

**The Heaton Woods Trust**  
**Chairman's Report**  
**2020**

The Heaton Woods Trust is a registered charity and like many charities at the moment we struggle to keep going at times so I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members for all your help and aid. If it wasn't for our generous members the Trust would not be one of the most beautiful, well managed and well maintained woodlands in the country.

The past twelve months have had its ups and downs for the Trust. As well as the usual vandalisms, we seem to have had a large number of fires in the woods resulting in the fire brigade being called. Some were the result of hot BBQ coals being left in the grass, and some were deliberate acts such as a burnt out motor bike (that the police swiftly removed) and the large tunnel that was located on the play area. The tunnel was created by hollowing out a large tree trunk so it could be used on the play area; unfortunately the tunnel was no longer safe after the fire was extinguished however we are hoping to replace it as soon as we have another large tree trunk.

### **Covid-19**

When the Covid-19 pandemic struck the government introduced the "lock down". Part of the governments measures/guidelines were that social gatherings were not permitted. Regrettably, the Trust were experiencing issues with some people not abiding by these restrictions, hence after consulting with the Charities Commission and Public Health England we were advised to close the woods. The Committee were faced with a difficult decision, but we concluded that the safest option was to close the sections of land where the groups has been congregating. This was a very difficult decision to make and was not made lightly. We were only closed for a little over 2 weeks which is when the government started to relax the guidelines. When the Trust was able to reopen we received an increase in new members, many of the new members live near the woods but had never ventured into the woods before the lockdown. Thankfully, the majority of our membership base understood why had to close and I would like to thank them for their patience's in this matter.

### **Land Sale**

Over the past several years the Trust has been struggling financially. The vast majority of work done on Trust land is on a voluntary basis, however it still cost the Trust between £6,000 - £9,000 per year to maintain and run the Trust. This meant we only had enough funds to last a year or two. However, one of our land neighbours approached the Trust offering to purchase a small, narrow strip of land which was approximately 80yrd long and 6yrd wide. The strip of land was virtually inaccessible from Trust land due to the elevation of the ground and the severity of the overgrown vegetation hence was of no use to the Trust. The Trust eventually received an offer of £54,000.00. After much consultation with the Charities Commission, solicitors, estate agents and solicitors all the factors were taken into account. It was decided that this was a very good offer and would secure the financial future of the Trust for many years to come hence the Trust accepted the offer. After the solicitor fee's were taken into account the Trust received £53,035.00 which has enabled the Trust to purchase some much needed equipment including a small ride on mower that is used to keep the overhanging grass away from the path edge.

### **Conservational Work**

The Trust was informed that an organisation called BASC were providing bat boxes and bird boxes for organisations involved in conservation work. The Trust contacting this organisation to see if they would be willing to donate some to the Trust. After informing BASC about the work of the Trust and what we try to achieve they agreed to provide the boxes and asked if we would require any further assistance because they have a large conservation department and would be happy to help the Trust

with various projects. The plan that we are entering into with BASC is that there will be various ecological surveys carried out to ascertain the current biodiversity of the Trust and to find out what species of flora and fauna are on Trust land. We will then be starting joint working parties, with an aim to teach other people conservation management techniques and hopefully build a regular volunteer group for the Trust. The various tasks that we will be looking to do with the volunteers will range from installing bird boxes, to creating duck nesting tubes, to creating wild flower meadows. Needless to say, the tasks will be wide ranging in the hope of further increasing the biodiversity of The Heaton Woods Trust. The arrangement will be beneficial to both organisations, BASC will have somewhere to teach conservation management techniques and the Trust will be able to carry out more conservation work within the woodland through the help of additional volunteers. An invitation will be sent out to all members about volunteering, anyone will be welcome regardless if they are a member or not.

Again, I would just like to thank all of our members for their continued support and all the hard work people have put into the Trust over the years, if it wasn't for the past and present volunteers The Heaton Woods Trust would not be the beautiful place that it is.

