

Report of the Council

The Council's report of the Company is for the year ended 31st March 2025

Trustees from April 2024 to present

The Trustees during the year were:

Clifford Aris	Owen Bailey	Thomas Powell ⁽¹⁾
Katrina Pentlow	Ian Baker	
Mark Temple	Sue Lincoln	
Karan Sheffield	Peter Smitherman	

⁽¹⁾ Co-opted onto the committee in May 2025

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

In May 2025, one new member was co-opted to the Management Committee and seeks formal appointment at the 2025 AGM.

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

During the 2024-25 financial year, work mainly focused on the building works to construct 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.

Following several years of preparatory works, in May 2024 construction started on our new storage, workshop and visitor toilet building plus an extension to our Neverson Centre. Initially work commenced on the footings using funds held by the Charities Aid Foundation from a generous legacy. It was important to complete the ground works during the summer months due to our local great crested newt population.

The funds were not sufficient to complete the whole building so further funds were sought. We were incredibly grateful to receive a £10,000 donation from a member which was used as match funding to secure an £86,642 grant from the Severn Trent Community Fund in June 2024. This meant the construction of the building could continue and it was completed through the autumn and winter of 2024 into 2025. External works on paths are ongoing. We look forward to using the buildings to their full potential to expand our offering. Huge thanks are extended to the volunteers who managed and supported this project. Their tireless efforts have ensured a successful project.

A UK Shared Prosperity Fund grant of £3,350 was received to fund the installation of kitchen a reception/kitchen area in the Neverson Centre.

We hosted our regular events including Easter at the Mill, May Day, the Strawberry Fayre, Take Teddy to the Mill and Christmas at the Mill. Unfortunately, poor weather impacted several of the events, particularly Christmas at the Mill where contingency plans were used and all stalls and games were kept within the buildings. The May Day event was particularly well supported, and thanks are extended to Roots Community Choir for their continued input. 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 group visits and two wedding parties for photos. We took part in the National Forest Walking Festival, the Festival of Archaeology, NWLDC's Hello Heritage and hosted displays at other external heritage events.

Trust partners, Leicestershire Industrial History Society (LIHS), have continued work clearing the Alabama dig area in the Califat and they started consolidation of the brickwork ready for interpretation and public viewing.

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 eight 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.

The archive team continued work digitising and cataloguing the large archive on Monday evenings. Research work is ongoing and we are grateful for community engagement to support this. A Museum Development Midlands Grant of £3,328 was secured to fund cataloguing software, tablets and laptops which will ensure robust cataloguing of our collections and ultimately enable public access.

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 valued by the community who appreciate the sites we maintain for their benefit and the heritage we cherish. Our feedback through social media, visitor book and surveys is always positive and encouraging. We extend our thanks to our members and the community for this support.

Volunteers

Volunteers are the life blood of Swannington Heritage Trust and without their ongoing help we could not achieve so much. Thanks are extended to each and every one of them.

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 2025

	2024-25		2023-24	
<u>Incoming resources</u>				
<u>Generated Funds:</u>				
Subscriptions	1,550		1,555	
Donations received	12,524		7,454	
Fund raising income (Gross)	4,105		2,600	
Gift Aid reclaimed	2,079	20,258	1,486	13,095
<u>Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities</u>				
Grants received	85,737		14,122	
CAF Legacy for Mill Sails Project	43,754	129,491	18,000	32,122
<u>Other incoming resources</u>				
Interest received	0		0	
Insurance claim	0		9,151	
Income on Disposal of fixed assets	0	0	0	9,151
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		149,749		54,369
<u>Resources expended</u>				
<u>Costs of generating funds</u>				
Publicity, web-site, etc		805		862
Fund Raising Expenditure		1,283		1,482
<u>Charitable activities</u>				
Land management	2,924		15,561	
Publications	0		197	
Mill expenditure	2,713		15,729	
Exhibitions	0		0	
Care of collections	219		84	
Dilk Wood project	86		119	
Archives	832		878	
CAF Legacy Mill Sails Project	0		(2,459)	
CAF Building Project	0		260	
Boiler Cover Project	0		2,210	
Wild Escape Project	0		392	
Depreciation of plant, etc	4,729		3,881	
Equipment disposals	0	11,503	2,342	39,193
<u>Governance</u>				
Administration	679		443	
Insurance	3,277		1,862	
Consultancy & Training	1,080	5,036	0	2,305
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		18,627		43,843
NET INCOMING / (EXPENDED) RESOURCES		131,122		10,526
Accumulated funds brought forward		311,677		301,151
ACCUMULATED FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		442,799		311,677
BALANCE SHEET as at 31st March 2025				
<u>Tangible Fixed Assets</u>				
Land and buildings at cost less depreciation	416,948		273,064	
Permanent displays at valuation	4,043		4,043	
Plant and equipment at cost less depreciation	7,145	428,136	8,552	285,659
<u>Current assets</u>				
Stock of merchandise	0		0	
Prepayments	2,173			
Bank – Reserve account	0		0	
- Current account	12,324		25,799	
Cash	166		219	
	14,663		26,018	
<u>Creditors (Accruals)</u>				
Net Current assets		14,663		26,018
NET ASSETS		442,799		311,676
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	432,799		301,676	
FUNDS AT 31ST MARCH 2025		442,799		311,676



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

**Independent examiner's report on the
accounts**

Section A Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

SWANNINGTON HERITAGE TRUST

On accounts for the year ended

31st MARCH 2025

**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:

Date:

8/12/2025

Name:

JOHN E RODDIS

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body

IER

1

Oct 2018

(if any):

Address:

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.