


ASHBY CANAL ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES REPORT and ANNUAL REVIEW for the YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2018

Reference and Administrative Details

Ashby Canal Association is a Registered Charity No 1063566 and a company limited by guarantee No 3396198 Registered in England; registered office: 48 The Ridgeway, Burbage, Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 2NR

Trustees :

P. Oakden (chairman)	D. Watts	C.J. Walker
C.W. Blackford	R. Smith	J.A. Boston
R. Taylor	R Dyason	M Wooding
C A Aston	I Palmer	A Smith

Advisers: G. Pursglove (Chairman, Ashby Canal Trust); Prof. O.P. Mulka, (President of the Association).
M. Bird (newsletter editor, design adviser and web-master), H Worth, (IWA Honorary Engineer.)

Bankers: HSBC Bank plc, Market Place, Hinckley, LE10 1NU

Solicitors: GS Solicitors, 23 Station Rd., Hinckley, LE10 1AW.

Independent examiner of accounts: Elizabeth Riley ACMA, 53 Ashby Rd Central, Shepshed, LE12 9BS

Associated enterprise: Fund-raising trading activities for the Association were undertaken by The Ashby Canal Co. Ltd, whose directors (nominees of ACA) were: J. E. Roddis (Chairman), C.W. Blackford (Secretary), D. Watts, M Wooding, J. Dillon (Non-executive), N. Smith (Non-executive).

Vice Presidents: S.J.Wain; J.C.Beaney **Patron:** (fom Sept 2018) A Bridgen MP

Structure, Governance and Management

Ashby Canal Association ("ACA") was incorporated on 2nd July 1997 and is governed by Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 10th June 1997. It took over the activities of the former unincorporated organisation of the same name originally founded in February 1966. The trustees are nominated and elected by the members of the Association from within the membership, serve for a period of three years, and retire by rotation. They form the management committee, undertaking the day to day running of ACA's affairs and decision-making. There are no outside appointees.

No committee members received any remuneration for their services, other than payment of out-of-pocket expenses, such as postage, travelling expenses, etc., most of which was donated back to the Association. A Health & Safety policy is in place and safety issues were reviewed at management committee meetings. Public liability and other major risks are covered by appropriate insurance. Major risks were kept under review. For events and work parties, risk assessments are carried out. Appropriate financial policies are in place, and the accounts are subject to independent examination.

Objects and Activities

(1) (a) **The principal objectives** of the Association, set out in full in its Memorandum of Association, are to improve the condition of, preserve, and enhance the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Canal for the benefit of the public, and to promote and assist the restoration of the derelict northern reaches of the canal.

(b) **The Trustees declare** that the Association's objectives are not exclusive to any particular interest group, are for public benefit, and that the charity constitutes a public benefit entity under Financial reporting Standard 102.

All the Association's activities are continuing operations and the Association is a going concern.

(2) **Relationships with other organisations and charities**

The Association maintained working relations with The Canal and River Trust [CRT], The Inland Waterways Association [IWA], The Ashby Canal Trust [ACT], Shackerstone Festivals Ltd, Leicestershire County Council [LCC], North West Leics. Distinct Council [NWLDC], Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council [HBBC], Natural England, the Environment Agency, and the Ashby Canal Forum. During the year it had dialogue with local district and county councillors and Member of Parliament. The Association is a corporate member of the Inland Waterways Association, a member of the Association of Waterways Cruising Clubs, and is represented on the board of the Ashby Canal Trust.

(3) **Volunteer contributions**

ACA is fortunate to have many volunteers. Volunteer work parties undertook regular maintenance of the Association's canal-side land and buildings at Snarestone Wharf, clearance work on the line of the canal around the Gilwiskaw Aqueduct and work at the Illott Wharf site. They also assisted ACT work parties at Moira. A project to refurbish benches along the canal continued. ACA's publicity/sales stand was staffed by volunteers at Moira Canal Festival and Shackerstone Family Festival. All administrative, membership, secretarial and accountancy work was done voluntarily. The organization of ACA's social events, newsletter editing, database, publicity design and web-site management were also undertaken entirely by volunteers or as gifts in kind. Work connected with the oversight of Heritage Lottery Funded archeological survey work and public events related thereto, was done by volunteers, as was planning for the next phases of canal restoration. ACA's sales and information kiosk at Snarestone was available for visiting boaters and walkers, thanks to a dedicated group of volunteers and our volunteer site caretakers. In total, well over 4,000 hours of voluntary

work were contributed to the Association during the year, equivalent in monetary terms to approximately £49,300. The trustees record their sincere thanks to all those involved.

