

Charity Number 290637

**FLEET POND SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023**

FLEET POND SOCIETY
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

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FLEET POND SOCIETY

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE ACCOUNTS

Report to the Trustees and Members of Fleet Pond Society on the accounts for the year ended 31 January 2023

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

The charity's Trustees do not consider that an Independent Examination of the accounts is required, as its gross income was less than £25,000, as per Charity Commission brochure CC31 and the Charities Act 2009.

It is my responsibility to:

- (1) examine the accounts under Part 8, Sections 145 and 152 of the 2009 Act,
- (2) follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission in their brochure CC32
- (3) state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention :

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Part 8, Sections 145 and 152 of the 2009 Act and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2009 Act have not been met, or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

Date 31 March 2023

Name

John C. Geering

**Relevant professional qualifications
or body (if any)**

Fellow Institute Financial Accountants

Address

11 Glen Road
FLEET, GU51 3QS

FLEET POND SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

The principal address of the charity is 40 Fir Tree Way, Fleet, Hampshire GU52 7NB.

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The following have served on the committee since 1 February 2022 or later date if shown and act as Trustees of the charity and as such, manage the charity on a daily basis :

	Office held	Dates acted if not for the whole year
Jim Storey	Chairman	
John Sutton		resigned 24/2/22
Katharine Higgins	Treasurer	
Jane Pango	Secretary	
Colin Gray		
Nick Keeley		
Terry Austin		
Geoff Dee		resigned 24/2/22
Cathy Holden		
Michelle Salter		
Mandy Saxby		
Carol Dunford		resigned 24/2/22
Wolfgang Hamann		
Terry Dunford		from 24/2/22

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

The charity is governed by the constitution adopted on 5 September 1984, as amended subsequently on 26 February 2005, 23 February 2008, 20 February 2010 and 9 March 2023.

CONSTITUTION

The charity is an unincorporated society.

CHARITY TRUSTEE SELECTION METHODS

Members of the executive committee are elected from the members of the society. Members wishing to join the committee during the year must be co-opted by the existing committee by a majority vote.

All members of the executive committee are required to stand down before each Annual General Meeting and must be nominated for re-election.

FLEET POND SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY

The main charitable objects of the charity are to stimulate public interest and appreciation for Fleet Pond and its surroundings, to promote the preservation and maintenance of Fleet Pond and promote its use as a public amenity and as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and local nature reserve and to encourage the harmonious and sensitive use of Fleet Pond and its surroundings by all users, commensurate with its status as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and local nature reserve.

MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN DURING THE YEAR FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN RELATION TO THESE OBJECTS

The work of the Society was able to get back to a more normal level following the removal of the various Government restrictions on public activities that were in place to tackle the Coronavirus pandemic. The Society has continued the voluntary management activity at Fleet Pond, including habitat management and repair and upgrade of paths and protective fencing. The Island Management team also continued to tackle the scrub growth on the new islands that were created by the dredging a few years back. Care has been taken that maintenance of islands, reedbeds, marshland and heathland does not impede access or obstruct visitors' views. In fact the work has continued to open up new vistas across the open areas to the Pond, attracting positive responses from the public. We commissioned a new group of volunteers to study the moth populations on the reserve. We funded new equipment to do this and very interesting results have been noted and reported to the County Moth Recorder.

We spent a significant amount of funds on purchasing new types of tools and replacements to allow us to be more efficient in our conservation work. We replaced all four tyres on our trailer. We acquired a refurbished laptop for our membership system through the Lions Club of Fleet as well as a replacement projector for the numerous talks we give to the public. We gave a donation towards the cost of these. We were very proud to design and install a new butterfly ID board in the memory of our late President, Peter Martin. This was paid for by donations made in lieu of flowers for his funeral. We pushed forward with getting the permissions/quotations for a new path down a particularly awkward slope to improve accessibility. That is to be built using the bequest of £20,000 from the estate of Patsy Welford and we expect this to be done in early Spring 2023.

