

Trustees' annual report for the period from 01 January 2018 to 31 December 2019

Formatted: Bottom: 2 cm, Header distance from edge: 1.25 cm, Footer distance from edge: 1.25 cm

Deleted:

Deleted: 8

Reference and administrative details

Charity name	Peak and Northern Footpaths Society
Other names charity is known by	PNFS
Registered charity number	212219
Charity principal address	Taylor House 23 Turncroft Lane Stockport SK1 4AB

Formatted: Font: Not Bold

Names of the charity trustees who manage the society

Trustee name	Office (if any)
David Hurrell	Chairman
Gavin Miller	
Paul Easthope	Treasurer
David Brown	Secretary
David Morton	
Mel Bale	
David Gosling	
Jenny Allen	

Formatted: Tab stops: 4 cm, Right

Deleted: (Appointed 4 March 2018)

Names and addresses of advisors

Bank	Cooperative Bank, PO Box 250, Delf House, Southway, Skelmersdale WN8 6WT
Direct debits	CAF Bank, 25 Kings Hill, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4TA
Financial advisor	Gideon Foster at Charles Stanley, 6 th Floor, Sunlight House, Quay Street, Manchester, M3 3JZ

Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document	Constitution adopted 04 April 2018
How the charity is constituted	Unincorporated association
Trustee selection method	Trustees are elected or reappointed at the AGM in April

Additional governance issues

The Society is a statutory consultee on all proposed changes to public rights of way in our area, which comprises the ceremonial counties of Lancashire (south of the River Kent), Cheshire, West Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Staffordshire.

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity as set out in its governing document

- a) Creating, preserving and improving open spaces, public access rights and rights of way (other than for mechanically propelled vehicles); particularly in Cheshire, Derbyshire, Lancashire and Staffordshire, the former Metropolitan Counties of Greater Manchester, Merseyside, South and West Yorkshire and in Blackburn & Darwen, Blackpool, Derby, Halton, Stoke-on-Trent and Warrington
- b) Preventing the abuse of such rights
- c) Monitoring, supporting and opposing proposals and orders for the creation, closure, diversion and regrading of public rights of way
- d) Erecting and maintaining direction posts, signs, footbridges and commemorative and other structures which improve access

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.25 cm, Hanging: 0.5 cm

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0.25 cm

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

- Scrutinising proposals to modify the public right of way network in our area
- Arranging a programme of inspection for that network
- Taking legal action to deal with faults on that network
- Funding improvements to that network
- Erecting signposts
- Funding footbridges

Formatted: Indent: Hanging: 1.02 cm, Tab stops: 0.75 cm, Left + Not at 1.26 cm

Additional details of objectives and activities

We are grateful for the many hours volunteers have spent working, both inside and outside. Without these volunteers the Society would be unable to function.

Formatted: Indent: Left: 0 cm

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

As statutory consultees we have examined 167 public paths orders and dealt with 143 consultations, 8 public space protection orders, 2 objections and 155 other matters. A small but significant increase on the previous year

We have increased our Inspector numbers from 112 to 121, covering 583 parishes (up from 522 in 2018). They inspect the footpaths in their parishes under the guidance of 9 Area Officers and have discovered 2,009 faults. Only 17% of these have been resolved, largely because financial cutbacks mean that local authorities rarely have the manpower to deal with them all.

But we do not hesitate to be robust about dangerous or persistent faults and our 6 Courts and Inquiries Officers (C&IOs) have been authorised on 22 occasions to serve notice (under s56 or s130A of the Highways Act) on highway authorities. We always precede serving the notice with sending a letter before action. This often prompts them to repair the fault without our needing recourse to serving the order.

The Society has been involved in a number of cases to claim paths on behalf of the walking public where the route is not recorded on the definitive map (DMMOs). This involves extensive work in collecting both verbal and historic evidence and in one case we have instructed counsel to present our case

14 New signposts have been erected throughout our area making a total of 526. The programme of inspecting and maintaining each signpost every three years remains on track. A few vandalised signposts have been repaired or replaced. Unfortunately a new toposcope on Win Hill was stolen after only a few weeks. Total expenditure £6,060

One footbridge was funded by the Society at a cost of £5,000. We hand these over to the appropriate highway authority as we are unable to guarantee to maintain them in perpetuity. Highway authorities seem to be increasingly reluctant to take ownership of bridges.

The right to fund improvements to the public rights of way network was approved at the AGM in April 2018 and we are vigorously pursuing this policy despite the reluctance of many Highway Authorities to take on addition commitments. One scheme this year with PDNA costing £4,512

Deleted: 48

Deleted: 5

Deleted: 6

Deleted: 7

Deleted: 171

Deleted: 112

Deleted: Inspectors

Deleted: 22

Deleted: 330

Deleted: 3

Deleted: 26

Deleted: n

Deleted: . Twelve of these have been privately funded.

Deleted: Three

Deleted: Two

Deleted:

Deleted: s and one boardwalk

Deleted: s

Deleted: have been

Deleted: 4,586.

Deleted: 17,376

Financial review

Brief statement of the Society's policy on reserves

Our balance sheet at year end 2019, was £476,875 held in a combination of cash, investments and fixed assets (our office building, computer equipment, furniture and fittings).

