


ASHBY CANAL ASSOCIATION

TRUSTEES REPORT and ANNUAL REVIEW for the YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019

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 A Smith
 R. Taylor R Dyason I Palmer (retired 14th Jan 2019)
 M Wooding C A Aston J A Boston (retired 14th Jan 2019)

Co-opted committee members from 21st Jan 2019: M Dyer; T 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:** 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. Along with co-opted members 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 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. District Council [NWLDC], Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council [HBBC], Natural England, the Environment Agency, and 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, work on the line of the canal around the Gilwiskaw Aqueduct and 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. Administrative, membership, secretarial and accountancy work was done voluntarily. The organization of social events, newsletter editing, database, publicity design and web-site management were also undertaken entirely by volunteers or as gifts in kind. The oversight of Heritage Lottery Funded archaeological 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 almost £50,000. The trustees record their thanks to all those involved.

Achievements and Performance

- **Canal Restoration:** Restoration plans are in place for the canal northwards from Bridge 62. Leicestershire County Council agreed to transfer the 2005 Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO) to ACA since they no longer wished to continue with their involvement in the canal restoration scheme. The implementation of this transfer is progressing and upon completion when ACA are the land-owners we will be in a position to apply for a substantial HLF Grant. The precursor to this was that we first carried out a HLF funded Industrial Archaeological investigation at Ilott Wharf which was completed and the formal report issued by Leicester University in April 2019. Rules for Lottery Grant Applications changed significantly early in 2019. Previously a grant for canal restoration could only be applied for where works remained on the original route. This is no longer the case, where the emphasis is now more on features including benefits to the public and local the community. Thus, when the TWAO transfer is complete we may apply for a grant from Bridge 62 to Measham or Bridge 62 to Gallows Lane.

- **Fund Raising:** The Restoration Appeal continued, with the Gilwiskaw Aqueduct appeal continuing to attract donations. 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 2018 Shackerstone Family Festival also added to the restoration funds. Profit from The Ashby Canal Co. Ltd. (ACC Ltd) amounting to £9267 was donated under covenant to the Association.

- **Publicity:** We provided information for visitors through leaflets, free maps, notice boards, as well as the information kiosk at Snarestone. ACA is a corporate member of Inland Waterways Association who invited nominations for the award of IWA Waterways Parliamentarian of the Year. ACA put forward our Patron, Andrew Bridgen MP and at a ceremony in Westminster on 13th May he was chosen for the post. This created publicity in national waterways press.

- **Public Events:** ACA assisted with, and had a major presence at the popular Moira Canal Festival in May 2019 and the Shackerstone Family Festival in September 2019.

- **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, provided a valuable thriving habitat for wildlife. Maintenance work on the reserve was carried out by volunteers. 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 25th and final Shackerstone Family Festival was held in 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 be popular.

- **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 generous donations from members and the public continued to form a large part of ACA's revenue. Most of these were gift-aided, though for one-off administrative reasons, reclaiming gift aid was delayed until after the year end. Specific donations were received towards the restoration of the canal's northern reaches. The Ashby Canal Co. Ltd. raised funds for ACA through its sales shop, and a bric-a-brac stall. A card payment system was installed, the costs being shared between ACA and ACC Ltd. The company also sold 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 £9267 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 net surplus of £4181 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 2019 there were 542 members, including 139 life members.. (2018 : total membership 522)

THE TRUSTEES DECLARE THAT THEY HAVE APPROVED THE ABOVE REPORT

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

PETER OAKDEN Chairman, 7th January 2020

ASHBY CANAL ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity No 1063566 Company registered in England No 3396198
Registered Office 48 The Ridgeway, Burbage, Hinckley, Leicestershire LE10 2NR

