

Report of the Council

The Council's report of the Company is for the year ended 31st March 2024.

Trustees from April 2023 to present

The Trustees during the year were:

Clifford Aris	Owen Bailey	Susan Conti ⁽¹⁾
Katrina Pentlow	Ian Baker	Liz Esnouf ⁽²⁾
Mark Temple	Sue Lincoln	
Karan Sheffield	Peter Smitherman ⁽³⁾	

⁽¹⁾ Retired November 2023

⁽²⁾ Retired November 2023

⁽³⁾ Co-opted onto the committee March 2024

Selection of Trustees

Trustees are selected from members by vote at the Annual General Meeting. The quarter of the Trustees who have been appointed the longest retire from office each year. Retiring Trustees may stand for re-election. Election is open to all subscribing members.

Governing Document and Legal Form

The Trust is governed by the Articles and Memorandum of Association of its registration as a company in 1984, last amended in September 2019. The Trust is a company limited by guarantee, registration number 1858055. If wound up, members would be liable to a maximum payment of one pound. It was registered as a charity, number 515809, on 20th November 1984.

Objects

The principal objects of the Trust are to acquire, maintain, preserve and develop sites of industrial, environmental and heritage interest in and around the village of Swannington and to provide and preserve facilities for the study and research of the village's history, ecology and archaeology for the benefit of present and future generations.

Governance

During the 2023-24 year we lost two members of the Management Committee. One new member was co-opted during the year and seeks formal appointment at the 2024 AGM.

All members of the committee have provided consistent and practical support to the work of the Trust, and all have also volunteered in other roles within the Trust.

The 2023-24 financial year mainly focused on preparation works for the new building project which includes the construction of a new shed building with workshop and visitor toilets plus an extension to the Neverson Centre to provide more meeting space.

Progress and Activities Undertaken

The work and activities of Swannington Heritage Trust are always wide ranging. This year we have focused on general maintenance and the continuation of ongoing large projects.

Preparation work continued on the new building to be funded by a generous legacy that is held by the Charities Aid Foundation. In May 2021, the Trust submitted a planning application to Northwest Leicestershire District Council to dismantle the current storage structure to the rear of the Neverson Centre building and to construct a more formal storage building with a workshop, volunteer mess facilities and visitor toilet facilities. Planning permission was received in June 2023 with conditions relating to mining surveys and further ecological provisions. Although beyond the timeframe of this report, these conditions were addressed and worked commenced on the footings in May 2024. Due to the delays in the planning process and the need to alter our original plans, further funds were required to complete the building. Thankfully, a further generous £10,000 donation from a member of the Trust was used as match funding to secure an £86,642 grant from the Severn Trent Community. Construction works are ongoing.

We hosted our regular large annual events. Unfortunately, Easter at the Mill in 2023 was cancelled at very short notice due to a storm disrupting the set up and causing significant damage to our gazebos. These were later repaired and we were able to host a celebratory May Day/Coronation event for the village which was well supported and benefitted from a NWLDC grant for the coronation. We also ran a best dressed house competition to celebrate the coronation of King Charles and it was wonderful to see Swannington looking splendid. Photographs of the houses were taken for our archive collection. The Strawberry Fayre, Take Teddy to the Mill and Christmas at the Mill were well supported, with the later raising significant funds for the Trust despite poor weather conditions. We are grateful to the community for their support of these events which help fund the ongoing costs of the Trust.

In addition to the large events, we hosted schools and group visits. We took part in the National Forest Walking Festival, the Festival of Archaeology and NWLDC's Hello Heritage and hosted displays at other external heritage events.

A UKSPF grant was secured to fund the cover for the Newcomen Boiler which was completed in the Autumn of 2023.

In September we engaged a contractor to paint the sails and re-treat the timbers of the mill cap. This work will be needed periodically to maintain the mill. The emergency

works to repair the fantail shaft were completed and in October 2023 the fantail was lifted back into position.

The Trust partners, Leicestershire Industrial History Society (LIHS), have continued work clearing the Alabama dig area in the Califat. This area was initially investigated in the 1990's but then covered with rubble rather than consolidated and interpreted for the public to view. Options for the future of this area will be considered in due course.

