



Photo: Simon Masson



Photo: Mike Goddard



Photo: Brian Bracher © Compass Aerial Photography

Chichester Harbour Trust

Review 2019

Founded in 2002, the Chichester Harbour Trust is a registered charity dedicated to the protection of Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). We believe that the strongest method of protection is by direct control through ownership or long leases, and we strive to achieve this end. We now safeguard over 255 acres of land across 13 sites throughout the AONB, working in close partnership with Chichester Harbour Conservancy, the local authorities and the harbour community.

Dear Supporter,

A very warm welcome to the Annual Review for the Chichester Harbour Trust 2019.

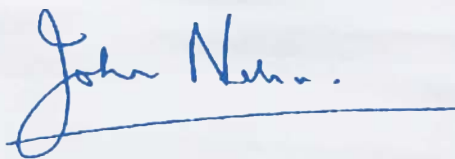
This has been a particularly busy year for the charity, with two new land purchases in Prinsted and Warblington, several more in the pipeline, and a great deal of policy activity particularly on the Chichester District Local Plan. We hope you enjoy reading about these projects in the coming pages.

The Trust's land holding now stands at 13 sites, with over 255 acres in our care – an achievement that we are proud of! However, this means that our reserves are now running low, and to this end we will be developing a new fundraising strategy over the coming year to identify ways to increase our funds so that we are in a strong position to act fast in purchasing new sites at risk.

You will see from our financial report that our operating costs remain low, but we still need to increase our regular income from standing orders to ensure that our running costs are sustainable.

Inside we celebrate the “Don’t Destroy our Harbour” campaign launched by the Chichester Observer to campaign against the potential damage caused by the proposed Chichester District Local Plan. We hope that the councillors and officers are listening, and will adapt the plan, in particular, to protect the vital landscape between the AONB and South Downs National Park.

As always, we are so grateful to our partners and supporters for their continued encouragement, and we look forward to going from strength to strength in the coming years.



John Nelson CBE DL
Chairman



Photo: Paul Adams

John Nelson and Nicky Horter

News and Updates

Last year we purchased a beautiful 25-acre arable field, surrounded by mature hedgerows and trees, 100 metres from the shore at Prinsted. The field is enjoyed by two public footpaths which lead to the shoreline. Supported by local residents, Southbourne Parish Council, the Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust and Garfield Weston Foundation. The field is now farmed under a tenancy agreement and is planted with a bean crop this year.

Also last year, we purchased a small intertidal site, Oyster Quay, at Pook Lane, Warblington. We are grateful to local historian, Ann Griffiths, who has been researching its fascinating past.

We now know that at one time it was used to break up a WWII British submarine, and that there were once grand plans to create a public bathing pool at the site! We hope to carry out further fieldwork and provide dating evidence which could lead to a display at the Emsworth Museum.

Photo: Fiona MacFarlane



Oyster Quay sunset



The annual Duck Race event at Fishbourne Meadows



Maybush Copse Big Picnic



The newly purchased 25 acre field at Prinsted

Photo Nicky Horter



Friends of Chichester Harbour volunteer work party at the Dell

Chichester Harbour Trust Working to secure the future of Chichester Harbour

Land in our care

The Chichester Harbour Trust now holds 13 sites and over 255 acres in total, through a combination of direct ownership and long leases. Some of our land is managed through agreements with Chichester Harbour Conservancy, or leased directly to tenants who look after the land on our behalf, delivering our objectives of permanently protecting the land.

Apuldrum Meadow

This 15-acre meadow joining the shore of the Fishbourne Channel has been owned by the Trust since 2009. Wild flowers thrive around the network of fresh-water ditches. The meadow is crossed by two public footpaths at the western end, nearest the shore. It is grazed by a local farmer.

Chidmere Pond

The freehold of this beautiful 4.5-acre lake has been in Trust ownership since 2005. The area is leased to the owners of the nearby Chidmere House and provides a valuable haven for wildfowl.

The Dell, Chidham

We have held a 125-year lease on this small woodland from Chichester District Council since 2005. The mixture of grassland, woodland and scrub provides a wonderful habitat for birds and insects. Chichester Harbour Conservancy created an outdoor classroom area in 2018 which is now enjoyed by children from Chidham School.

Eames Farm

This 170-acre farm is our biggest and most important site. A large area of coastal grazing marsh, wetland and reedbed, it provides vital habitat for a wide range of migrating waders and wildfowl, and many rare plant and insect species. The converted Stables building provides a wonderful space for meetings and events and is available to hire through the Conservancy. The farm is managed through a tenancy with an organic farmer and is in an environmental stewardship scheme.