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019

Statement of Financial Activities	Restricted Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Total Funds	2018
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Donations legacies and subscriptions:				
(note 2) Subscriptions received from members		4672.16	4672.16	5,059.45
(note 2) Donations, appeals and grants received		9092.11	9092.11	8,270.90
(note 2) Donated services and facilities		500.00	500.00	500.00
Grants Received				
Heritage Lottery Grant for Ilott Wharf Archaeology (2018)	0.00			10,000.00
LAHS Grant for Ilott Wharf project (2018)	0.00			1,150.00
Income Earned from other activities				
Fund raising activities and events		1228.51	1228.51	1,089.50
Profits from The Ashby Canal Co. Ltd		9267.40	9267.40	10,021.64
Miscellaneous income		40.00	40.00	50.00
Investment and other income				
Interest Received		982.64	982.64	806.44
TOTAL INCOME	0.00	25782.82	25782.82	36,947.93
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Expenditure on raising funds				
Publicity		1221.31	1221.31	1,026.37
Quiz Night Expenditure		428.10	428.10	352.93
Charitable Activities				
Publications		2192.00	2192.00	1,859.34
Canal restoration project		18.19	18.19	1,748.28
Canal enhancement projects		526.07	526.07	264.79
Ilott Wharf Archeology Project	10000.00	462.99	10462.99	1,621.60
Work parties, site expenses, health & safety, training		2561.35	2561.35	1,237.03
Meetings, talks, events		400.00	400.00	160.00
Donations and grants made		0.00	0.00	.00
Other expenditure				
Subscriptions paid		111.00	111.00	111.00
Depreciation of fixed assets		328.00	328.00	334.00
Legal, audit, licences and bank charges		20.00	20.00	55.27
Administration		2633.38	2633.38	1,723.43
Insurance		686.00	686.00	714.00
Miscellaneous		12.99	12.99	60.03
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	10000.00	11601.38	21601.38	11,268.07
NET INCOME (surplus of income over expenditure for the year)	(10000.00)	14181.44	4181.44	25,679.86
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS (Note 4)				
Movement on funds for the year				
Balances b/f at 1 st Oct 2018	10000.00	226173.45	236173.45	210,454.92
net increase in life membership fund (note 2)		390.50	390.50	38.67
surplus of income over expenditure for year	(10000.00)	14181.44	4181.44	25,679.86
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	0.00	240745.39	240745.39	236,173.45
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2019				
Tangible Fixed Assets (note 3)				
Freehold land			13257.00	13,257.00
Portable buildings, swingbridge, tools & equipment, at cost		10896.02		11,008.84
less accumulated depreciation		(6708.00)	4188.02	(7,595.00)
			17445.02	16,670.84
Current Assets				
Debtor – The Ashby Canal Co.Ltd		600.00		773.00
Bank Balances - deposit account		21847.07		140,864.43
- money market accounts short notice		189900.00		49,900.00
- current account		10872.34		27,876.16
Cash in hand		80.96		238.02
		223300.37		219651.61
Creditors falling due in less than one year				
Subscriptions in advance		0.00		(149.00)
other creditors		0.00		
Net current assets			223300.37	219502.61
TOTAL NET ASSETS			240745.39	236173.45
ACCUMULATED FUNDS (note 4)				
General Fund		106479.81	106479.81	94818.37
Life membership Fund		7893.77	7893.77	7503.27
Restoration scheme (aqueduct) [Designated Fund]		77249.06	77249.06	75534.06
Restoration scheme (general) [Designated Fund]		49122.75	49122.75	48317.75
Ilott Wharf Project (Heritage Lottery Fund Grant 2018)	0.00		0.00	10000.00
	0.00	240745.39	240745.39	236173.45

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 is a company limited by guarantee registered in England. It is a going concern. The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

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 are treated as outlined below, a policy consistently 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 = £1267.50

Gift Aid is recorded as received and credited to the relevant income source. No Gift Aid was claimed during the year to 30/09/2019 but a backdated claim was subsequently submitted for inclusion in the following year's accounts. The 2018 figures include Gift Aid.

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 charity 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.

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.

There have been no revaluations of fixed assets.

Fixed asset disposals (at cost, fully depreciated) during the year = £1215.00 Additions to Fixed assets during the year at cost = £1102.18

The Association owns a heritage asset; an 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 as reflected by the wishes of the charity's supporters and donors.

Ilott Wharf Project. The Heritage Lottery Grant and LAHS Grants received during 2018 were restricted funds for work at the Ilott Wharf site prior to its eventual restoration. The HLF Grant was carried forward to 2019, and has now been spent as the project has been completed.

Audit Exemption statement

- (a) For the year ending 30th Sept 2019 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 requirements of the Act with respect to 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 19th December 2019

THE ASHBY CANAL CO LTD

Financial statements for the year ended 30th September 2019

				2018
Profit and Loss account				
Turnover:	Sales of merchandise	2857.00		3379.46
	Sales of ice cream and drinks	1982.10		2404.70
	Sales of bric a brac	5273.38		3442.72
	Advertising in Spout magazine	300.00		360.00
	Moorings, slipway and parking fees	472.00		720.00
	Rally Income (Shackerstone Festival)	1500.00		3100.00
	Donations	7.15		203.68
		12391.63		13610.56
		(2777.80)		(3395.58)
		9613.83		10214.98
Cost of goods sold				
GROSS PROFIT				
LESS	Admin and legal expenses	20.66		83.66
	Sales expenses	325.77		109.68
		346.43		193.34
NET PROFIT paid under covenant to Ashby Canal Association as a charitable donation		9267.40		10021.64
BALANCE SHEET as at 30th September 2019				
	Fixed assets	0		0
	Current assets:			
	stock	523.00		572.55
	bank balance	65.57		175.25
	cash in hand	13.43		27.20
		602.00		775.00
	less: Creditors due within one year (ACA)	(600.00)		(773.00)
		2		2
	Issued share capital	2		2

The accounts of the Ashby Canal Co. Ltd. have been independently examined by Elizabeth Riley ACMA, 53 Ashby Road Central, Shepshed, Leics, LE12 9BS. Certificate dated 19th December 2019