UK went into the first lockdown. The Irene Usher pavilion had to close and use of the playing fields was severely restricted. No, 2020 Seend Summer Fete was possible.

Over the course of the following year, restrictions were slowly eased and the pavilion could once again be used by playgroup, bouncy & other groups. The playing field was eventually used again by the Seend Utd and Lavis FC teams and the finals of the Chippenham & District League Cups were played on the Seend pitch. Although no Fete was possible, the Fete committee did embark on all sorts of fund raising ventures to compensate for the lost revenue. Liam and his team, raised over £6K for various village organisations with the funds yet to be distributed.

Sadly, due to uncertainty surrounding the easing of lockdown measures, the 2021 Fete was also cancelled but I hope that this wonderful village institution can be resurrected in 2022.

As a consequence, our income stream during the 12 months was heavily impacted. Were it not for Government grants of over £20K, we would have had to once again liquidate some of the Trust's capital stock. I would like to place on record, my thanks to Steve Vaux, our Secretary for all his hard work and effort, securing all the various grants that kept us liquid during 2020 & 2021. Thank you Steve.

While the pandemic has impacted our lives in many different ways, sadly it did not rid us of our Right of Way dispute with Mr MacDonald. Over the course of the last 12 months the Trustees have been working with our solicitors and barristers but we still find ourselves facing court action at some future date. Sadly, the Trust has had to pay out over £46K in legal bills over the course of the last 12 months which has led to us liquidating over £31K of capital assets.

After advice from counsel & with the help of other third parties, we are taking action, which we believe will allow us to beat Mr MacDonald's RoW claim. While this may be good for the village, as this action has been taken late in the claim, we will still incur legal charges. I will keep the Trustees and the Committee updated of events as required and certainly during the Quarterly Meetings

The play area – in it's third year, continues to go from strength to strength and is in frequent use by the village children. Having taken my granddaughter to the area on many occasions, I can personally vouch for how popular the facility is with the kids not just from Seend, but from the surrounding area. Once again, a big thank you to Steve Vaux, John Williams and all the other LOTSW volunteers who maintain the facility and keep it in good order.

I cannot present an annual report without mentioning the Charities Commission and the fact that the Seend Lye Recreation Field is nearly 9 months late with it's annual return. I need to apologise to the other Trustees, the Committee and the independent Auditor for my lack of urgency in getting this matter sorted. I am expecting us to be compliant very shortly and I commit to meet the Charities Commission requirements going forward.

Finally I would like to thank my fellow Trustees, Committee Members and all the many volunteers who have contributed to keeping the Lye Field & pavilion facility operational, for their help & support over the last year. It's been an interesting year and I've no doubt the coming 12 months will be equally challenging.

Seend Lye Recreation Field - 2020/2021
as at 31/03/2021

Income

Hall Hire	3,325.00
Field Hire	447.00
COIF Interest	3,766.73
Dividends	2,291.36
Playground	0.00
Fete	75.00
Marquee Hire	0.00
Investment Redemption	31,075.17
Other	22,056.66

TOTAL	<u><u>63,036.92</u></u>
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Expenditure

Cleaning	1,380.00
Waste Bins	309.36
Legal	46,313.28
Playground	99.00
Water	505.96
Oil	239.56
Electricity	1,562.66
Field Maint	290.00
Pavilion Maint	1,271.85
Insurance	1,577.44
Fete	0.00
Other (Hallmaster)	224.40

TOTAL	<u><u>53,773.51</u></u>
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Opening Bank Balance

Co Op	6,739.87
Income less Expenditure	9,263.41

Closing Bank Balance

16,003.28

Co Op	16,003.28
	<u><u>16,003.28</u></u>
	0.00

Unpresented cheques

Other Income	22,056.66
Wilts CC Grants	20,532.00
Facemasks	280.00
HMRC Gift Aid	424.66
100 Club	820.00



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

**Report to the trustees/
members of**

Charity Name

SEEND LYE RECREATION FIELD

**On accounts for the year
ended**

31st March 2021

**Charity no
(if any)**

305565

Set out on pages

1-3

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended **31/03/2021**.

**Responsibilities and
basis of report**

As the charity's trustees, 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 all 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 in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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

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

Signed:

Date:

10/10/2021

Name:

George William Herbert Clarke

**Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body**

Qualified as ACA (resigned from ICAEW in 2021 after over 40 years membership)

(if any):

Address:

Seend Head House, Row Lane, Melksham, Wilts, SN12 6PP

Section B	Disclosure
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Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.

As disclosed in the Chairman's Report, the Trust is engaged in an ongoing legal dispute about the right of way through the Lye Field to the land behind it. I am not able to judge the relative merits of the legal arguments, nor able to comment on the likely outcome of any proceedings. In a public report posted by the Trust on 24th July 2019 the Chairman stated that "the reserves of the Lye Field, built up by our predecessors over 50+ years, could well be eliminated by this action." It should be noted therefore that there is an existential threat to the long term health of the Trust although it has sufficient funds in the short to medium terms to fight the action.

Seend Lye Recreation Field - 2020/2021
as at 31/03/2021

Summary 1

<u>Income</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>Expenditure</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>
Hall Hire	3,325.00	7,356.25	Cleaning	1,380.00	1,380.00
Field Hire	447.00	1,240.00	Waste Bins	309.36	315.30
COIF Interest	3,766.73	4,127.16	Legal	46,313.28	37,637.46
Dividends	2,291.36	3,366.96	Playground	99.00	3,989.60
Playground	0.00	3,989.60	Water	505.96	595.87
Fete	0.00	11,248.47	Oil	239.56	238.04
Marquee Hire	0.00	65.00	Electricity	1,562.66	1,325.06
Investment Redemption	31,075.17	20,098.13	Field Maint	290.00	1,926.20
Other	22,131.66	840.33	Pavilion Maint	1,271.85	834.62
			Insurance	1,577.44	0.00
			Fete	0.00	7,424.68
			Other (Hallmaster)	224.40	0.00
TOTAL	63,036.92	52,331.90	TOTAL	53,773.51	55,666.83

Opening Bank Balance

Co Op	6,739.87
Income less Expenditure	9,263.41

Closing Bank Balance

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Co Op	16,003.28
	16,003.28
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Unpresented cheques

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100 Club	820.00