Ellanore Spit

We hold a 999-year lease on this unique acre of saltmarsh and shingle at Ellanore. Each winter, up to 6,000 waders use the spit as a high tide roost. During the summer, the northern area of the spit is fenced to protect nesting seabirds.

Fishbourne Meadow

This wet grassland is held in a 10-year lease from West Sussex County Council and supports a wide range of wild flowers, including the Southern Marsh Orchid. The stream banks provide a home for a thriving Water Vole population. The Meadow is managed by Chichester Harbour Conservancy, and is grazed by cattle during the summer months.

Itchenor Field, Wittering Rd

In 2017 we completed the purchase of 3.5 acres of grazing land at Itchenor on behalf of the local community, to protect it permanently from inappropriate use. The land is now grazed by horses.

Itchenor Meadow

This small meadow lies adjacent to the Salterns Way cycle route, behind the Itchenor Memorial Hall. Fruit trees have been planted to attract a wide range of insects.

Maybush Copse Chidham

This flagship community project has created an 8-acre woodland for local people from a once-derelict site. The Trust purchased the land in 2009, and it is now managed by the Conservancy and Maybush Copse Friends for the enjoyment of the local community.

Oyster Quay, Warblington

This historic quay at Pook Lane, Warblington, was purchased in 2018. We hope to commission research to find out more about its local historic importance.

Prinsted Field, Southbourne

The Trust purchased this 25-acre field at Prinsted in 2018, with support from the local community, parish council, Garfield Weston Foundation and Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust. The field will remain in arable use under a tenancy with a local farmer.

Sandy Point Lagoon

This beautiful 18-acre tidal lagoon lies behind Hayling Island Sailing Club and is a fantastic feeding ground for migrating and overwintering birds.

Seaview Road, Hayling

We have held this small plot at south Hayling since 2009 and it is leased to a neighbouring property. We also own the mudland that joins it.

Financial Summary

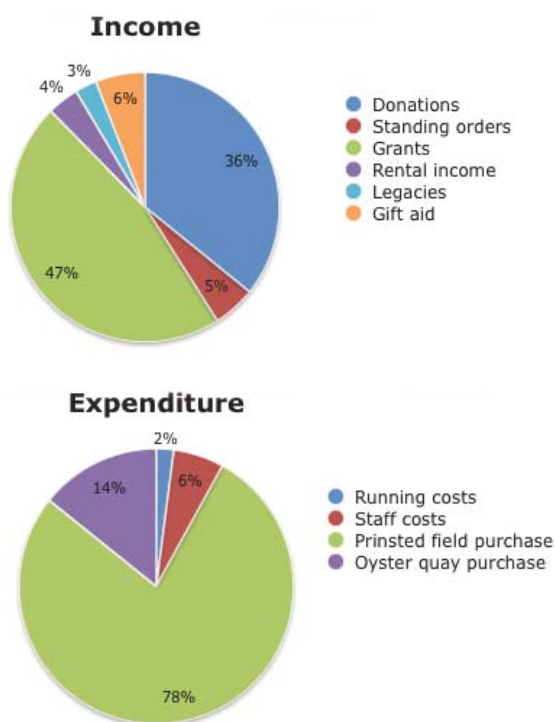
At the end of our financial year at 31 March 2019 we held net liquid resources of £464,000.

Our administrative costs were kept under close control during this period, with staffing and running costs of £28,700.

The Trust's total income during the financial year was £210,000. Our total expenditure during this period was £357,500.

A large part of both the income and expenditure relates to the purchase of 25-acres of arable land near Prinsted, with the support of the local community and grants from Southbourne Parish Council, the Garfield Weston Foundation and the Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust.

We also purchased the Oyster Quay at Pook Lane, Warblington from our reserves.



Don't Destroy Our Harbour

Chichester Harbour Trust helped to launch the Chichester Observer's "Don't Destroy Chichester Harbour" campaign, with an introductory piece from our Chairman; 'This is the time for the community to act'. We hope to influence the development of the final Local Plan for the District, to reduce its impact on Chichester Harbour Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

