

THE CHICHESTER SOCIETY
Registered Charity No. 268055
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST AUGUST 2014

1. The Accounts

These accounts have been independently examined by Tony Rose FCCA of the firm of Accountants, Watling and Hirst

Income

Subscriptions and Donations totalled £5146 (2013: £3412). The increase relates to the increase in subscriptions. The expense of notifying members about standing orders, collecting and ensuring that new rates were being applied correctly was £305, and refunds of £15 were made where members had overpaid (included in the above). There were three new life members in 2013-14 and three who converted annual memberships to life memberships, giving total receipts of £737 included in the above (2013: none). The Committee would like to express its thanks to Mr & Mrs Tidy of 'Good News' whose free distribution of brochures with their newspapers led to many new members being enrolled.

Gift Aid (tax refunds on subscriptions) amounted to £918 (2013: £523).

Advertising income amounted to £856, an increase over the 2013 figure (£765), a further increase on previous years.

Interest of £49 was earned on our reserves (2013: £23). After the Charities Aid Foundation cut its interest rate still further (to 0.1%), our reserve fund was moved to Santander Business Rewards Account, which offered a greater return.

A Legacy of £500 was received from Mr and Mrs Parkin, late of West Street. This has been placed in a holding account until an appropriate project has been found. It will not go towards general expenditure.

Expenditure

Local Plan The response to the Draft Local Plan has been largely carried on in committee and expenses have been reduced to £24 (2013: £297) mainly connected with obtaining copies of CDC publications on the subject.

Newsletter costs of £3425 (2013: £3314) include printing and postage for the usual 4 issues. A stock of stamps for newsletter distribution was purchased in anticipation of a price rise (£690) and £481 remained after the June issue had been posted.

Executive Committee and General Meetings costs of £397 (2013: £482) included committee room hire and AGM costs. The 2013 figure included early booking to avoid increases in costs.

Insurance. The premium of £190 (2013: £190) covers public liability, and is arranged through the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies. For once, this has not increased.

Office Expenses of £174 (2013: £190) cover general stationery, postage and phone calls not directly attributable to other headings.

Subscriptions to other bodies amounted to £550 (2012: £50). The Society continues to be a member of the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies and of the South Downs Network. We have also joined Civic Voice, as the national pressure group acting on behalf of all Amenity Societies.

Professional services of £13 (2012: £645) mainly relate to bank charges. Last year's figure included the survey of the Westgate underpass prior to restoration.

Publication costs of £538 included a Gift Card scheme and new website design. There were no comparable costs last year.

Mural Restoration The Society administered a grant from WSCC under the Big Society scheme to restore the mural in the Westgate underpass. The grant of £9500 was neatly matched by expenses of £9500!

Events The principal event was the 40th anniversary dinner in October 2013. This made a loss of £122 on expenditure of £1272. Of the Festival events, a talk by Alan Green made £110 net, and the walk made a profit of £26. The net profit on events was £14 (2013; a loss of £132).

SURPLUS

The net profit for the year was £1121 (2013: loss of £1389)

This is mainly due to the increase in subscriptions, an exercise which should not happen again in the near future.

BALANCE SHEET

Net assets now total £16422 (2013: £15301).

This includes the stock of postage stamps and the legacy referred to above.

2. Membership

The membership totals for the various classes are set out in the table. Decreases have arisen during the exercise of raising subscriptions, which disclosed a number of members who had, sadly, died. There were also others who decided not to renew their membership.

	August 31 2014	August 31 2013
Annual Members	472 (in 349 households)	530 (in 384 households)
Life members	210 (in 155 households)	231 (in 170 households)
Total members	682 (in 504 households)	761 (in 554 households)

The quarterly newsletter is sent to each household, and in addition, to Andrew Tyrie, M.P., the Bishop of Chichester, the Dean and Communar, local councillors, senior officials and newspapers for better promoting the Society's views; to local libraries; to St Richard's Hospital for their Talking Books scheme; and to some other neighbouring amenity societies as a courtesy.

3. Summary of Activities

The Society continues to work for its objectives (listed below). In particular the Trustees who collectively constitute the Executive Committee of the Society do the following:-

- Are involved in consultations over the new Local Plan, and make representations to Chichester District Council on the desirability of the way in which any new developments may take place, as well as publicising these to members and to the public at large.
- Keep informed on and express views on other major developments which arise from time to time.
- Make regular comments and recommendations on routine Planning Applications
- Raise issues of immediate interest to Society members with the appropriate bodies
- Participate in representative bodies such as the South Downs Network and the Chichester Conservation Area Consultative Committee
- Arrange events of interest and importance to members

4. Constitution

The Society is regulated by the Constitution ratified at the AGM on 15th October 2003 as amended at the AGMs on 17th October 2007 and 12th October 2011

1. **Summary of Objects:** These are defined in the Objects clause in the Constitution:-

3. OBJECTS: *The Society is established for public benefit for the following purposes in the area of benefit:*

3.1 To stimulate and foster greater public awareness and knowledge of those factors influencing the general environment of the area of benefit.