Within this figure we have restricted funds of £61,010 and fixed assets of £60,654. We maintain a contingency fund of £10,000 for repairs to the aging office building and have ring-fenced legacy funds of £153,960

This leaves a reserve of £191,251. We look to maintain our reserves at between £164,000 and £218,000. These figures are reviewed annually and increased in line with RPI.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details

Our main sources of income are subscriptions (gift aided where possible); dividends from investments; donations; and legacies. Since donations and legacies are sporadic and not guaranteed, we strive, successfully, to meet our day-to-day running costs from subscriptions and dividends and use other income to fund our programmes.

Since we are an unincorporated charity, we have vested title to our office building with the Official Custodian for Charities. The building is valued in the accounts at its purchase price rather than its current market value.

Other optional information

Future plans

We are attempting to widen the demographic of the Society, which is currently dominated by retired people. We are attempting to reach out to universities, Duke of Edinburgh award groups and other younger people.

We have introduced a new class of Inspector called Path Checkers who are encouraged to use modern smart-phones to report faults when they see them, but who are not, unlike Inspectors, active encouraged to seek out faults

We will continue instigating DMMOs and anticipate taking some of the current applications to public inquiry.

Deleted: 8

Deleted: 426,952

Deleted: 2,5

Deleted: 104,598.

Deleted: 89,190.

Deleted: 5

Deleted: 5

Deleted: 06

Deleted: The right to fund improvements to the public rights of way network was only approved at the AGM in April. We intend to make this a major part of our work in the future.¶

Declaration

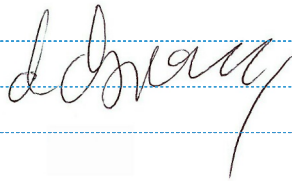
The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees.

Name David C Brown

Position Honorary Secretary

Date 09 March 2020



Deleted: ¶

Deleted: ¶

Deleted: ¶

Signature _____¶

Deleted: D

Formatted: Font: Comic Sans MS, 11 pt

Deleted: _____¶

Formatted: Underline

Deleted:

Formatted: Font: Comic Sans MS, 11 pt

Deleted: _____

Deleted:

Formatted: Font: Comic Sans MS, 11 pt

Deleted: 6

Deleted: 5

Deleted: 19

Formatted: Font: Comic Sans MS, 11 pt

Deleted: _____

Formatted: Font: Comic Sans MS, 11 pt

Formatted: Font: 11 pt



Peak & Northern Footpaths Society

No 212219

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2019 to 31/12/2019

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts				
Subscriptions	13,422		13,422	12,461
Affiliations	2,115		2,115	1,662
Legacies, bequests	20,808		20,808	40,182
A members restricted donation			0	0
Donations general	7,647		7,647	9,460
Donations signposts & footbridges		4,539	4,539	3,993
Gift Aid tax	4,097		4,097	3,613
Interest/Dividends	11,232		11,232	10,587
Miscellaneous	183		183	105
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	59,504	4,539	64,043	82,063
A2 Asset and investment sales				
Government stocks redemption	19,000		19,000	10,331
			0	0
Sub total	19,000	0	19,000	10,331
Total receipts	78,504	4,539	83,043	92,394
A3 Payments				
Taylor House running costs	6,027		6,027	4,501
Signpost & Footbridges	6,521	4,539	11,060	13,115
Travel & Subsistence	5,761		5,761	6,762
Printing, Copying, newsletter	6,465		6,465	5,177
Postage Telephone Stationary	2,989		2,989	3,059
Computer, Software & maintenance	2,870		2,870	2,858
Functions / Fundraising costs	1,020		1,020	1,285
Insurance	1,424		1,424	1,363
Subscriptions, Donations, Training	244		244	1,098
Improvements, Commemorative	4,512		4,512	181
Legal Professional & Secretarial	2,383		2,383	5,540
Sundries	212		212	120
Sub total	40,428	4,539	44,967	45,059
P & L SURPLUS			19,076	37,004
A4 Asset and investment purchases				
Investment Trusts	30,039		30,039	
			0	
Sub total	30,039	0	30,039	0
Total payments	70,467	4,539	75,006	45,059
Net of receipts/(payments)	8,037	0	8,037	47,335
A5 Transfers between funds	0	0	0	0
A6 Cash funds last year end	167,683	61,010	228,693	181,358
Cash funds this year end	175,720	61,010	236,730	228,693

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Savings accounts	149,612	61,010
	Current accounts & petty cash	26,108	0
	Total cash funds (agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	175,720	61,010
		OK	OK

	Details	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	Government stocks		
	Corporate bonds		70,755
	Equities		32,697
	Inv.trusts,pref shares,ETF funds		76,040
	TOTAL	0	179,492

	Details	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Taylor House building	60,153	
	Computer Equipment	13,458	
	Furniture fittings & other	4,351	
	P A sound system	1,509	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print name	Date of approval
	P Easthope	
	D C Brown	

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Peak and Northern Footpaths Society

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Peak and Northern Footpaths Society (the Charity) for the year ended 31st December 2019, set out on form CC16a.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

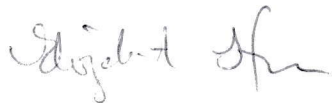
I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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 give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
2. 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.



Elizabeth Hudson ACA

30 Howey Lane, Congleton CW12 4AE

17th March 2020