Yours faithfully

Richard Palframan  
Chairman of The Heaton Woods Trust

THE HEATON WOODS TRUST

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT for the year ended 31 March 2020

	<u>THIS YEAR</u>		<u>LAST YEAR</u>	
Unrestricted General Fund	£	£	£	£
<b>Income Receipts</b>				
Donations and Gift Aid subscriptions		4,252		8,172
Sale of produce & services	-		-	
Hire of machinery	380		500	
Sale of land (net proceeds)	<u>53,035</u>		<u>-</u>	
		53,415		500
<b>Total Receipts</b>		<u>57,667</u>		<u>8,672</u>
<b>Direct Charitable expenditure</b>				
Purchase & maintenance of equipment	4,476		2,447	
Woodland & pond maintenance & improvements	4,248		3,779	
Purchase of mower	<u>3,800</u>		<u>-</u>	
		12,524		6,226
<b>Other expenditure</b>				
Stationery and printing	343		338	
Insurance	2,179		1,980	
Sundry expenses	290		438	
Legal & professional costs	<u>-</u>		<u>60</u>	
		2,812		2,816
<b>Total payments</b>		<u>15,336</u>		<u>9,042</u>
<b>Net receipts/(payments) for the year</b>		<u>42,331</u>		<u>(370)</u>

# THE HEATON WOODS TRUST

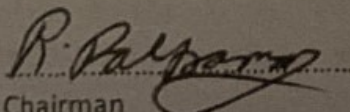
## STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES as at 31 March 2020

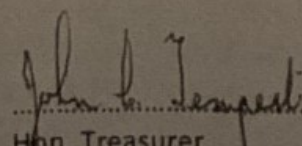
	<u>THIS YEAR</u>		<u>LAST YEAR</u>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>				
Freehold land (see note 1)		35,596		35,596
<b>Current assets</b>				
Barclays bank accounts	1		1	
Current bank account	<u>50,274</u>		<u>7,943</u>	
	50,275		7,944	
<b>Net current assets</b>		50,275		7,944
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>85,871</u>		<u>43,540</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>				
Unrestricted General Fund				
Balance at 31 March 2019	43,540		43,910	
Net receipts/(payments) for year	<u>42,331</u>		<u>(370)</u>	
		<u>85,871</u>		<u>43,540</u>

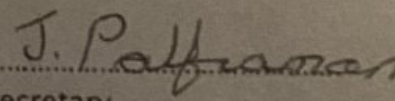
### Notes to the Accounts: 1.

Freehold land is valued at cost. No value has been attributed to growing timber. During the year a section of land was sold to a neighbouring property owner. The cost of land has not been reduced as the value of the remaining land is considered to be in excess of the book cost.

The above accounts were approved at a meeting of the Committee on ..... 5. 8. 2020

  
Chairman  
R Palframan

  
Hon. Treasurer  
E Bentham  
P.P.

  
Secretary  
J Palframan



**THE HEATON WOODS TRUST**

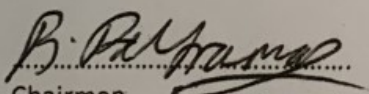
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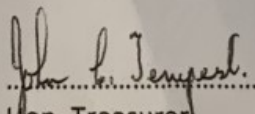
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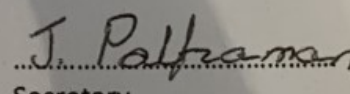
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R Palframan

  
Hon. Treasurer  
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**THE HEATON WOODS TRUST  
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO  
THE TRUSTEES OF THE HEATON WOODS TRUST**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2020 which are set out on pages 3-5

**Respective responsibilities of the 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 needed.

It is my 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 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**

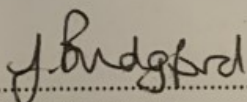
In connection with of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements:

- to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which agree with the accounting records and 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.

  
Julie Bridgford FCA  
Keith Bridgford & Co  
17 The Grove  
Ilkley  
LS29 9LW

5 August 2020  
Date



THE HEATON WOODS TRUST

STATEMENT OF COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trust's Constitution requires the Committee to prepare a Receipts and Payments Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for each financial year. In preparing those Accounts the Committee Members are required to:

Prepare the receipts and payments account on a consistent basis from year to year.

Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.

The Committee is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Committee and signed on its behalf.

Date

5. 8. 2020

J Palframan  
Secretary

J. Palframan