

Friends of Selsdon Wood

Treasurer's Report for the 2011 Financial year (1st January to 31st Dec)

Friends of Selsdon Wood (FSW) ends 2011 with a healthy credit balance of £965.07 and we are drawing up a spending plan to ensure best use is made of these funds. FSW currently has 72 paid-up memberships (19 more than last year) plus five honorary members.

In 2011 we saw results from last year's decision by HM Revenue & Customs to grant FSW Gift Aid charity status, backdated with effect from 1 February 2008. In November, HMRC paid backdated Gift Aid of £185.22 into our account. We plan to claim Gift Aid on an annual basis. We ask members to complete Gift Aid Declarations where applicable so that we can claim Gift Aid on past and future subscriptions and donations. To date 47 members have signed up for Gift Aid.

Croydon Council's Nature Conservation Grant provided Friends of Selsdon Wood with £240.63 to reimburse the cost of insurance for tools and for public liability during 2011. We are very grateful for this assistance.

The Open Day in September realised a profit of £196.30. This was £49 more than in 2010 despite this year's downpours of rain.

Significant items of expenditure during the year included £339.54 on new tools, £146.72 on new information boards and £115 on new leaflets. We made a donation of £100 towards the cost of a replacement chainsaw when the original one (belonging to a volunteer from a neighbouring conservation group) broke during a Selsdon Wood workday.

Total income for the year was £1390.15.

Total expenditure was £1190.94

The surplus of income over expenditure in 2011 was £199.21. This sum, together with the credit balance of £765.86 at the start of the year, means FSW had a credit bank balance of £965.07 as of 31 December 2011.

Some of this is already committed. In January 2011 we will spend £94.92 on two new pruning saws and £41 on dog violet plug-plants and seeds. This will leave a credit balance of £829.15.

We need to maintain sufficient funds to cover essentials such as insurance cover, should grants not be available to reimburse these costs next year. While being mindful of this, FSW's Committee is drawing up a realistic plan to ensure the 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 to Alan Williams for scrutinising the annual accounts on which this report is based.

Linda Lee
FSW Treasurer