

Registered Charity No: 802905

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK
REPORT
and
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

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FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

Legal and Administrative Details

The Committee of the Friends of Battersea Park are the Trustees of the Charity. The officers (starred below) are initially elected for a term of three years; they are eligible for re-election thereafter.

Fenella Barber (co-opted)

Russ Coffey

Inge Darling

Christopher Davies

Claire Elliot

Adrian Flook

Treasurer*

Karen Horan

Peta-May Law

Juliet Lyon-Smith

Secretary*

Michèle Marriott

Sally Orman

Frances Radcliffe

Annabel Stein

Garon Watkins

Chairman*

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

Legal and Administrative Details (continued)

TSB, Clapham

CAF

Shawbrook

Bankers

Bankers

Bankers

Virginia Darbyshire

Independent Examiner

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

The objectives of the Friends of Battersea Park shall be for the public benefit to secure the preservation, protection and improvement of Battersea Park (hereinafter called “the Park”) as a place of historic and ecological interest, beauty, rest and recreation; to promote the conservation of the natural plant, animal and bird life of the Park and, in particular, its retention as a semi-natural habitat for wildlife; and to educate the public in the history, natural history and other aspects of the Park.

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Activities

The year ended March 2021 was unprecedented in the history of the Friends given it began shortly following the imposition of lockdown restrictions due to Covid-19 which continued to a greater or lesser extent for the period covered by this report. As a consequence, our usual programme of events including both the BBQ and our lunchtime lectures had to be cancelled.

Despite the restrictions of lockdown, your Committee held 9 meetings during the year by Zoom and the Annual General Meeting was conducted by via the same medium albeit in September rather than July.

Membership of the Friends stood at 628 at year end 31 March with 55 new members joining during the year

The Friends' finances were deprived of the revenues typically raised from the BBQ and sales of merchandise at various events, however, we received a number of donations throughout the year from Friends, many of whom who were thankful for having the Park open during lockdown and wished to make a tangible expression of their gratitude to all involved. There was one donation amounting to just under £5000.

Covid-19 has had a material impact on the Park and also on the broader community around the Park. In response, your Committee made several financial commitments which we hope will help the fabric of the Park where damage has occurred and enrich the experience of visiting it for the broader community.

The Winter Garden suffered from significant use and misuse during lock down. Wishing to avoid permanent damage to a valued space for which Friends raised £150,000 in 2008, the Friends financed Thrive, who manage the garden, to lead volunteer gardening days for volunteers from the Friends and Thrive. These days have partly replaced those days previously funded by large companies which ended because of Covid-19. This work is ongoing. Secondly, in recognition of our constitutional aim of educating within the Park, the Committee allocated funds to 5 local state primary schools to bring children into the Park on educational visits. This initiative will be led by the Sir Walter St John's Educational Charity who have extensive experience in this field. Allied to the educational theme and in response to requests and suggestions from Friends, your Committee also agreed to fund two additional information boards within the Park to focus on trees and wildlife, and to work with Enable Leisure and Culture to update the Tree Trail leaflet and to make it available in App form.

The Annual General Meeting which took place by Zoom in September and was very well attended: we estimate over 60 participants. At the meeting the following positions were proposed, seconded and duly approved: Virginia Derbyshire as independent examiner for the year ending 2021, Adrian Flook continuing for a further 3 years as Treasurer, and Juliet Lyon-Smith formally confirmed as Secretary. The approval of the Annual Report and Accounts was proposed by Frances Radcliffe and seconded Adrian Flook. In attendance at the meeting were Neil Blackley, Head of Parks Enable Leisure and Culture and Inspector Steve Biggs of the Parks Police who answered a number of questions raised by Friends.

Your Chairman continued to represent the Friends at meetings with the Council and at three meetings of the Wandsworth Green Spaces Forum which are attended by Friends groups and Management Advisory Committees (MACs) across the borough together with Councillors, Council officers and Enable. A major focus of these meetings was to lobby the Council on the terms of contracts for the management of parks and open spaces across the borough where Enable Leisure and Culture were reappointed for a further 5 year term in April 2020 and for the Horticultural and Arboreal contracts where changes were made to the providers in February 2021 with the appointment of Continental Landscapes for grounds maintenance and horticulture and KPS Ltd for the trees

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Your Committee exercised close scrutiny of planning applications which may impact the Park and objected to two: one to erect a 20 metre communications mast near the Millennium stadium and one to raise by two stories the block of flats at St Mary Le Park Court which would impact views from the Park. The application for the mast was withdrawn and we continue to monitor developments regarding St Mary Le Park Court

Despite the restrictions of Covid-19, the editorial, production and distribution teams behind *Review* delivered the usual three issues without interruption. Our thanks go to everyone involved particularly Frances Radcliffe, the editor, and Karen Horan who leads the production effort but who will stand down after the Summer 2021 issue taking with her our sincere gratitude. We are grateful to those Friends who have continued to deliver *Review* by hand to save substantial postage costs.

The Trustees would like to express their thanks to all those who work and volunteer in the Park for their efforts during a very challenging year. We are hopeful that, as we head further into 2021, the lifting of restrictions will continue and we will be soon be able to enjoy the Park fully and welcome Friends back to our events.

We also thank Virginia Darbyshire who has examined this year's accounts.

