

Treasurer's Report: Financial Year 1.1.17 to 31.12.17

Friends of Selsdon Wood (FSW) ended 2017 with a healthy credit balance of £3,355.20, of which approximately £2K is earmarked for Chainsaw training and the continuing repair of pathways within Selsdon Woods.

MEMBERSHIP

At the close of the financial year there were 180 members (157 in 2016) + 19 Honorary, plus 7 Chair's members (individuals who have donated significant sums during 2016-7) + 58 household members giving a total of 264 ((249 in 2016) supporters).

INCOME

The bulk of the income arises from Membership Fees, Donations, Gift Aid, Grants and the Open Day Event. During 2017 there was one additional activity which generated income for FSW.

- **2017 Calendars** (Led by Heather Govier)

For the sixth year FSW has produced a Calendar. 70 Calendars were ordered in July 17. All the Calendars were taken by local people for a donation of £5 and generated additional income of £112.78 (figure includes postage).

Open Day (Led by Linda Morris)

This event, held in September 2017, continues to have a major positive impact on FSW's finances as well as being an opportunity to launch the new FSW Calendar and encourage local residents to support the Friends activities.

Stalls: A total of £143.00 was raised through the FSW Tombola stall (the majority of prizes are donated), this figure includes donations from 4 stall holders.

Calendar: 25 visitors purchased one of these beautiful calendars showing photographs taken during the previous year(s) in Selsdon Wood.

Membership: 16 new/existing members took the opportunity to join/renew their membership of FSW

Photo Competition: This is a bi-annual event and submitted photos taken in Selsdon Woods between August 2015 to July 2017 were judged at Open Day September 2017. The winners received cash prizes: 1st Prize £75; 2nd £30; 3rd £20. The third placed winner donated his prize to FSW. An anonymous donor gave FSW £100 towards the prizes.

Gift Aid

FSW is eligible for a grant from HM Revenue & Customs on all donations from individuals who have signed a Gift Aid form. Gift Aid was claimed for 2016 which raised £442.10 (£334.49 in 2015). The Claim for 2017 will be submitted shortly and it is expected to raise approximately £450. We continue to encourage members to sign Gift Aid forms.

Grants – Croydon Council

FSW successfully submitted two grant applications to Croydon Council

- Jan 2017 – £374 to cover Insurance for Public Liability and Loss of Tools Insurance for Aug 2016/17
- Oct 2017 - £271 to cover Insurance for Public Liability and Loss of Tools Insurance for 2017/18

Heather Govier made an application to the Councillor's discretionary Community Budget for £1000 towards the cost of repairing the pathways throughout Selsdon Woods. I am pleased to report that this was also successful – giving an overall sum of £1,645 raised during 2017 via Grants from Croydon Council.

FSW is grateful to Croydon Council for their significant contribution towards its activities during the past year.

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EXPENDITURE

Expenditure continues to impact on the upkeep of the woods. £741.36 was spent on tools for workdays, equipment associated with organized Walks and Open Day e.g. First Aid Supplies, Saws, Gloves, etc.

£2,015.34 was spent on the repair of pathways throughout the woods, and our thanks to Tony Flecchia who managed this project and undertook most of the work, (the £1K received from the Councillors is included in this expenditure. We would also like to thank Spring Lane Builders Merchants for their helpfulness with this project

FSW paid the Forum Residents Association £48 in Nov 2017 to cover the cost of hiring their meeting room between Jan – Nov 18. This is a reduction from previous years as committee meetings are now held bi-monthly.

Committee members continue to be reimbursed for stationery costs (£232.95) that have risen due to the high cost of colour cartridges and the inclusion of postage charges within this heading.

It should be noted that on 3.4.17 Barclays Bank paid £24.76 to a company that FSW has no dealings with. This was reimbursed into FSW's account on the 27.4.17.

Other notable expenditure related to the purchase of the 2017 Calendars (£215) and the Insurance cover (£271.60), both of which were reimbursed through Donations and a Croydon Grant respectively.

Opening Balance Jan 2017	£3,269.51
Total income Jan-Dec 2017	£6,361.08
Total expenditure Jan-Dec 2017	£6,275.39
Bank Balance 31 st Dec 2017	<u>£3,355.20</u>

Plans for 2018

FSW needs to maintain sufficient funds to cover essentials such as insurance cover, should grants not be available to reimburse these costs. While being mindful of this, FSW's Committee is drawing up a realistic plan to ensure the available funds are used in Selsdon Wood to the benefit of its flora and fauna, and to enhance the enjoyment of the many people who support and visit it.

FSW is grateful once again to Alan Williams for scrutinising the annual accounts on which this report is based.