

Charity Number 290637

FLEET POND SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

FLEET POND SOCIETY
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

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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 2025

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

Name

John C. Geering

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

Address

11 Glen Road
FLEET, GU51 3QS

FLEET POND SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

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 2024 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	
Katharine Higgins	Treasurer	
Colin Gray		
Nick Keeley		
Cathy Holden		
Wolfgang Hamann		
Terry Dunford		
Avril Wright		15/03/24
Mike Dodds		15/03/24

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 2025

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 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 did a massive amount of work to remove many 1000s saplings and trees from several of our reedbeds. Our study of the moth populations on the reserve has been completed.

We spent a significant amount of funds on purchasing materials as well as new types of tools and replacements to allow us to be more efficient in our conservation work. We paid for four of our volunteers to have formal training on equipment we use to treat cut saplings with herbicide in our conservation work. We purchased new branded sets of pencils and keyrings to hand out at events we attended. We spent a significant sum on the publishing and distribution of our quarterly newsletter. Our handling of cash continued to be more difficult following our bank branch in Fleet closing.

The number of volunteers who help at our Friday morning conservation sessions has continued to increase significantly and they have delivered an increase in hours worked by 25% in each of the last three years. We estimate the hours they now contribute are valued at over £50,000 per annum. Sunday monthly tasks and corporate volunteer groups from local businesses continue to be very limited under the management of Hart Countryside Services (HCS). So there were minimal 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 again with the many educational and work parties our volunteers organised and ran for Beavers and Cubs from the Scouting Organisation.

We delivered numerous illustrated talks for groups from neighbouring parishes and community groups. The Society has carried out numerous outreach activities and 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.

We received a good number of donations this year from our public supporters as well as Nisa's "Making a Difference Locally" fund from which we recieved nearly £1800. The amount of these donations we received totalled roughly £2500.

FLEET POND SOCIETY

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

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 25 March 2025 and signed on its behalf by -

Jim Storey (Chairman)

Date of approval 25 March 2025

FLEET POND SOCIETY

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2025

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total 2023/24
	£	£	£	£
RECEIPTS				
Memorial Donations (23/24 J Moore)	-	-	-	5,000
Co-op Donations	-	-	-	1,500
Nisa - Making a Difference Locally	1,772	-	1,772	-
Collection Boxes Cash per HMRC	-	-	-	42
Small Cash Donations per HMRC	125	-	125	71
General Donations (incl JustGiving & Hart Lottery)	1,049	-	1,049	636
Subscriptions (incl donations received with subs)	4,800	-	4,800	5,000
Fundraising Stalls (24/25 & 23/24 Mistletoe Sale)	161	-	161	188
Clothing Sales	-	-	-	45
AGM Income	150	-	150	83
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-
Interest Received	400	-	400	181
HM Revenue & Customs Gift Aid	930	-	930	939
	<u>9,387</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,387</u>	<u>13,685</u>
PAYMENTS				
Fencing	-	-	-	756
Pat Welford Memorial Path	-	-	-	16,473
Fundraising Stalls (24/25 & 23/24 Mistletoe Sale)	27	-	27	94
Tractor Costs	417	-	417	200
Reserve Management	788	-	788	375
Materials & Equipment	1,914	-	1,914	1,758
Moth Survey Equipment	-	-	-	866
Stationery & Postage	123	-	123	205
Newsletter Costs	530	-	530	767
Insurance & TCV Fees	319	-	319	614
Training	780	-	780	1,043
Website Costs	232	-	232	830
Promotional Goods	956	-	956	394
AGM Costs	43	-	43	152
Hall Hire	72	-	72	144
Miscellaneous	448	-	448	278
	<u>6,649</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,649</u>	<u>24,947</u>
NET SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	2,738	-	2,738	(11,262)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Surplus brought forward	35,822		35,822	47,085
SURPLUS CARRIED FORWARD	38,560	-	38,560	35,822

FLEET POND SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 JANUARY 2025

	2024/25			2023/24
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
BANK BALANCES				
Barclays Accounts	8,141	-	8,141	10,575
Barclays Deposit	30,419	-	30,419	25,247
	<u>38,560</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,560</u>	<u>35,822</u>
LIABILITIES	-	-	-	-
NET FUNDS	<u>38,560</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,560</u>	<u>35,822</u>
 Represented by:				
ACCUMULATED FUNDS (page 5)	<u>38,560</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,560</u>	<u>35,822</u>

Signed by the following on behalf of the Executive Committee :

Jim Storey (Chairman)

Date of approval 25 March 2025