Achievements and Performance

- **Canal Restoration:** Restoration plans are in place for the stretch of canal northwards from Bridge 62, and the reconstruction of Gilwiskaw Aqueduct. Clearance work was carried out at the Ilott Wharf site to enable an archeological survey to be carried out. This survey was conducted by Leicester University, and funded by a grant of £10,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and a grant of £1150 from Leicester Archeological and Historical Society (LAHS). A final report on outcomes of the archeological survey is due at the end of 2018. Leicestershire County Council indicated during the year that due to changed financial circumstances they did not wish to continue to pursue their involvement in the canal restoration scheme and would be prepared to transfer the powers held under the 2005 Transport and Works Act Order to ACA, subject to Government Approval, so that ACA could take the project forward.

- **Fund Raising:** The Restoration Appeal continued, with the Gilwiskaw Aqueduct appeal continuing to be successful. A successful fund-raising Quiz Night was held in November. Donations from the Moira Canal Festival, and ACA's share of the surplus from the 2017 Shackerstone Family Festival also added to the restoration funds. Profit from The Ashby Canal Co. Ltd. (ACA's trading company) amounting to £10,021, was donated under covenant to the Association.

- **Publicity:** We have provided information for visitors through leaflets, free maps, notice boards, as well as the information kiosk at Snarestone. A new walk leaflet was produced and distributed through local outlets and Tourist Information Centres. The Association's website was kept up to date as an information source for all.

- **Public Events:** ACA assisted with, and had a major presence at the popular Moira Canal Festival in May 2018 and the Shackerstone Family Festival in September 2018. Over the spring and summer, public events were held at the Ilott Wharf site as part of the archeological survey, and an oral history training session relating to Ilott Wharf was also held.

- **General** ACA representatives attended CRT Waterway User Group meetings during the year.

Development proposals and planning applications affecting the whole length of the canal and its environment were scrutinized by the management committee, and comments made where appropriate to local authorities.

ACA continued to manage the use of the slipway and moorings at Snarestone, which are owned by LCC. This arrangement provided a valued service to trail-boater, canoeists and visiting boaters.

The off-line nature reserve at Snarestone, on ACA land, continued to provide a valuable thriving habitat for wildlife, as did the newly restored section of canal. Maintenance work on this reserve was carried out by volunteers. The boundary hedge was professionally trimmed and laid.

Social meetings with speakers, which were open to members and the general public, were held during the winter and spring months to promote interest in the canal and its historic and social environment.

The Shackerstone Family Festival was held in September. Visiting pleasure craft, plus historic working boats were a feature of the festival.

ACA's newsletter, 'Spout', was published quarterly, to communicate with members and the public.

ACA's web-site [ashbycanal.org.uk] provided news and information, and also facilitated many e-mail enquiries from the public. The Facebook Group 'Ashby Canal Association Friends' continued to grow in popularity.

In September, Andrew Bridgen, MP for N.W. Leicestershire constituency, demonstrated his continued support for ACA's canal restoration efforts by agreeing to be a patron of the Association.

- **Major Risks** The major risks are (a) that ACA would not have sufficient funds to carry out its day to day objectives, (b) that volunteer input would not continue at its present level, as all its activities are performed by volunteers. Both these issues are regularly reviewed by the management committee and policies put in place to help mitigate the risks.

Financial review

Policy on reserves

The management committee's policy is to maintain a general reserve at a prudent level, sufficient in their view to meet anticipated revenue expenditure in the short term (up to one year). ACA also holds designated reserve funds to enable the Association to make substantial financial contributions towards the canal restoration scheme over the next five years; this includes specific funds designated for bricks for the construction of the Gilwiskaw aqueduct.

Other financial information

Subscriptions and donations from members and the public continued to form a large part of ACA's revenue, most of which were gift-aided. Specific donations were received towards the restoration of the canal's northern reaches. ACA records its thanks to all its donors.

