Friends of Fishpond Wood

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the period ended 31 December 2025

Reference and Administrative Details

Charity Name: Friends of Fishpond Wood
Charity Number: 1212325
Legal Form: Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Governing Document: Constitution adopted on 27 February 2025

Principal Address:
6 North View, London SW19 4UJ

Trustees during the period:

- Andrew Harding (Chair)
- David Jenkins
- Antony Parrack
- Nicola Theron
- Richard Thomas (Treasurer)

Objectives and Activities

Objects

The charity exists to raise funds on behalf of London Borough of Merton Council to replace the pathway through Fishpond Wood, a local nature reserve, in order to improve public access and to protect the habitat.

Activities for the Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty under section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance.

During its first year, the charity's primary activities have been:

- Raising funds through voluntary donations
- Applying for grants to support the restoration of the boardwalk
- Engaging with stakeholders and supporters
- Undertaking preliminary planning for the restoration project
- Establishing governance and financial controls

The restoration of the boardwalk will help:

- Prevent soil erosion and habitat degradation
- Protect areas where bluebells and other native flora grow
- Improve safe public access while conserving the environment
- Promote long-term biodiversity

As this was the charity's first year, no restoration expenditure was incurred during the reporting period.

Achievements and Performance

This was the charity's first period of operation.

The trustees successfully:

- Established the CIO structure and governance arrangements
- Opened a bank account and implemented financial controls
- Raised £5,460 in voluntary donations
- Successfully bid for funding from Merton Council's Investing In Neighbourhoods scheme, as a result of which £70,000 has been assigned by the Council towards the pathway project.
- Successfully bid for funding from the Mayor of London's Green Roots Fund, as a result of which £95,000 has been assigned by the GLA towards the pathway project.

The project to restore the pathway is now fully funded, and is expected to go ahead during the summer of 2026. Note that only the £5,460 in voluntary donations has been paid into the charity's bank account. The £70,000 from the Investing In Neighbourhoods scheme is held by Merton Council, to be used for the benefit of the project. The £95,000 from the GLA will be paid directly to Merton Council, and used to meet the costs of the project.

Financial Review

Financial Position

For the period ended 31 December 2025:

- Total income: **£5,460**
- Total expenditure: **£17**
- Net income: **£5,443**
- Total funds carried forward: **£5,443**

All income was received from voluntary donations. No restricted funds were received during the period.

No expenditure was incurred during the period as restoration works are planned for the following financial year, subject to sufficient funding being secured.

Reserves Policy

As a newly established charity, the trustees' current policy is to retain available funds until sufficient resources are secured to commence the restoration works. The balance of £5,443 represents designated funds for the future boardwalk restoration project and associated costs.

Financial Controls

The trustees have implemented appropriate financial controls, including:

- Trustee oversight of all income
- Bank reconciliation procedures
- Dual-authorisation arrangements where appropriate

Plans for Future Periods

In the next financial period, the charity aims to:

- Liaise closely with Merton Council through to successful completion of the pathway project
- Continue community engagement

The trustees are confident that with the successful delivery of the pathway project in 2026 the charity will have enabled tangible conservation improvements for Fishpond Wood.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) governed by its Constitution.

Trustees are appointed in accordance with the Constitution. All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other financial benefits from the charity.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records and safeguarding the assets of the charity.

Independent Examination

For a CIO with gross income below £25,000, there is no statutory requirement for independent examination. The trustees have elected not to appoint an independent examiner for this period.

Financial Statements

For the period ended 31 December 2025

Statement of Financial Activities (Receipts and Payments Basis)

	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds
Income		
Donations	£5,460	£5,460
Total Income	£5,460	£5,460
Expenditure		
Charitable activities	£0	£0
Governance costs and bank charges	£17	£17
Total Expenditure	£0	£0
Net income for the period	£5,443	£5,443
Funds brought forward	£0	£0
Funds carried forward	£5,443	£5,443

Statement of Assets and Liabilities

(Receipts and Payments Basis)

Assets

- Cash at bank: £5,443

Liabilities

- None

Net Assets

- £5,443

Represented by:

- Unrestricted funds: £5,443

Approval

This report was approved by the trustees on 15 June 2026 and signed on their behalf by:



Andrew Harding
Chair