

Annual Report

2020/21



Heath Hands

The Dairy
Kenwood House, Hampstead Lane
London, NW3 7JN

Tel: 020 8458 9102

Website: www.heath-hands.org.uk

Email: info@heath-hands.org.uk

Registered charity no: 1173419

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended: 31st March 2021

Trustees

Chair: Cindy Galvin

Deputy Chair: Rachel Chapman

Secretary: Alan Merkel

Treasurer: Tony Braca

Volunteer Representatives: Stuart Clark, Merlin Fox, Ian Greenwood, Liz Andrew, Sarah Williams

Co-optees: Nicola Sinclair

Ex-officio: Anne Fairweather (City of London), Jeff Waage (Heath and Hampstead Society), Bob Warnock (City of London)

Projects and Volunteer Manager: Colin Houston

Project Coordinator: Karin Oleinikova

Project Assistant: Rory Dimond **Assistant Ranger:** Joanne Maddox

Session leaders: Carolina Toledo de Fattori, Shamanthy Ganeshan, Avigail Ochert

Bankers: Lloyds Bank, Virgin Money, United Trust Bank

Independent Examiner: Simon Erskine

Heath Hands works in partnership with:



Heath Hands Annual Report 2020/21

Heath Hands is a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO), governed by its Trustees, all of whom are appointed by members in General Meetings. The Trustees herewith submit their Annual Report and independently examined financial statement for the year ended 31st March 2021. The Trustees employ staff to administer the charity. Membership is open to registered volunteers who contribute to our charitable activities.

The trustees have given consideration to the major risks to which the charity is exposed and satisfied themselves that appropriate procedures are in place to manage those risks.

Objects

To help, engaging volunteers, to conserve, protect and enhance Hampstead Heath, the Kenwood Estate, Highgate Wood, Keats House and such other areas as the charity trustees may determine from time to time (the “Relevant Open Spaces”);

To advance education in conserving, protecting and enhancing the environment of the Relevant Open Spaces for the benefit of the members of the CIO and for the benefit of the public at large, and

To help the bodies responsible for the Relevant Open Spaces to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure time occupation by the members of the CIO and the public at large with the object of improving their conditions of life.

Main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit

Heath Hands delivers a range of volunteering programmes across our open spaces including significant amounts of conservation and estate maintenance, ecological monitoring, nature interpretation and public engagement activities. We also help our partners with the delivery of public outreach and events and we deliver over 500 volunteer sessions and community activities each year.

Alongside our adult programmes our youth volunteering activities and Heath Friendly Schools project encourage young people to get involved in nature conservation. This compliments our Community Heath project, which supports people and groups with disabilities or social disadvantage to take part in volunteering and recreation, and our Wild about Hampstead Heath project helping connect visitors to wildlife and nature.

Heath Hands trustees have had regard to the guidance that has been issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit.

Structure, governance and management

At each AGM of the CIO, the members may elect from amongst themselves a Chair, Deputy Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, who shall also be elected charity trustees and hold office from the conclusion of that meeting. Additional trustees may be appointed at the meeting, and the trustees may also co-opt up to three trustees.

The Chairman of the Hampstead Heath Management Committee and the Superintendent of Hampstead Heath are trustees, while English Heritage, The Vale of Health Society, and the Heath and Hampstead Society may appoint a trustee.

Heath Hands has a trustee code of conduct and trustee role description to guide the committee.

Heath Hands signed a partnership agreement in 2017 with the City of London Corporation who manage Hampstead Heath, this was reviewed and extended in 2020.

Statement on Coronavirus

This year was dominated by the Coronavirus pandemic and this resulted in significant interruption to our activities. Regrettably we suspended our volunteering and community activities during the three national lockdowns, and introduced updated safe working and enhanced hygiene procedures to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all participants in our various programmes. Changes to the nature of our activities and restrictions on attendance and group sizes were also implemented.

Sadly two of our volunteers Dylan Grundy and Jill Cornish, passed away due to the pandemic.