The Ashby Canal Co. Ltd. raised funds for ACA through its sales shop, and a bric-a-brac stall. A PayPal account was operated to facilitate bric-a-brac sales via eBay, and from summer 2018 card payment facilities were introduced. The company also sold newsletter advertising, collected mooring and slipway fees, and received a share of the proceeds of the Shackerstone Festival. All of the company's profits, amounting to £10021, were donated to ACA. The Association records its thanks to all who have supported it with cash or in kind, and to all the volunteers.

Interest rates remained low during the year. Some reserve balances were placed in short term HSBC Money Market accounts. A conservative low-risk approach is taken to investing funds. Life memberships are recorded in a separate fund and written back into revenue over a period of ten years.

The detailed financial results are set out in the statement of accounts showing a surplus for the year. The accounts show details of the designated funds allocated to the restoration scheme. No funds were held on behalf of others. All funds are deposited in a UK bank. There were no funds in deficit. The accounts have been independently examined and certified.

Membership

Membership figures continued to grow. At 30th September 2018 there were 522 members including 139 life members. (2017 : total membership 517)

THE TRUSTEES DECLARE THAT THEY HAVE APPROVED THE ABOVE REPORT
Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees **PETER OAKDEN** Chairman, 7th January 2019

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2018**

Statement of Financial Activities	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds	<i>Prior year 2017</i>
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Donations legacies and subscriptions:				
<i>(note 2)</i> Subscriptions received from members (incl Gift Aid)		5,059.45	5,059.45	5,318.00
<i>(note 2)</i> Donations, appeals and grants received (incl Gift Aid)		8,270.90	8,270.90	5,903.01
<i>(note 2)</i> Donated services and facilities		500.00	500.00	520.00
Legacy received (2017)			0.00	5,000.00
Grants Received				
Heritage Lottery Grant for Ilott Wharf Archaeology	10,000.00		10,000.00	-
LAHS Grant	1,150.00		1,150.00	-
Income Earned from other activities				
Fund raising activities and events		1,089.50	1,089.50	1,502.88
Profits from The Ashby Canal Co. Ltd		10,021.64	10,021.64	9,230.34
Miscellaneous income		50.00	50.00	50.00
Investment and other income				
Interest Received		806.44	806.44	264.87
TOTAL INCOME	11,150.00	25,797.93	36,947.93	27,789.10
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Expenditure on raising funds				
Publicity		1,026.37	1,026.37	292.78
Quiz Night Expenditure		352.93	352.93	286.38
Charitable Activities				
Publications		1,859.34	1,859.34	2,152.45
Canal restoration project		1,748.28	1,748.28	720.80
Canal enhancement projects		264.79	264.79	525.75
Ilott Wharf Project	1,149.60	472.00	1,621.60	-
Work parties, site expenses, health & safety, training		1,237.03	1,237.03	1,235.96
Meetings, talks, events		160.00	160.00	290.00
Donations and grants made (2017)		-	-	40.00
Other expenditure				
Subscriptions paid		111.00	111.00	111.00
Depreciation of fixed assets		334.00	334.00	405.00
Legal, audit, licences and bank charges		55.27	55.27	56.00
Administration		1,723.43	1,723.43	907.75
Insurance		714.00	714.00	699.67
Miscellaneous		60.03	60.03	14.87
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,149.60	10,118.47	11,268.07	7,738.41
NET INCOME (surplus of income over expenditure for the year)	10,000.40	15,679.46	25,679.86	20,050.69
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS (Note 4)				
Movement on funds for the year				
Balances b/f at 1 st Oct 2017		210,454.92	210,454.92	#####
net increase in life membership fund (note 2)		38.67	38.67	840.60
surplus of income over expenditure for year	10,000.40	15,679.46	25,679.86	20,050.69
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	10,000.40	226,173.05	236,173.45	#####

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2018

prior year 2017

Tangible Fixed Assets (note 3)

Freehold land		13,257.00	13,257.00
Portable buildings, swingbridge, tools & equipment, at cost	11,008.84		10,652.85
less accumulated depreciation	(7,595.00)	3,413.84	(7,395.00)
		<u>16,670.84</u>	<u>16,514.85</u>