3.2 To secure a general improvement of the social and cultural life of the community in the area of benefit.

3.3 To preserve protect and improve the features of historic or public interest, and the environment in the area of benefit;

3.4 To promote high standards of planning and architecture in the area of benefit.

2. Method of appointing trustees

By election at AGM as laid down in the Constitution under clause 6, MANAGEMENT:

6.1 The Society shall be managed by the Executive Committee made up of members not less than 18 years of age. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman, Vice- Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary and 16 other members who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Society."

6.2 The elected Executive Committee shall retire from office each year but shall be eligible for re-election. Any casual vacancy occurring in the Executive Committee, including a casual vacancy among the Society's Officers may be filled until the next Annual General Meeting by the Executive Committee and the appointee shall have full voting rights.

3. Names of trustees at 31.8.14:-

Rodney Chambers, Richard Childs, Cédric Mitchell, Anthony Quail, Trevor Redman, Bill Sharp, Grace Taylor, John Templeton, John Wichers and David Wilson.

Dennis Martin was co-opted during the year 2013-14

3. Address registered with the Charity Commission:-

11 North Walls, Chichester, PO19 1DA

4. Signed by: D. E. Wilson, Treasurer

8 October 2014

DE Wilson - Treasurer
R Childs - Chairman
A Quail - Secretary

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
THE CHICHESTER SOCIETY**

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2014 set out on the attached pages which comprise the Receipts and Payments Account and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is required.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under Section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements
- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act
- have not been met; or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



A.D. Rose, F.C.C.A
Watling & Hirst Limited
Cawley Place
15 Cawley Road
Chichester
West Sussex
PO19 1UZ

Date:..... 9/10/2014

The Chichester Society
Receipts & Payments Account
For the year ended 31st August 2014

	2014	2013
	£	£
Income		
Functions & Events		
40th anniversary	0.00	850.57
Functions & Events - Other	<u>1,705.36</u>	<u>1,140.00</u>
Total Functions & Events	1,705.36	1,990.57
Gift Aid on Subs & Donations	918.75	522.76
Interest Income	48.86	23.35
Local Plan - reimbursements	0.00	95.30
General meetings	8.48	0.00
Newsletter Advertising Income	856.00	765.00
Sundry income	15.00	0.00
Mural project income	9,500.00	0.00
Brochure & publications sales	311.00	0.00
Subscriptions & Donations		
Release of Life Member Subs	0.00	0.00
Subscriptions & Donations - Other	<u>5,146.00</u>	<u>3,412.00</u>
Total Subscriptions & Donations	<u>5,146.00</u>	<u>3,412.00</u>
Total Income	18,509.45	6,808.98
Expense		
EC and General Meetings	397.47	481.62
Functions and Events Costs		
40th anniversary	0.00	865.50
Functions and Events Costs - Other	<u>1,646.47</u>	<u>1,256.92</u>
Total Functions and Events Costs	1,646.47	2,122.42
Insurance	190.00	190.00
Local Plan - response		
Postage		62.90
Publications	24.24	221.20
Stationery etc	<u></u>	<u>13.19</u>
Total Local Plan - response	24.24	297.29
Newsletter costs	3,404.53	3,313.93
Brochure costs	649.47	0.00
Mural project costs	9,495.55	0.00
Subscription administration	305.54	0.00
Office Admin expenses		
Office Supplies	45.00	114.23
Postage	50.00	56.86
Stationery	<u>79.26</u>	<u>18.73</u>
Total Office Admin expenses	174.26	189.82
Professional Services	12.70	645.65
Publication Costs	538.27	907.29
Subscriptions to Other Bodies	<u>550.00</u>	<u>50.00</u>
Total Expense	<u>17,388.50</u>	<u>8,198.02</u>
Surplus /(Deficit) for the Year	<u>1,120.95</u>	<u>(1,389.04)</u>

The Chichester Society
Statement of Assets And Liabilities
As at 31 August 2014

	2014	2013
	£	£
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		
Current Royal Bank of Scotland	2,877.89	2,108.05
Deposit CAFGold/Santander Saver	<u>13,031.72</u>	<u>13,182.99</u>
Total Cash at bank and in hand	<u>15,909.61</u>	<u>15,291.04</u>
Stock	31.58	0.00
Prepayment of postage	481.24	10.44
Total Current Assets	16,422.43	15,301.48
NET CURRENT ASSETS	<u>16,422.43</u>	<u>15,301.48</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>16,422.43</u>	<u>15,301.48</u>
NET ASSETS	<u><u>16,422.43</u></u>	<u><u>15,301.48</u></u>
Funds of the Charity		
Unrestricted funds	15,922.43	15,301.48
Restricted funds	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Total funds	<u><u>16,422.43</u></u>	<u><u>15,301.48</u></u>