

**FRIENDS OF OSBORNE
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1163175**

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD
FROM 1st OCTOBER 2018
30th SEPTEMBER 2019**

FOR

FRIENDS OF OSBORNE

**Osborne House Estates
East Cowes
PO32 6JX**

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FRIENDS OF OSBORNE; Registered Charity 1163175

The Trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period from 1st October 2018 to 30th September 2019.

The charity is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation with voting members in addition to its charity Trustees. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice in preparation of the report and these statements.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives

The objectives of the charity are to support and assist Osborne and English Heritage in the promotion, preservation and the use of Osborne (its Listed House and Grade 2 Listed Park and Gardens); and to encourage the education of, and enjoyment by, the public concerning Osborne, its heritage, history, building, contents, gardens and grounds.

Main Activities

The charity promotes the benefits of membership of the Friends of Osborne (the Friends), which is open to all. All prospective members must complete an application form and make payment of an annual membership fee; either by direct bank transfer or cheque.

A database of members is maintained by the charity, which enables newsletters and invitations to be distributed via email or post.

Members of the Friends of Osborne gain unlimited access to the house, extensive grounds, Swiss Cottage and museum, and the beach.

During the year members are invited to fundraising events arranged by the committee. Events will usually have a theme or focus relevant to Osborne and are held at Osborne and other locations. Some events may be of a social nature.

The charity's financial objectives are wholly to provide grants to English Heritage to permit or promote restoration and preservation works or relevant acquisitions. The Trustees maintain a dialogue with English Heritage, curators of Osborne, which ensures that the charity is aware of forthcoming opportunities for such restoration and preservation. The Trustees will propose where they would wish the Friends of Osborne grants to be applied.

Volunteers and Voluntary Donations

The Trustees provide their services on a voluntary basis and are grateful to the committee and many other members who work in support of the Friends on a voluntary basis.

Additionally, the Trustees express their gratitude to third-party organisations and individuals who, from time to time, provide gifts, donations, services and sponsorship, covering a significant proportion of fundraising costs in support of the Friends of Osborne work.

INCORPORATION AND ESTABLISHMENT

The Friends of Osborne received its charitable status from the Charity Commission on 18th August 2015.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is administered in accordance with its written constitution, adopted by the Trustees at their first meeting held on 4th September 2015. A review of the constitution took place in 2019.

Trustees

The charity Trustees are listed in this report. The constitution requires that there be a minimum of five Trustees but there is no upper limit to their number. Three trustee meetings have been held during the period of the report and one joint Trustee and Committee meeting.

A management committee is in place to plan and supervise member events, member communications and member resources. The Trustees are all de facto members of that committee. As at 30th September there were four committee members including the membership secretary.

All matters of strategic importance and all application of funds are subject to approval by the Trustees alone.

Induction and Training of New Trustees and Risk Management

All new Trustees receive a copy of the charity's constitution plus any minutes of recent members' or Trustee meetings. Those appointed generally already have a high level of understanding of the Friends and its objectives and usually have previous experience relevant to serving as a charity Trustee.

Additional briefing on governance responsibilities can be provided by the Chair and/or another Trustee and the Trustees are familiar with the wealth of advice available in Charity Commission publications and its website.

MEMBERSHIP, MEMBER ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

Membership

The Trustees are pleased to report that, as at September 30th 2019 the Friends of Osborne had 990 members. This level of membership represents an increase of over 18% in the preceding 12 months. New applications continue to be received at an encouraging rate.

Member Activities and Fundraising

The fundraising outcomes from the main member events held throughout the year are reported within the financial statements. The Trustees were satisfied with these results and express gratitude to all those who helped in organising them. The committee plans a further full programme of member events for 2020.

Member events, all held to raise further funds for the charity during 2018/19 have included a 360-degree view tour from one of the Osborne towers, 'Curator's Choice, a Trafalgar Day walk, Cowes Week drinks and the two-day Christmas Fair all held at Osborne House.

In addition, a quiz evening was held at Osborne House and we participated in the annual Remembrance Day service held at St Mildred's Church followed by lunch at Osborne House.

In September 2019 a formal dinner was held in the Terrace Restaurant attended by our patron Dame Judi Dench. The dinner, commenced with a drinks reception in the Durbar Room and was enjoyed by all who attended.