Sunday monthly tasks and corporate volunteer groups from local businesses are now under the management of Hart Countryside Services (HCS). The latter have been quite active but the former more limited. So there were limited opportunities for young people to do community work for the Duke of Edinburgh's award or for Venture Scouts to earn conservation badges. However our work with young people has increased greatly with the many educational and work parties we organised for Beavers and Cubs from the Scouting Organisation.

We delivered numerous illustrated talks for groups from neighbouring parishes and community groups. The physical Wildlife Day was not held as HCS priorities were elsewhere. However a local sustainable food shop (Scoop) and HCS organised a Big Green Week event in our local shopping centre and we attended that. The Society has continued to encourage public awareness by various articles in the local press and on social media and has gained a significant number of new members.

FLEET POND SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

We continued the dialogue with Hart Council on the potential impact of the new settlement of 1,500 houses in process of being built on a nearby disused site. The Council had decided to use some of the settlement monies obtained from the developer to completely rebuild the access road to the main reserve car park as well as doing work on the car park itself.

We received a good number of donations this year from activities our public supporters carried out, money in lieu of flowers at funerals of our members as well as Southern Co-ops (they filmed us for their online AGM). The amount of these donations we received totalled roughly £2900.

RESERVES POLICY

It is the policy of the charity to ensure at all times that they have sufficient reserves to meet all expected day to day expenditure for a period of twelve months ahead.

APPROVAL

This report of the Executive Committee was approved by the committee on 14 March 2023 and signed on its behalf by -

Jim Storey (Chairman)

Date of approval 14 March 2023

FLEET POND SOCIETY

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total 2021/22
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Memorial Donations (21/22 P Martin, 22/23 S Wheale)	775	-	775	1,224
Co-op Donations	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
Corporate Grants (21/22 Waitrose)	-	-	-	500
Collection Boxes Cash per HMRC	52	-	52	-
Small Cash Donations per HMRC	142	-	142	135
General Donations	647	-	647	1,636
Subscriptions (incl member donations)	5,152	-	5,152	4,907
Jubilee Stalls	84	-	84	-
Booklet Sales / Promotional Goods	-	-	-	38
AGM Income	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	73
Interest Received	15	-	15	2
HM Revenue & Customs Gift Aid	864	-	864	851
	<u>9,229</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,229</u>	<u>10,865</u>
PAYMENTS				
Fencing	43	-	43	7,370
Patsy Welford Memorial Path	-	-	-	2,940
Butterfly Board (in memory of Peter Martin)	1,062	-	1,062	450
Tractor Costs	861	-	861	170
Reserve Management	495	-	495	25
Materials & Equipment	2,133	-	2,133	1,741
Workshop Costs (incl build and fit out of new shed)	-	-	-	1,602
Stationery & Postage	290	-	290	104
Newsletter Costs	599	-	599	615
Insurance & TCV Fees	530	-	530	1,179
Training	76	-	76	810
Website Costs	144	-	144	144
Jubilee Stalls	50	-	50	-
AGM Costs	14	-	14	-
Hall Hire	132	-	132	150
Miscellaneous	318	-	318	179
	<u>6,748</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,748</u>	<u>17,479</u>
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	2,481	-	2,481	(6,614)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Surplus brought forward	44,603		44,603	51,218
SURPLUS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>47,085</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,085</u>	<u>44,603</u>

FLEET POND SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 JANUARY 2023

	2022/23			2021/22
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
BANK BALANCES				
Barclays Accounts	32,018	-	32,018	29,551
Barclays Deposit	15,066	-	15,066	15,052
	<u>47,085</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,085</u>	<u>44,603</u>
LIABILITIES	-	-	-	-
NET FUNDS	<u>47,085</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,085</u>	<u>44,603</u>
Represented by:				
ACCUMULATED FUNDS (page 5)	<u>47,085</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>47,085</u>	<u>44,603</u>

Signed by the following on behalf of the Executive Committee :

Jim Storey (Chairman)

Date of approval 14 March 2023