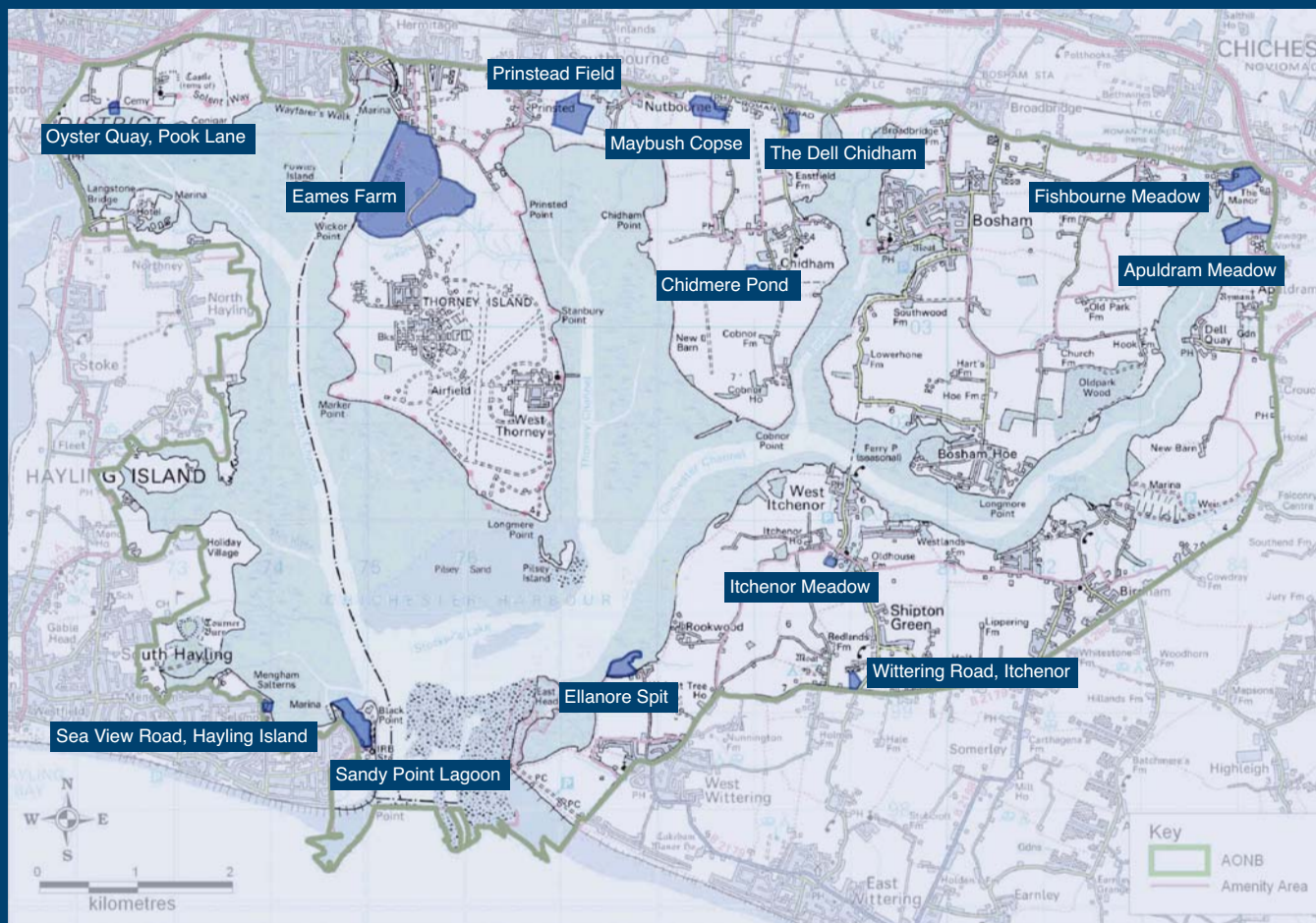


Save Our South Coast supporters

The upcoming local plan is the last chance to save one of the last swathes of open countryside on the south coast, to protect its villages from losing their social cohesiveness and identity through coalescence, to save its endangered habitats for the nation, to save its unique views (Chichester Cathedral is the only cathedral in the country to be seen from the sea) and to save its vital tourist and agricultural industries. This area is on our doorstep but its tangible and intangible assets are of value to the whole country and future generations.

Photo: James Davis

We are its only stewards and guardians. WILL YOU HELP?"
Save Our South Coast, March 2019



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We need your help

To protect the natural beauty and wildlife of the land around the harbour the Trust needs resources. It is important that the charity has a reserve of funds that will allow it to act swiftly to fulfil its role when the need arises.

We need your support now to ensure that we are ready when the time comes to act decisively to safeguard the unique landscape of Chichester Harbour and to look after the important sites already within our care.

Today we need your regular donations, and in the longer term we would urge you to consider supporting the Trust through a legacy, ensuring that the natural beauty and environmental value of Chichester Harbour is conserved for future generations to enjoy.

Follow us on:



Complete a Standing Order form today, and if you would like more information about leaving the charity a legacy, including the generous tax advantages, please contact the Trust administrator at the address below:

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admin@chichesterharbourtrust.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 1096308

SUPPORTED BY



Hampshire
County Council



www.chichesterharbourtrust.org.uk

Chichester Harbour Trust Working to secure the future of Chichester Harbour