Additional funding was obtained to adjust our activities to be safe and also to help deliver nature based activities to help the community recover from the impacts of the pandemic.

Main achievements of charity

We are a volunteer led organisation with a membership of around 200 people. This is supplemented by people volunteering for one-off activities and in total we contribute over 15,000 hours of volunteering per year. Since Heath Hands was founded in 1999 our volunteers have contributed over 120,000 hours to the conservation and maintenance of our green spaces – Hampstead Heath, Kenwood Estate, Keats House and Highgate Wood. We deliver up to 20 sessions per week and have had many thousands of people taking part as volunteers – people of all ages and backgrounds get involved, improving the health and wellbeing of all.

Our Wild about Hampstead Heath project has helped connect over 15,000 people to nature and wildlife on the green spaces and since 2017 our Community Heath project has delivered over 400 events and supported over 3,000 people with social disadvantages or disabilities to get involved in volunteering and recreation.

This year we relaunched our youth and schools programmes, supporting more young people, especially those from underrepresented backgrounds, into the environmental sector. We also launched a work experience programme to provide pathways into employment.

Financial review

Total cash funds at the end of the period were approximately £76,434. Approximately £61,615 was held in deposit accounts.

Total receipts for the period were £81,710 coming from donations, grants, merchandise, and bank interest. Our corporate volunteering income was nil for the year, due to the pandemic.

Total expenditure for the period was £66,999 and included payroll, session leaders, catering, events, marketing, office expenses, volunteer uniform and equipment, insurance and training.

The charity's principal sources of income are donations, merchandise, grant funding, plus the benefits in kind set out in the Notes to the Accounts.

Statement on reserves

The trustees of Heath Hands employ a prudent approach in terms of financial management, retaining a fairly large reserve against risk, but spending a proportion of the reserves on beneficial projects that enhance our green spaces in line with our charitable objectives and Strategic Plan. The reserves were generated from a variety of sources including a major legacy left by our founder Bobby de Joia.

Heath Hands will retain reserves to cover 12-18 months of core operational costs for the charity, equating to around £40,000. Financial unrestricted reserves on 31st March 2021 were £41,414

Tony Bruce 25.6.21

Heath Hands Highlights - 2020/21

Covid-19 impacts our programmes and leads to suspension of activities



Activities restart in June with new procedures and limitation on activities. Welfare a priority.

Digital #lovetheheath project celebrates 150th anniversary of Hampstead Heath Act



Fundraising and grant income increases, staff team expanded with recruitment of a team of Session Leaders for youth and community sessions. Project Coordinator appointed in April

Highgate Wood: weekly sessions resume in September 2020



Golders Hill Park, Keats and Hill Garden: sessions resumed in July 2020



Over 3000 hours contributed across over 320 sessions

Friends of Heath Hands membership grows to over 40

Online shop launches featuring a range of merchandise



Youth volunteering programmes relaunched in October, with weekly after school and weekend sessions



Wildlife monitoring programmes restart with limitations in place gradually with staff initially running reptile and dragonfly transects



Heath Friendly Schools (HFS) scheme relaunched in November to help get local schools involved

Wildlife Home adoption scheme launched in May - 41 adoptions pledged so far

Kenwood Estate sessions resume in August



Community Heath outreach activities resume in September with a variety of groups including older people, parents and toddlers, disabled groups welcomed to take part.



Wildlife Interpretation (WaHH) sessions remain suspended due to Covid



Programme of mindfulness and mental health activities launched with funding from Postcode Lottery

One work experience trainee appointed in 2020 with funding from Camden Giving secured to support four placements in 2021

Festive sessions and walks programme for volunteers and community in December.



Corporate volunteering largely suspended with single group in October - Corporate membership scheme launched.

