



*Protecting the Solent and its' Environment for Future Generations*

## **SOLENT PROTECTION SOCIETY**

### **ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009**

The Officers present their Report for the year ended 30 June 2009.

The Society is an approved Charity (Registered Charity No 236539) founded in 1956. The Society is managed by the elected members of the Council (whose names are set out in the Society's notice and agenda for the Annual General meeting) in accordance with the rules of the Society.

The Society's bankers are: Natwest, 43-49 London Road, Southampton, Hampshire.

The Society's Auditors are: Hope Jones, Chartered Accountants-Registered Auditors,  
73 High Street, Lymington, Hampshire.

#### ***Mission***

"The mission of the society is to ensure the ecological and environmental well-being and wise management of the Solent area, its natural beauty and amenities, so that these may continue to be enjoyed by present and future generations.

In pursuit of its mission the society will take an active and constructive part, either by itself or with other organisations and bodies with similar interests and concerns, to safeguard the natural beauty and amenities of the Solent area, with special attention towards its creeks, rivers, harbours, and adjacent waters, including Southampton water, Portsmouth, Langstone and Chichester harbours to the east and the Needles channel to the west; to the foreshores and surrounding lands, picturesque and historic buildings, domestic and commercial developments, roads and bridges, trees, rights of way, advertisements, litter, other eyesores, and, the implications of ecological, environmental and climatic changes for the area irrespective of from whence they have emanated."

#### ***Public Benefit***

The Council confirms that it has had regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit. It has conducted the affairs of the Society in accordance with its Mission Statement, for the benefit of both present and future generations of the public

#### ***Finances***

Total unrestricted income at £27511 was £3018 lower this year mainly as a result of a reduction in donations; however, encouragingly subscriptions have increased. Interest and dividend income was marginally less this year.

Inevitably the level of donations and indeed legacies varies from year to year but we are always grateful for continuing generous donations and from a wide variety of different sources, in particular to the John Coates Trust which has been a frequent supporter of our activities with a special interest in Chichester Harbour. Our thanks to all of those who have taken an interest in and contributed to the Society's activities and to those members who have taken the trouble to provide for a bequest in their wills.

A major event of the year was the successful conference held at Beaulieu in September entitled "What future for the Solent's Saltmarshes?". Some hundred delegates attended and were interested to hear a range of presentations by leading researchers and consultancies. A copy of the conference proceedings was sent subsequently to participants and is available to those who may also be interested in the subject and its related issues. We are grateful to British Petroleum for its contribution of £3000 as a sponsor and also to Beaulieu Estates for providing the facilities free of charge for the conference.

Total expenses are some £7200 lower than those of the previous year, mainly because of the lower amount of donations made. Corporate membership certificates have been issued in recognition of the increasing support from this section of our membership. Public relations consultant's costs include £1741 in respect of expenses and Vat. Last year costs were incurred in connection with Lymington Ferries meetings, updating the website and advertising for Cowes week. Donations were £5250 less than in the previous year; in particular a donation of £1000 was made to Cobnor Activity Centre.

While there was a reduced level of income, resources expended were substantially less with the result that the net deficit for the year was £2196 compared with £6425 last year before taking account of a reduction in the value of investments as a result of the continuing downturn in the stock market of £9245 (2008 –£17384).

The Society's total net assets at the end of the year were £108241 compared with £119682 at the end of the previous year. The Council continues to consider this level of net worth appropriate to the needs of the Society to enable it to support its ongoing expenditure, and, to make such donations and to incur such expenditure on projects, as and when they arise, in furtherance of its Mission.

Any major risks to which the Society may be exposed, as identified by the Council, have been reviewed and procedures established to mitigate them.

On behalf of the council  
CIBrown  
Hon Treasurer

Woldingham  
7 September 2009

## **STATEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

Law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees (the Council) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the trustees should follow best practice and:

- (i) select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently*
- (ii) make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent*
- (iii) prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.*
- (iv) observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP*

The trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ascertain the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the requirements of the Charity (Accounts & Reports) Regulations 2008. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities. The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE COUNCIL OF THE SOLENT PROTECTION SOCIETY**

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 5 which have been prepared under the accounting policies set out on page 5.

This report is made solely to the Council members, as a body, in accordance with Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and regulations made under that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Council members those matters we are required to state to them in our auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Society and the Council members as a body, for our audit, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

### ***Respective responsibilities of the Council Members and the Auditors***

The responsibilities of the Council members for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) are set out in the statement of the Council's responsibilities.