Current Assets

Debtor – The Ashby Canal Co. Ltd.	773.00		610.00
Bank Balances - deposit account	140,864.43		24,957.99
- money market accounts short notice	49,900.00		#####
- current account	27,876.16		17,426.70
Cash in hand	238.02		102.38
	<u>219,651.61</u>		<u>#####</u>

Creditors falling due in less than one year

Subscriptions in advance	(149.00)		(157.00)
other creditors	0.00		0.00
		<u>219,502.61</u>	<u>#####</u>

Net current assets

TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>236,173.45</u>	<u>#####</u>
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ACCUMULATED FUNDS (note 4)

	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds	
General Fund		94,818.37	94,818.37	83,005.76
Life membership Fund		7,503.27	7,503.27	7,464.60
Restoration scheme (aqueduct) [Designated Fund]		75,534.06	75,534.06	72,173.56
Restoration scheme (general) [Designated Fund]		48,317.75	48,317.75	47,811.00
Ilott Wharf Project (Heritage Lottery Fund Grant)	10,000.00		10,000.00	-
	<u>10,000.00</u>	<u>226,173.45</u>	<u>236,173.45</u>	<u>#####</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**1. Basis of Preparation**

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The accounts have been produced in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice for Accounting and Reporting by Charities (FRS102) issued 16th July 2014

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FF It is a company limited by guarantee registered in England. It is a going concern.

2. Accounting policies

The accounts present a true and fair view. There have been no changes in accounting policies. The standard list of accounting policies outlined in FRS102 have been applied except for the treatment of life membership fees treated as outlined below, a policy applied since 2010.

Life membership fees are capitalised and written into the accounts over a period of 10 years.

Life membership fees received during the year (including Gift Aid)= £872.37

Gift Aid reclaimed in year has been credited to the relevant income source

Gift aid claimed in year = £1707.84, credited to Subscriptions £715.75; Life membership £192.37; General donations £392.22 Aqueduct appeal £407.50

Donated services and facilities (gifts in kind)

Donated services used immediately are recognised as income with an equivalent amount recognised as an expense under the appropriate heading

The Association acknowledges with thanks Donated Services from the following: The Rising Sun PH, Shackerstone for committee room hire value £150; and Martin Bird (Birdhouse Design Ltd) for website, graphic design and publicity services value £350.

Grants Received are credited in the year of receipt. (see also note 4)

3 Assets

The standard list of accounting policies in FRS 102 relating to assets have been applied. The charity has no intangible assets

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis at rates between 5 – 20% over the expected life of the asset.

No depreciation is provided on the charity's freehold land.

Tangible fixed assets: at cost b/ fwd at 1st Oct 2017	10652.85
additions during year	489.99
disposals - at cost	(134.00)
Depreciation provision thereon	<u>134.00</u>
Surplus or loss on disposals	<u>0.00</u>
	<u>11008.84</u>
Depreciation provision b/fwd at 1 st Oct 2017	7395.00
Depreciation charge for the year	334.00
Eliminated in disposals	<u>(134.00)</u>
Depreciation provision c/fwd at 30 th Sept 2018	<u>7595.00</u>
Written down value of tangible fixed assets 30th Sept 2017	<u>3413.84</u>

There have been no revaluations of fixed assets

The Association owns a heritage asset; an old ice-breaker located at Measham Museum.

This asset was acquired at no cost to the Association, and its value is historical rather than monetary,

4. Funds

The Association has over several years built up funds towards future costs of restoration of the Ashby Canal northwards from its

present navigable terminus, a project which is currently on-going. An Aqueduct Appeal Fund and a Restoration Fund are maintained as designated funds. to demonstrate the commitment of the Association to the Restoration Scheme, reflecting the wishes of the charity's supporters and donors.

Ilott Wharf Project: The Heritage Lottery Grant and LAHS Grants received during the year are restricted funds for work at the Ilott Wharf site prior to its eventual restoration. The HLF Grant is carried forward to cover future expenditure on this project.

Audit Exemption statement

- (a) For the year ending 30th Sept 2018 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under s477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies
- (b) The members have not required to company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with S476.
- (c) The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the Act with respect to keeping accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- (d) The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Independent Examination

The accounts have been independently examined by Elizabeth Riley ACMA, 53 Ashby Rd Central, Shepshed, Leics LE12 9BS certificate dated 28th November 2018

Signed Director and Chairman

.....Director

Date.....