The land management team continue to work tirelessly throughout the year maintaining the Trust five sites with mowing, pruning, tree maintenance, pond maintenance and path maintenance. With at least nine sessions a month, this dedicated team are essential to the operations of the Trust.

In September, a tractor was employed to undertake an annual mow across the Gorse Field to help restore the acid grass heathland. Volunteers again helped rake in the grass to impoverish the soil in accordance with Wildlife Trust guidance.

In the Autumn of 2023 further tree work was undertaken to remove trees heavily impacted by ash die back on the Incline. This work was partly funded by a National Forest grant. The Incline woodland is continually monitored in accordance with our woodland management for the site.

The archive team continued work digitising and cataloguing the large archive on Monday evenings. Research work is ongoing. A Museum Development East Midlands grant was secured to fund storage equipment and materials for the archive together with facilities to convert microfiche records. This project is nearing completion. Looking ahead, the archive team has been working towards the implementation of cataloguing software to ensure the robust storage of our collection.

How Our Activities Deliver Public Benefit

The work of Swannington Heritage Trust volunteers helps maintain, enhance and showcase the Trust sites, buildings, archive and museum exhibits for the benefit of current and future generations.

Trust sites, including the Gorse Field, Califat Spinney, Incline and Snibston No 3, were maintained and open to the public via public and permissive footpaths every day of the year. The permissive footpath on the Incline, as part of a woodland management plan, is closed when winds in excess of 40 miles per hour are forecast for safety reasons.

Hough Mill was open to visitors every Sunday and bank holiday afternoon from April to September. Various events hosted by the Trust continue to engage large numbers of visitors. School visits, guided walks, talks and tours diversified our audience.

Gratitude

Swannington Heritage Trust is cherished by the community and verbal and social media feedback is always positive and encouraging. We extend our thanks to our members and the community for this support.

Volunteers

In November 2023 the Trust was awarded the Kings Award for Voluntary Service, the MBE for voluntary organisations. We celebrated with a presentation ceremony in April 2024 with the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Mike Kapaur.

This award demonstrates how fantastic the volunteers of Swannington Heritage Trust are and how much they give to the organisation and the wider community. Thank you!

Katrina Pentlow, Chair of the Council

SWANNINGTON HERITAGE TRUST

Registered Charity No 515809 Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England & Wales No 1858055

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - year ended 31st March 2024

	2023-24		2022-23	
<u>Incoming resources</u>				
<u>Generated Funds:</u>				
Subscriptions	1,555		1,540	
Donations received	7,454		4,895	
Fund raising income (Gross)	2,600		2,675	
Gift Aid reclaimed	1,486	13,095	0	9,110
<u>Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities</u>				
Grants received	14,122		5,450	
CAF Legacy for Mill Sails Project	18,000	32,122	0	5,450
<u>Other incoming resources</u>				
Interest received	0		0	
Insurance claim	9,151		0	
Income on Disposal of fixed assets	0	9,151	0	0
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		54,369		14,560
<u>Resources expended</u>				
<u>Costs of generating funds</u>				
Publicity, web-site, etc		862		797
Fund Raising Expenditure		1,482		1,767
<u>Charitable activities</u>				
Land management	15,561		1,175	
Publications	197		0	
Mill expenditure	15,729		2,481	
Exhibitions	0		33	
Care of collections	84		1,746	
Diik Wood project	119		194	
Archives	878		520	
CAF Legacy Mill Sails Project	(2,459)		0	
CAF Building Project	260		0	
Boiler Cover Project	2,210		0	
Wild Escape Project	392		2,405	
Depreciation of plant, etc	3,881		3,566	
Equipment disposals	2,342	39,193	0	12,121
<u>Governance</u>				
Administration	443		462	
Insurance	1,862		1,700	
Consultancy & Governance	0	2,305	514	2,676
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		43,843		17,361
NET INCOMING / (EXPENDED) RESOURCES		10,526		(2,801)
Accumulated funds brought forward		301,151		303,952
ACCUMULATED FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		311,677		301,151

BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March 2024

<u>Tangible Fixed Assets</u>				
Land and buildings at cost less depreciation	273,064		258,339	
Permanent displays at valuation	4,043		4,043	
Plant and equipment at cost less depreciation	8,552	285,659	5,607	267,989
<u>Current assets</u>				
Stock of merchandise	0		0	
Bank – Reserve account	0		0	
- Current account	25,799		32,944	
Cash	219		219	
	26,018		33,163	
<u>Creditors (Accruals)</u>				
	0		0	
Net Current assets		26,018		33,163
NET ASSETS		311,676		301,151
Designated Funds – Diik Wood Project		0		0
Designated Funds – Future Activities Fund		10,000		10,000
Designated Funds – Mill Sails Project		0		0
Unrestricted Funds		301,676		291,151
FUNDS AT 31ST MARCH 2024		311,676		301,151

SWANNINGTON HERITAGE TRUST

Registered Charity No 515809 Company Limited by Guarantee registered in England & Wales No 1858055

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - year ended 31st March 2023

	2022-23		2021-22	
<u>Incoming resources</u>				
<u>Generated Funds:</u>				
Subscriptions	1,533		1,435	
Donations received	4,903		2,222	
Fund raising income (Gross)	2,675		2,236	
Gift Aid reclaimed	0	9,110	2,588	8,480
<u>Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities</u>				
Grants received	5,450		4,161	
CAF Legacy for Mill Sails Project	0	5,450	12,000	16,161
<u>Other incoming resources</u>				
Interest received	0		0	
Insurance claim	0		0	
Income on Disposal of fixed assets	0	0	0	0
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		14,560		24,641
<u>Resources expended</u>				
<u>Costs of generating funds</u>				
Publicity, web-site, etc		653		1,523
Fund Raising Expenditure		1,767		604
<u>Charitable activities</u>				
Land management	1,175		3,194	
Publications	0		164	
Mill expenditure	2,481		2,317	
Exhibitions	33		0	
Care of collections	1,746		0	
Dilk Wood project	194		735	
Archives	520		260	
CAF Legacy Mill Sails Project	0		2,459	
Wild Escape Project	2,405		0	
Depreciation of plant, etc	3,566		3,394	
Equipment disposals	0	12,121	0	12,523
<u>Governance</u>				
Administration	462		473	
Insurance	1,700		1,718	
Consultancy & Governance	658	2,820	0	2,192
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		17,361		16,842
NET INCOMING / (EXPENDED) RESOURCES		(2,801)		7,800
Accumulated funds brought forward		303,952		296,152
ACCUMULATED FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		301,151		303,952
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March 2023				
<u>Tangible Fixed Assets</u>				
Land and buildings at cost less depreciation	258,339		260,723	
Permanent displays at valuation	4,043		4,043	
Plant and equipment at cost less depreciation	5,607	267,989	4,501	269,266
<u>Current assets</u>				
Stock of merchandise	0		0	
Bank – Reserve account	0		0	
- Current account	32,944		34,921	
Cash	219		112	
	33,163		35,033	
<u>Creditors (Accruals)</u>	0		(348)	
Net Current assets		33,163		34,686
NET ASSETS		301,151		303,952
Designated Funds – Dilk Wood Project	0			0
Designated Funds – Future Activities Fund	10,000			10,000
Designated Funds – Mill Sails Project	0			0
Unrestricted Funds	291,151			293,952
FUNDS AT 31ST MARCH 2023		301,151		303,952



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

SWANNINGTON HERITAGE TRUST

On accounts for the year ended

31ST MARCH 2024

Charity no (if any)

515809

Set out on pages

1

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended

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

~~[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.~~

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.

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

Signed:

John Edward Roddis

Date:

1/10/2024

Name:

JOHN EDWARD RODDIS

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

RETIRED PRINCIPAL LECTURER IN ACCOUNTING CERT ED (B'HAM) FORMER ASSOC. I. C. S. A

(if any):

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Address:

12 LOUDOUN WAY
ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCHI
LEICS LE65 2NF

Section B

Disclosure

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.

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