Dozens of litter picking sessions carried out over the summer with volunteers and local groups



Minutes of 2020 Annual General Meeting, 29th September, 18.30, (online)

Welcome

Cindy Galvin (CG) welcomed attendees and guests. Apologies received from Ian Greenwood, Lesley Lander and Stuart Clark

Minutes of the 2019 AGM

The minutes were circulated prior to the meeting. There being no matters arising, acceptance proposed by Margaret Bloom, seconded by Merlin Fox.

Chair's Report and Trustees' Annual Report

Cindy highlighted that this meeting and the Annual Report reviews the year ending 31st March 2020, just prior to the lockdown associated with COVID.

Record levels of volunteering were reached, over 13,000 hours contributed and 550 sessions. Our community and disabled group activities have been very worthwhile, now engaging over 2,000 participants.

Our Wildlife Monitoring and Wildlife Interpreting projects were busy as ever, with exciting developments on the monitoring side, with dragonfly and butterfly monitoring programmes launched.

Cindy thanked everyone for their contribution the year, and our partner organisations the City of London and English Heritage for working with us so supportively. Bob Warnock from the City of London and Crissy Mulrain from English Heritage gave words of encouragement.

Cindy thanked the trustees for their work, in particular Robert Spigel, stepping down after many dedicated years. Robert spoke admiringly about Heath Hands, particularly our support for the community– expressing hope that the charity becomes more representative of our local communities.

Rachel Chapman and Merlin Fox shared their experiences as trustees, and we welcomed new committee members, Liz Andrew, Nicola Sinclair and Sarah Williams, who introduced themselves. A warm welcome was extended to Anne Fairweather, who, as Chair of the Hampstead Heath Management Committee, is appointed as ex-officio committee member this year. Thanks were expressed for Anne's predecessor Karina Dostalova and her championing and support for us.

Cindy invited Karin, Rory and Jo from the staff team to talk about their experiences running community, conservation, monitoring and wildlife interpreting projects through the year. All were warmly thanked for their dedication and hard work.

Treasurer's report

Tony Braca presented the financial report, noting Heath Hands is in a healthy financial position with expenditure below budget and income above, meaning a smaller than the deficit outlined in our reserves policy. Payroll is increased, but reflects the growth of the charity, and more spending on beneficial projects e.g. Community Heath and nature and wildlife projects.

Thanks to grant funders: CoLC Central Grants and Camden Giving, and the companies that supported us financially and volunteer. Thanks to English Heritage and CoLC for their strong support in terms of office space and partnership agreement, and our independent examiner Regis Meiffredy.

Finally thanks to all our supporters and Friends group, those who donate, and major donors: Kenwood Lady Walkers, Google, Waitrose and the children of Southbank International School.

Election of Trustees

There being one nomination for each position attendees were made aware of limitations of voting via Zoom, the membership were asked whether there were any objections to the following members being elected for 2020/21, there were none:

Cindy Galvin (Chair), Rachel Chapman (Deputy Chair), Tony Braca (Treasurer), Alan Merkel (Secretary)

Merlin Fox (Volunteer Representative), Stuart Clark (Volunteer Representative), Liz Andrew (Volunteer Representative), Sarah Williams (Volunteer Representative), Ian Greenwood (Volunteer Representative), Nicola Sinclair (Volunteer Representative)

AOB

Cindy thanked everyone for attending and closed by remarking again on another exceptional year of exciting projects at Heath Hands. Rachel Chapman expressed her thanks on behalf of everyone for Cindy's incredible contribution as Chair.

Colin Houston was invited to make some closing remarks, touching on the team effort, and the exciting period of development that Heath Hands is going through. With Hampstead Heath being such a unique green space the challenges are ever-changing, and having the support of colleagues, partner organisations, trustees and everyone is incredible. Colin noted the exciting developments around fundraising and youth projects, and welcomed our new Session Leaders: Sham, Avi and Carolina to the team.

Colin finished his comments by sharing a photo of the first post-lockdown volunteer session from June, and remarked on its significance, representing a hopeful future of activity for Heath Hands.

