

THE CHICHESTER SOCIETY
Registered Charity No. 268055
ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR TO 31ST AUGUST 2015

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 £4586 (2014: £5146). There was only one new life member in 2014-15, which accounts for most of the difference. (2014: six).

Gift Aid (tax refunds on subscriptions) amounted to £772 (2014: £918).

Advertising income amounted to £622 (2014: £856), as we were unable to replace two regular advertisers.

Interest of £69 was earned on our reserves (2014: £49), this being the first full year with the higher rate offered by Santander Business Rewards Account.

The combined total all but covered the cost of publication of 'Saving the City', and account of the early years of the Society by Tim Rooth

Expenditure

Local Plan The Local Plan hearings were held earlier this year. Although representatives of the Society attended and spoke at the hearings, the preparatory work had been done in the previous year and no further expense was incurred.

Newsletter costs of £3461 (2014: £3405) include printing and postage for the usual 4 issues. The stock of stamps for postage has been reduced to £55.

Executive Committee and General Meetings costs of £433 (2014: £398) included committee room hire and AGM costs.

Insurance. The premium of £190 (2014: £190) covers public liability, and is arranged through the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies. This has not increased for two years.

Office Expenses of £191 (2014: £175) cover general stationery, postage and phone calls not directly attributable to other headings.

Subscriptions to other bodies amounted to £778 (2014: £550). The Society continues to be a member of Civic Voice, the Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies and of the South Downs Network. The additional expenditure this year arose from sending delegates to the Civic Voice annual conference.

Publication costs of £1202 (2014: £538) arose mainly from the publication of 'Saving the City', and account of the early years of the Society by Tim Rooth (£1095), plus costs of distribution. This was covered by a donation of £500 from an anonymous donor that was put with the legacy of £500 from Mr and Mrs Parkin, referred to in last year's report, and sales of £243 meant that a small profit has been generated. Other costs included the renewal of website registration.

Events

There was a mixture of profits and losses on the various events

- a) The two walks, one for the Chichester Festival and the other, a tour of Graylingwell, made profits of £112 and £130 respectively
- b) The two talks during the Chichester Festival, one to promote 'Saving the City' and the other by the Director of the Weald & Downland Museum, made losses of £95 and £78 respectively, though the former did result in a number of book sales.
- c) Other events – to Tinwood vineyard, to Winchester City Trust and hosting a visit from the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings were nearly cost neutral
- d) Some leftover stock (drinks etc) was written off as out of date

. The net profit on events was £53 (2014; £14).

Heritage Lottery Fund Bid

Your Executive considered that Chichester was poorly served in terms of leaflets for walking trails around the city, which could be informative about the history and geography of the quadrants, outlying suburbs and villages. These would be of value not only to Cicestrians but also to visitors to the city. More detail is presented in the Chairman's report.

A total of £1000 was spent on professional advice in preparing and writing up the bid, which has been successful and will be publicly announced shortly. The Society is grateful to the City Council for a grant of £1000 which will go directly to the project itself. The Society has committed a further £1000 of its own funds, which will appear in next year's accounts, as the approval of the bid was not notified until after the year end. With this as start-up funding, the Heritage Lottery Fund will contribute £53,200. Eventually there will be income from sales.

SURPLUS

The net deficit on unrestricted funds for the year was £970 (2014: a profit of £1121)

The largest single item was the money spent on the preparation of the HLF bid.

BALANCE SHEET

Unrestricted Net assets now total £15452 (2014: £16422).

This does not include the City Council grant in support of the HLF bid which is held in a separate account.

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 2015	August 31 2014
Annual Members	477 (in 352 households)	472 (in 349 households)
Life members	199 (in 147 households)	210 (in 155 households)
Total members	676 (in 499 households)	682 (in 504 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:-

- Were involved in consultations over the new Local Plan, and keep informed on and express views on other major developments which arise from time to time
- .Continue to 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.
- 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, and commission publication relevant to Chichester, the current Heritage Lottery Fund bid being the current most important

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.

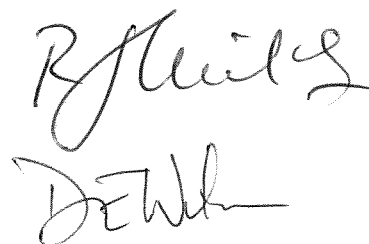
Charles Gillmore and Roger Hobbs were co-opted during the year 2014-15

3. Address registered with the Charity Commission:-

11 North Walls, Chichester, PO19 1DA

4. Signed by: R.J. Childs, Chairman & D.E. Wilson, Treasurer

[Date]14 Oct 2015.....

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is 'R.J. Childs' and the bottom signature is 'D.E. Wilson'. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31st August 2015 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 Acthave 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: 16th October 2015

The Chichester Society
 Receipts and Payments Account
 For the year ended 31 August 2015

		2015 £	2014 £
Unrestricted Income	Brochure	-	311
	Functions and Events	1,120	1,705
	Gift Aid reimbursement	772	919
	Interest on Accounts	69	49
	Meetings general	-	8
	Mural project	-	9,500
	Newsletter Advertising	622	856
	Publications Sales	243	-
	Subscriptions and Donations	4,586	5,146
	Sundry Income	-	15
		<u>7,412</u>	<u>18,509</u>
Restricted Income	Grants received	<u>1,000</u>	-
		1,000	-
Unrestricted Expenses	Brochure	(60)	(649)
	Functions and Events	(1,067)	(1,646)
	Insurance	(190)	(190)
	Local Plan publications	-	(24)
	Meetings Exec Cttee	(182)	(182)
	Meetings General	(251)	(216)
	Mural costs	-	(9,496)
	Newsletter costs postage	(949)	(978)
	Newsletter costs printing	(2,315)	(2,233)
	Newsletter costs stationery	(197)	(194)
	Office Admin postage	(93)	(50)
	Office Admin stationery	(98)	(79)
	Office Admin supplies	-	(45)
	Professional Services	(1,000)	(13)
	Publications Costs	(1,202)	(538)
	Subscriptions administration	-	(306)
	Subscriptions to other bodies	(778)	(550)
		<u>(8,382)</u>	<u>(17,388)</u>
Surplus for the year		<u><u>30</u></u>	<u><u>1,121</u></u>

The Chichester Society
Statement of Assets and Liabilities
As at 31 August 2015

		2015	2014
		£	£
Cash funds	Bequest holding	-	500
	Heritage Trails	1,000	-
	RBS Current Account	2,298	2,378
	Santander Business Reserve	13,100	13,032
		<u>16,398</u>	<u>15,910</u>
		16,398	15,910
Assets retained for charity	Stock of drinks	-	32
	Stock of stamps	55	481
		<u>55</u>	<u>513</u>
		55	513
Net assets		<u>16,453</u>	<u>16,422</u>
		£	£
Funds of the Charity	Restricted funds	1,000	500
	Unrestricted funds	15,422	14,801
	Surplus for the year	30	1,121
		<u>16,453</u>	<u>16,422</u>
Total funds		<u>16,453</u>	<u>16,422</u>

Signed by *B. Hicks*

And *D. W. ...*

On behalf of the committee

Date... *14 Oct 2015*