

The Green Charity - Chairman's Report 2014-2015

The Trustee held 12 formal meetings during the year. Most of its activities are related to the maintenance, appearance and preservation of the Green. The Green has been used for vintage car displays and of course football and cricket. Cllr Van de Weyer was elected as Chairman of the Trustee. David Whybrow has continued his role as Curator of the Green and supported the Trustee with advice on maintenance.

Only minor repair works to the Permitted Way roadways were carried out during the year under review., amounting to £2,662. This work was funded by the Permitted Way Licence scheme, together with donations for the use of the Green. This included the installation of some more kerbing adjacent access from the highway for protection of the Green from damage by commercial vehicles. The Green Charity thanks John Cobb & Sons Ltd for the high standard of their work for us.

In July of this year, the Green Charity will be offering Permitted Way Licences to Green residents for the period September 1st 2015 - August 31st 2019. The advice of the District Auditor will be requested on the Fee levels. The Trustee has alerted Green residents that these may indeed rise substantially.

Management of Heselton Green, the central area of the new development at Heselton Way, has been handed over to the Green Charity and specialist work to the surface continues. Fortunately, £3,355.76 currently remains of the Establishment Sum given to the Trustee to cover the required work to maintain this new Green.

The Green Charity held a very successful Open Meeting on May 15 2014, attended by over 118 residents and visitors. The Garden Licence Scheme was recommended to the Green Charity by Counsel, Mr Petchey, to record permitted encroachment on to the Green. 23 such gardens are now covered by a Garden Licence, with 3 in hand. The Minutes of the Open Meeting were emailed to many residents upon request, and displayed on the Village website. Following on from the Open Meeting, a group of residents requested additional signage on the Green to indicate the location of their properties, Numbers 1 to 25 High Street. The Trustee has supplied and fitted the sign and we hope it will be useful.

Attached to this report is a copy of the Audited Accounts for the year 2013-2014 and of the Draft Accounts for the year 2014-2015. The Trustee is grateful to Simon Lake for auditing the Accounts. The retiring Trustee left a balance of £13,095.24 in the current account, at the end of March 2015, which does include the Establishment Sum for Heselton Green.

The Trustee have developed a set of Guidelines for both the Green residents and everyone else, on using the Green for events and for private functions. The money raised goes towards maintaining our Green and was £906 during the past year.

I have been Chairman of the Green Trustees for nearly three years now. As I am standing down from the Parish Council in May, I must also cease as Chairman. It has been a huge pleasure to carry out the role over this time, and this pleasure is derived mainly from the privilege of working with people so committed to the cause of the Green. I therefore wish to thank them in the warmest possible manner: the Parish Councillors who sit on the Trustee, Laura Cooper, Anne Day, Judy Hardman, Sheila Potter, Rosamund Rhodes-Kemp and David Whybrow; the volunteers who contribute to the maintenance of different aspects of the Green, including Monty Goding, Ken Stapleton, John Watson, Brian Parkes and Justin Willmott; and, of course, the person who holds everything together, Margaret Goding, our Clerk.