Cindy closed the meeting at 19.30

Heath Hands registered charity number 1173419

Accounts for the year to 31st March 2021

		2021	2020
Account balances 31 March 2021	Lloyds Cash	£14,818	£10,596
	Lloyds Savings	Nil	£10,000
	United Trust Savings	£51,365	£30,926
	Virgin Money Savings	£10,251	£10,200
		<u>£76,434</u>	<u>£61,723</u>

Expenditure and Income

Expenditure	2020/21 to 31 Mar	2020/21 to 31 Mar	2020/21 to 31 Mar	2019/20 Actual
	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total £	Total £
Catering	215		215	676
Events	0		0	1,586
Transportation	3,376		3,376	-
Insurance	595		595	566
Marketing	982		982	410
Office Expenses	2,955		2,955	2,960
PPE/Uniform	386		386	1,715
Training	1,250		1,250	1,831
Volunteer Expenses	19		19	200
Employee Pension	636		636	-
Payroll	18,437	19,323	37,760	18,946
Projects - TNLCF - direct costs		10,584	10,584	-
Projects - Community Heath - direct costs	40	5,628	5,668	3,982
Project - Work experience - direct costs		57	57	-
Project - Conservation Projects	2,516		2,516	4,086
total	31,407	35,592	66,999	36,965
Income				
Bank Interest	595		595	782
Merchandise	2,147		2,147	449
Donations	5,806		5,806	4,311
Friends	1,308		1,308	273
Wildlife Adoption	1,330		1,330	-
Gift Aid	2,057		2,057	0
Corporate	0		0	8,920
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	2,768		2,768	-
Grant - TNLCF		22,500	22,500	-
Grants	5,500	37,699	43,199	11,193
total	21,511	60,199	81,710	25,927
Surplus (Deficit)	(9,896)	24,605	14,711	(11,038)
Cash funds last year end	£51,308	£10,415	£61,723	
Cash funds this year end	£41,414	£35,020	£76,434	

Statement of assets and liabilities as at 31/03/2021

Bank balances

	2021	2020
Lloyds Cash	£14,818	£10,596
Lloyds Savings	Nil	£10,000
United Trust Savings	£51,365	£30,926
Virgin Money Savings	£10,251	£10,200
TOTAL	£76,434	£61,723

Other assets

Equipment	£2,600
Leased ATV vehicle	£16,400
TOTAL	£19,000

Liabilities

Remaining ATV vehicle lease payments (over 24 months)	£13,120
TOTAL	£13,120

Notes to accounts:

1. The full-time Projects and Volunteer Manager is seconded from the City of London Corporation which meets all their costs.
2. The charity also occupies the Dairy at Kenwood House rent-free in return for work done for the owner, the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England at Kenwood House and elsewhere
3. Grants received in 2020-21: TNL Community Fund (£22,500), City of London Corporation (£10,000 of £17,500), Mayor of London Young Londoners' Fund (£9,025 of £9,500), Camden Giving Pathways (£7,274 of £9,092), Postcode Local Trust (£6,000), Camden Giving Covid Recovery (£5,000), Young Camden Foundation (£5,000), Tesco Covid Fund (£500), Camden Festival Fund (£400).
4. TNL Community Fund: £11,916 of the total £22,500 grant was spent on payroll and session leaders (in payroll line of accounts)
5. In the 2019/20 accounts some of the payroll costs were included in Project costs. The 2019/20 comparatives shown in these accounts have been corrected so that all staff costs are now included in "Payroll".
6. Donations include Waitrose (£983), Kenwood Walking Group (£400), Benevity (£220).


Tony Braca, Treasurer


Simon Erskine FCA FCIE DChA

Independent Examiner's report on the accounts

Report to the trustees / members of Heath Hands, registered charity 1173419

On the accounts for year ending 31st March 2021 set out on the preceding two pages.

Responsibilities and basis of the report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2021.

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:



Date:

18.6.21

Name:

Simon Erskine, FCA FCIE DChA

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Heath Hands

The Dairy

Kenwood House, Hampstead Lane

London

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Registered charity no: 1173419