We have been appointed as auditors under section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and report in accordance with regulations made under that Act. Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (United Kingdom and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the information given in the Council's Annual Report is not consistent with those financial statements, if the Charity has not kept sufficient accounting records, if the Charity's financial statements are not in agreement with these accounting records or if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit. We read the information given in the Council's Annual Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any misstatements within it..

### ***Basis of audit opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (United Kingdom and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Council in the preparation of the financial statements and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Society's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

### ***Opinion***

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of affairs of the Society as at 30 June 2009 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 1993.

Hope Jones  
Chartered Accountants  
Registered Auditor  
10 September 2009

73 High Street  
Lymington  
Hampshire  
SO41 9ZA

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009

	£	£
	Total	Total
	<u>this year</u>	<u>last year</u>
	Unrestricted	
	<u>funds</u>	
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>		
Subscriptions	11493	10172
Donations	6842	11045
Income tax recoverable	1557	1656
Interest	4821	5074
Dividends	2687	2582
<i>Other incoming resources</i>		
Surplus on Saltmarsh Conference	111	-
	Note 2	
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b><u>27511</u></b>	<b><u>30529</u></b>
<b>Resources expended</b>		
<i>Governance costs</i>		
Secretary	8225	7754
Insurances	969	941
Printing and stationery	1317	740
Telephone and postages	1131	1006
Travelling	1037	1439
Conference fees	149	94
Subscriptions	37	106
Public relations consultant	8761	8474
Advertising and publicity, including newsletter	2554	3160
Hire of meeting rooms	670	821
Refreshments and entertaining	932	577
Audit fee	1016	800
Website	252	1522
Computer materials	77	233
	<u>27127</u>	<u>27667</u>
<i>Charitable activities</i>		
Donations:		
Solent Forum	1500	1250
Friends of Chichester Harbour	-	3000
Bembridge Harbour Trust	-	500
Cobnor Activity Centre	1000	-
Yarmouth Pier Restoration	-	3000
	<u>2500</u>	<u>7750</u>
<i>Other resources expended</i>		
Costs of Solar boat day	80	-
Costs in respect of Lymington Ferries meeting	-	1537
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b><u>29707</u></b>	<b><u>36954</u></b>
<b>Net incoming resources for the year</b>		
<b>before other recognised gains</b>	<b>-2196</b>	<b>-6425</b>
<b>Other recognised losses/gains</b>		
Deficit on revaluation of investments	-9245	-17384
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>-11441</b>	<b>-23809</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>119682</b>	<b>143491</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b><u>108241</u></b>	<b><u>119682</u></b>

**BALANCE SHEET - 30 JUNE 2009**

		£	£
		Total this year	Total last year
		Unrestricted funds	
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Investments:			
58993 Charibond Units at 1 July 2008	67547		
Increase in value in the year	<u>1947</u>	69494	67547
3600 Charifund Units at 1 July 2008	43415		
Reduction in value in the year	<u>11192</u>	32223	43415
Total fixed assets		<u><b>101717</b></u>	<u><b>110962</b></u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Income tax repayable		487	1656
Other debtors and payments in advance		729	1081
COIF deposit account		8000	9000
Bank current account		<u>1023</u>	<u>1127</u>
Total current assets		<u>10239</u>	<u>12864</u>
<b>Creditors</b>			
Creditors - amounts falling due within one year		3715	4144
		<u>3715</u>	<u>4144</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u><b>108241</b></u>	<u><b>119682</b></u>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>			
Unrestricted funds		<u>108241</u>	<u>119682</u>
		<u><b>108241</b></u>	<u><b>119682</b></u>

Approved on 7 September 2009 by the Council and signed on its behalf by:

R.J.Clark  
Chairman

C.I.Brown  
Hon Treasurer

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2009****1. Accounting policies**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 2005 and under the historical cost convention, except for the valuation of investments which are stated at market value.

Income is accounted for on the following bases:

Subscriptions and donations received are accounted for on a cash received basis.

Income tax recoverable is accounted for on a receivable basis for the tax year ending in the accounting period.

Expenditure is accounted for on the following bases:

Donations granted are accounted for on a cash paid basis.

Other expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

**2. Surplus on Saltmarsh Conference**

In addition to fees paid by participants (£5800) to the conference, an amount of £3000 was received from British Petroleum in the form of sponsorship.

**3. Taxation**

The Society is an approved charity and is not liable for income tax on any surplus.