

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RINGSTEAD PROTECTION SOCIETY (Reg. No. 1173438)

FOR THE YEAR TO 30 JUNE 2018

CHARITY OBJECTIVE

The purpose of the charity is given below.

“The objects of the CIO are to protect, preserve and improve for the benefit of the residents and general public the area and surrounds of Ringstead and its Bay, to provide for enjoyment of it, to encourage appreciation of the tranquillity of the area and to care for its undeveloped character and for these purposes, but not otherwise, the CIO shall: -

1. inform and educate public opinion in order to ensure the promotion of the aforesaid objects;
2. make representations at public enquiries, consultations or similar or in such other ways as shall from time to time appear appropriate; and
3. take such other lawful action as shall be calculated to promote the aforesaid objects, and to consult and/or co-operate with any bodies or individuals concerned in the advancement of the objects of the CIO.”

CHARITY PROCESS

The Trustees consider that the majority of its objects are best achieved through gentle persuasion, discourse and influence on local councillors, landowners, residents and visitors.

CHARITY ACTIVITIES IN THE PERIOD FROM INCORPORATION TO 30 JUNE 2018

The charity came into existence on 15 June 2017 when the Charity Commission registered the society with number 1173438. This report is for the society's first year, which is slightly longer than 12 months.

The Society “took over” the activities of the charitable association (“CA”) also called the Ringstead Protection Society (charity number 281800) on 18 December 2017, which was the date that the CA ceased to trade. That CA has now been closed.

A lot of effort has gone into persuading members of the CA to become members of this CIO and also into setting up the administration of the new CIO. We can report overall that:

1. In terms of membership and fees:
 - a. In CA year ending 31/7/17 there was income of £435 (87 members)
 - b. In changeover year to 30/6/18 there was income of £490 (98 members)
 - c. In the current year that will end 30/6/19, at the date this report went to print, there is income of £420 (83 members)
 - d. 3 members who took the trouble to create their application forms and gift aid forms to “sign up” to the CIO have not yet paid their subscription (as of the date this report went to print).
 - e. So assuming that the 3 members do get their subscription payment completed, subscription income for the full year to 30/6/19 is forecast at £435 (86 members).
2. 13 people who were members in the year ending 31/7/17 have not become members of the new CIO. There was 1 resignation. The balance is made up by new members.

3. The CIO has defined family membership as 2 adults and 2 children aged between 16 and 25. We can report that there were 13 “child members” as at 30/6/2018 (the end of the year) 2 of whom have been invited to become full members as they were aged 25+ as of 1/7/18.

The Trustees have carried out the following activities during the year that contribute to the Society’s objects.

1. Discussed the erosion issues with WDDC (West Dorset District Council) who indicated that a new beach management plan may be commissioned in Autumn 2018.
2. Discussed with the local district councillor the present situation over the adoption of two unitary authorities in Dorset and its implications for Ringstead.
3. As last year, made a short presentation to the annual meeting of the Osmington Parish Council (chaired by Nick Ireland – our district councillor) to explain the purpose and achievements of the society.
4. We can report that the car parking meter at the National Trust car park at the top of the hill has not been replaced since it was removed last year.
5. Held a number of Trustee meetings to ensure the RPS CIO starts operation with the correct administration systems and in compliance with the Charity Commission and HMRC.
6. We have an active project to examine our obligations in relation to the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) with Reed Smith law firm.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

In this first year of operation when the CIO “took over” the operations of the CA, any member who paid to the CA was not required to pay again to the CIO. So financial income for the CIO this year and to which this report relates is only for those members who did not pay a subscription to the CA.

The main source of income that the charity receives is contributions from its members. Membership is £5 per family or individual per year. 25 contributions were received totalling £125 this year.

Secondary sources of income are: -

- Gift Aid reclaims £24
- Bank account savings interest £86

The society has no assets other than cash and the Society’s policy is to hold that cash with reputable institutions. As of the end of this year the cash is invested in a savings account, with the Hampshire Trust Bank (HTB) and a current account with Lloyds. The HTB account is a 120 day notice account. Funds can be recovered from the HTB account with no notice but an interest penalty would then be applied.

As of the financial year end of 30 June 2018 the Society has funds of £14,681 of which £10,000 was held in the savings account, £4,572 in the current account, £24 due from HMRC as gift aid reclaim for the 2017-2018 year membership fees and £85 as accrued interest in the HTB account (the actual interest is credited annually on 18 December).