Responsibilities

Financial

Charity legislation requires the Trustees to prepare the Statement of Financial Activities for each financial year which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of that period. In preparing Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies and apply them on a consistent basis making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable. The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records, for the safeguarding of the assets of the Charity and for preventing and detecting fraud and other irregularities. The Trustees are required to indicate where the Statement of Financial Activities is prepared other than on the basis that the Charity is a going concern.

Approval

This report was approved by the Trustees on 7 June 2021 and signed on behalf of the Trustees by

Garon Watkins
Chairman

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 March 2021, which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under section 43(3)(a) of the 1993 Act);
- To follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 43(7)(b) of the 1993 Act); and
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the 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 disclosed in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

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

which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act;

and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act;

have not been met; or

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

Virginia Darbyshire
36, Battersea Place
73 Albert Bridge Road
London
SW11 4DT

Signature

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Funds	Funds	this year	last year
	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources				
Voluntary income				
Subscriptions	7,954	0	7,954	8,007
Gift Aid HMRC refund	0	0	0	2,199
Miscellaneous donations and Rattle Boxes	7,087	0	7,087	870
Activities for generating funds				
Barbecue, and other events	0	0	0	12,800
Advertising	2,475	0	2,475	3,790
Book Sales	147	0	147	350
Stock Sales	6		6	90
Investment income				
Bank interest	259	0	259	294
<i>Total incoming resources</i>	17,928	0	17,928	28,400
Resources expended				
Costs of generating funds				
Costs of generating voluntary income				
Subscriptions paid	207	0	207	734
Review Magazine costs	2,163	0	2,163	2,318
Event expenditure	277	0	277	4,457
Charitable activities				
Winter Garden	0	0	0	640
Investment by FoBP				
Thrive	1,920	0	1,920	0
Walter St John Charitable Trust	10,000	0	10,000	0
Governance Costs				
Professional Services & Fees	463	0	463	1,132
Insurance	363	0	363	344
<i>Total resources expended</i>	15,393	0	15,393	9,625
<i>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources</i>	2,535	0	2,535	18,775
<i>Total bank balances carried forward</i>	70,234	0	70,234	67,699

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	Total this year	Total last year
	£	£	£	£
Current assets				
Deposits & Cash at bank	70,234	0	70,234	67,699
Capital and Reserves				
<i>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources</i>	2,534	0	2,534	18,775
Total funds brought forward	67,699	0	67,699	48,924
			<hr/>	
<i>Total funds carried forward</i>	70,234	0	70,234	67,699
			<hr/>	

Approved by the Trustees of the Friends of Battersea Park on 7 June 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

Garon Watkins
Chairman

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. Basis of Preparation

These accounts have been prepared on the basis of historic cost in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Recommended Practice (SORP) 2005 and with Accounting Standards and with the Charities Act 1993. These accounts have been prepared on a cash basis.

2. Accounting policies

INCOMING RESOURCES

Recognition of incoming resources	These are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity has received the resources.
Incoming resources with related expenditure	Where incoming resources have related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the incoming resources and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.
Grants and donations	Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the resources.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Incoming resources from tax reclaims are included in the SoFA in the year in which it is received.
Gifts in kind	Gifts in kind are accounted for at a reasonable estimate of their value to the charity or the amount actually realised. Gifts in kind for sale or distribution are included in the accounts as gifts only when sold or distributed by the charity. Gifts in kind for use by the charity are included in the SoFA as incoming resources when receivable.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in incoming resources (with an equivalent amount in resources expended) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.
Volunteer help	The value of any voluntary help received is not included in the accounts but is described in the trustees annual report.
Investment gains and losses	The charity does not have any investments other than two interest bearing bank accounts.

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liability recognition	Liabilities are recognised on a cash accounting basis meaning we recognise liabilities when we pay them
Governance costs	Include, when applicable, the costs of the preparation and examination of statutory accounts, the cost of trustees' meetings and cost of any legal advice to trustees on governance or constitutional matters.

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

ASSETS

Tangible fixed assets for use by the charity

The Charity has no tangible fixed assets.

3. Analysis of incoming resources

The analysis of incoming resources is given in the SoFA.

4. Analysis of resources expended

The analysis of resources expended is given in the SoFA.

5. Details of certain items of expenditure

5.1 Trustee expenses

Number of trustees paid expenses
(Postage, photocopying, stationery, AGM expenses,
and other events)

This year	Last year
£	£
6	5
1,029	1,678
—	—

6. Paid employees

There are no paid employees of the charity

7. Grant making

No grants have been made by the charity.

8. Debtors and prepayments

This year	Last year
£	£
0	0

9 Creditors and accruals

9.1 Analysis of creditors

Printing of Review 117
Payable to Wandsworth Borough

Printing of Review 115
Payable to Wandsworth Borough 0

This year	Last year
£558	0
£579	0
—	—
£558	£579
—	—

9.2 Security over assets

There are no outstanding loans, overdrafts or other creditors of the charity.

FRIENDS OF BATTERSEA PARK

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

10 Transactions with related parties

10.1 Remuneration and benefits

The charity paid no remuneration or other benefits to any trustees or related parties.

10.2 Loans

The charity had no outstanding loans with any trustees or related parties at the year end.

10.3 Other transactions with trustees or related parties.

The charity had no other transactions with the trustees or related parties.