

Treasurer's Report: Financial Year 01.01.23 to 31.12.23

Friends of Selsdon Wood (FSW) ended 2023 with a credit balance of £7,057.97 (2022 £6,284.46).

INCOME

The bulk of the income in 2023 arose from Membership Fees & Donations, and a Grant (for the renovation to the Lindon Glade Pool – see below for breakdown of costs and income). . Further income is raised through the production of a Calendar and the annual Open Day Event. For further details, see End of Year Accounts and information below.

MEMBERSHIP

Members/Households: 142 members had either joined or renewed membership during 2023

Chair status: 11 members/households - This is a convenient classification for generous members, who make donations from time to time. (in 2023 6 chair members made a donation).

Honorary members: 18 members/households - who have or are giving service to or are useful contacts, for FSW. They never pay subs but some may donate. **Note:** it was decided that FSW will not offer Life membership.(in 2023 one honorary member made a donation).

2024 CALENDARS (Led by Heather Govier)

For the twelfth year FSW has produced a Calendar, the Calendars were taken by local people for a donation of £5 and thus generated additional income to FSW. (note the income statement shows £521 for calendars as some monies were for the 2023 calendar).

OPEN DAY (Led by Linda Morris0

This event, was held on 3rd September 2023.

Calendars: 21 visitors gave a £5 donation for one of these beautiful calendars showing photographs taken during the previous year(s) in Selsdon Wood.

Membership: 11 new/existing members took the opportunity to join at the Open Day and one existing member renewed their membership.

Tombola £185.81 was raised less £22.99 relating to purchase of prizes giving a net income of £162.82

White Elephant £113.90 including income from the jewellery stall run by Valerie.

Stall Holders: £40 was raised through the generous donations from Stall Holders

Photo Competition: The photo competition was back in 2023 and proved v popular, prize monies were once again generously donated by Tony Flecchia.

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Gift Aid

The FSW received a payment of £1,134.22 for Gift Aid claimed for the years 2019 – 2021

EXPENDITURE

The upkeep of the woods by FSW continues to impact on expenditure. £2,112.26 was spent on tools and equipment, this included 2 electric trolleys to carry equipment etc., a brush cutter for workdays plus other smaller items, and equipment associated with organized walks, first aid supplies, & PPE.

Other notable expenditure related to the Public Liability and Tools Insurance cover (£269.94).

PROJECTS**Linden Glade Pool**

In January 2023 it was agreed that the FSW would undertake to refurbish the Linden Glade Pool which was in a state of disrepair, resulting in a cracked liner that meant the pool lost water and valuable wildlife was unable to use it, also as the pool was unfenced it meant that dogs could get in it. The project involved relining and fencing off the area, and replanting (which has still to be completed). A Just Giving page was set up and also a grant applied for.

Income

Just Giving Donations	£1,858.89
Stanley Arts Grant	<u>£1,654.00</u>
	£3,512.89

Expenditure

Fibreglass pond liner	£1,654.00
Tap Mounting Plate	£ 11.18
Fencing	£1,275.88
Renovation materials	<u>£ 139.20</u>
	£3,080.26

Amount remaining for landscaping	£ 432.63
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Muddy Paths Project.

The Muddy Paths project was only started towards the end of the year, and only raised £14.51 by the end of the year. It is thought that the first batch of materials will be ordered in January.

OVERVIEW OF ACCOUNTS

Opening Balance Jan 2023	£6,284.46
Total income Jan-Dec 2023	£8,930.32
Total expenditure Jan-Dec 2023	£8,156.81
Bank Balance 31 st Dec 2023	<u>£7,057.97</u>

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PLANS FOR 2024

FSW needs to maintain sufficient funds to cover essentials such as insurance cover, health and safety supplies, etc. 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. The Muddy Paths project will be ongoing, to try to make it better for people to walk in the wood during the wet weather when the paths become muddy. The committee are also keen to investigate the installation of some wood sculptures in the wood, and will fundraise these as a new project for 2024

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

Karen Hall
Treasurer
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