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We also saw the continuation of the successful and informative library event talks held in the Friends Rooms. The library events included: a talk on Red Squirrels, The Naval Cadet College, Wild Flower Meadow at Osborne and Movements in Isle of Wight Architecture part 2.

Member Resources

The Friends of Osborne occupies a suite of rooms within the Osborne House kitchen courtyard (to the rear of the Terrace Restaurant) which includes our members' library and a sitting room. The Friends Rooms are maintained for the benefit of members who wish to relax, read or borrow a book from our well-stocked library and view the artworks on display.

The Friends Rooms are open 10.00 - 12.00 every Thursday even when the house is not open with hot refreshments available at a nominal charge.

The Friends have a website (www.friendsofosborne.org) to promote the charity and provide information to its members including a diary of planned events and a downloadable form for new membership applications.

COSTS OF ADMINISTRATION

The Trustees and Committee Members apply prudence in the administration of the Friends' affairs using voluntary efforts wherever possible.

The cost of administration incurred in the running of the charity are shown in the Financial Statements. Of these, the significant are £296 in respect of public liability, directors and officer's insurance and £997 postage costs.

The Trustees encourage all members to provide an email address where possible to reduce the postage charges; 2018/19 has seen a reduction in printing costs.

Gift Aid

The Friends of Osborne Charity is registered for Gift Aid. This means, where a member (who is a UK income or capital gains tax payer) confirms can claim money for every £1 given to the charity in either subscriptions or donations. Additionally, we can backdate this for the past four years.

£2,611 has been reclaimed during 2019, which relates to the 2018 membership fees. The 2019 return is currently being prepared.

GRANTS AND DONATIONS

The Trustees are pleased to report that, during the period, the charity has ring fenced the curators at Osborne sums totalling £8,000 specially for the indicate purposes:

For repair/replacement clock tower and weather vane

The charity is holding funds at year-end intended to finance further conservation works or alternative areas at Osborne. The Trustees are in discussions with English Heritage management to determine use of funds at Osborne during 2019/20.

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Number

1163175

Registered Address

25a Osborne Heights
East Cowes
Isle of Wight
PO32 6FE

Trustees

Rob Flower	- Chairman
Philip Palmer	- Treasurer
Roger Crew	- Vice-Chairman
Marja Tolley	- Secretary
Allison Rogers	

Preparer of Financial Statements

Karen Wright MAAT
12 Sandown Road
Lake
Isle of Wight
PO36 9JP

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 7/10/2019 and signed on its behalf by:

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Rob Flower

FRIENDS OF OSBORNE; Registered Charity 1163175

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD 1st OCTOBER 2018 TO 30th SEPTEMBER 2019

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

RECEIPTS	2019	2018
Subscriptions	15,326	12,060
Contribution from Gift Aid	2,611	1,985
Donations and bequests	100	600
Library Income	675	235
Fundraising activities	6,488	4,821
Dinner	6,920	4,750
Trafalgar Day lunch	294	0
Sales	0	80
Bank interest	40	7
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	32,454	24,538
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PAYMENTS		
Donations to Osborne/English Heritage	0	12,127
Costs of Fundraising activities	2,125	2,670
Dinner	5,227	4,958
Goods purchased for resale	0	1,836
Repairs and renewals	172	163
Committee expenses	1,543	1,395
Membership expenses	0	58
Printing	0	18
Postage and carriage	997	423
Office stationary	6	0
Computer and software	0	66
Accountancy fees	50	50
Legal fees	60	40
Bank charges	0	12
Insurance	296	297
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	10,476	24,113
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SRPLUS OF RECEIPTS OVER PAYMENTS FOR THE PERIOD	-----	-----
	21,978	425
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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD 1st OCTOBER 2018 TO 30th SEPTEMBER 2019

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2019

		2019	2018
Current assets			
Bank and cash in hand		35,121	13,144
Members' funds			
Receipts and Payments account	Balance brought forward	13,144	12,719
	Surplus of receipts over payments for the year	21,978	425
	Balance carried forward	35,122	13,144

ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT

These accounts have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis.

This is in accordance with acceptable accounting practice for charities of this size as set out in guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

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