

Annual Report and Accounts of the Fulham Society

27 March 2020 - 26 March 2021

I The Charity

The Charity's name: The Fulham Society. Charity Registration no:262396

Contact details: Address : c/o Hon Secretary, 116 Hurlingham Road, London SW6 3NP

Email info@fulhamsociety.org

Website www.fulhamsociety.org

II Trustees (at 26 March 2020)

The Trustees of the Society's are its Committee members.

The Society's Committee was elected at the AGM on 23rd November 2020 (the meeting was held by Zoom as it took place during the second Covid-19 lockdown):

- All Committee members retired in accordance with Rules 6 & 7 of the Constitution, and most offered themselves for re-election and were duly elected as set out below.
- The Society's Chairman, Lady Fowler, having completed 5 years in this position, resigned and did not offer herself for re-election as Chairman.
- The following officers and committee members were duly elected.

VICE-PRESIDENTS

Lord Carrington of Fulham, Patrick Ground QC, RT.Hon Greg Hands MP, Andy Slaughter MP

OFFICERS

Chairman Isobel Hill-Smith

Vice-Chairman Niel Redpath

Hon. Treasurer David Chamberlain

Hon. Secretary Barbara Skorupska

Hon. Membership Sec Margaret Kemp

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Binky Aylmer (Hon Minutes Secretary), Lady Fowler, Maya Donelan MBE, Kim Hawkins, Anne Soutry, Maria Sturdy-Morton.

Committee Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month, except August & December.

Trustee induction and training

All Trustees are advised to read the guidance on the Charity Commission's website at <https://www.gov.uk/topic/running-charity/Trustee-role-board>. New Trustees are sent a copy of the Constitution, the Privacy Policy, the Reserves Policy, past accounts and recent Minutes. They complete a "Fit & Proper Person" Declaration. New guidance and good-practice information from the Charity Commission is communicated to Trustees. They are also provided access to the Society's Cloud-based archives of documents.

Annual Report

The Trustees prepare an annual report (this paper) that is available on request and is summarised in a Newsletter. The production of such a report is recommended by the Charities Commission for all registered charities. The annual report incorporates the Annual accounts, which have been subjected to an independent review.

The accounts and Trustees' annual reports do not need to be filed with the Charity Commission as its gross yearly income does not exceed £25,000, nor is it a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO). Nor does the Fulham Society have to prepare and file an Annual return form as it is not a CIO and its gross yearly income does not exceed £10,000. It is, however, obliged to update the registered details annually, including financial information and these returns can be seen on the CC website.

III Objectives, governance & management

The Society was founded in 1971 after a group of residents campaigned successfully to prevent the construction of a large hotel which would have dominated the river frontage near All Saints Church and Putney Bridge. This threat highlighted the need for an amenity society with a wide local brief.

Objectives

The current constitution is dated 24 November 2003. It is available on request and on the website.

The Society's formal objectives, in summary, are to:

- a) promote safeguarding of and improvements to public amenities;
- b) stimulate public interest in Fulham;
- c) promote high standards of planning and architecture; and
- d) secure preservation and improvement of features of historic or public interest.

Members

Membership is open to all who are interested in the Objects of the Society. For the financial year 2020-21 the subscription was £12 or £10 for those receiving the newsletter by email. During the year the Society's membership was just over 600 people.

Privacy Policy and GDPR

Since May 2018, data-processing has been governed by the General Data Protection Regulation 2016/679 ("GDPR"), with implications for all organisations which control and process personal data.

The Fulham Society holds on computer the name and address, and in some cases the email address and telephone number, of its members (all of whom are adults), and records whether the member has made a valid Gift Aid declaration. The Data Controller is the Membership Secretary of the Society. Any request for information about data or for any amendment or deletion is dealt with by the Membership Secretary, as Data Controller. The Society does not share any information with third parties except in compliance with Article 28 of GDPR, regarding the legal conduct of processing of information. The Society is committed to protecting Members' personal information. Our Privacy Policy gives detailed information on when and why we collect personal information, how we use it and how we keep it secure. The full Privacy Policy is on the Fulham Society website:

www.fulhamsociety.org/privacy-policy/.

IV Chairman's Report: Activities and Performance

The Fulham Society is politically neutral and engages with the Council on matters relating to buildings, parking, public transport, open spaces and the river. We monitor large-scale development proposals against the Society's own guidelines. Many larger schemes will be presented to the Committee by developers before they are submitted for planning permission. We also engage in wider local matters and support the work of a range of other groups and societies in the area. The Society also supports other local amenity groups and activities when resources allow.

Planning applications March 2020 to March 2021

During this year the Society has reviewed and discussed some 80 planning applications, commenting on over 40 of these. Continuing discussions took place on the Earls Court site, the

Fulham Gas Works site , Edith Summerskill House & Watermeadow Court, and other interesting applications were for Ada Lewis House, St Dionis Road, Vereker Road, and the site between Challoner Crescent and the North End Road. . There were applications throughout the Borough for some very obtrusive 5G telecom masts (these were refused), and a number of overlarge illuminated advertising boards, often at junctions, which we consider very distracting to traffic. As ever, proposals often showed buildings that were too high for their surroundings

Representatives also met with the developers of: 14-16 Peterborough Road; and 344 Old Brompton Road. It is useful to make comments early in the process before planning applications are submitted. Inevitably, the number of such consultations was reduced by the Covid-19 restrictions.

Other local issues

The Society wrote to Baroness Vere, the Head of a new Government Task Force on Hammersmith Bridge, to urge workable solutions to be developed quickly to the bridge's closure.

The Society also responded to the controversial Government White Paper on Planning reform, which would have significantly reduced local accountability by developers. On this matter, the Society drew on a talk given by the London Forum.

Few other meetings took place during the year, largely due to the Covid-19 restrictions which took place in some form for the entire year, with full lockdowns in March-May 2020, November 2020, and January 2021 to the end of our financial year in March 2021.

Newsletters:

All Members receive three Newsletters a year. They are also available (except for the latest issue) on the Society's website. To obtain the most up to date newsletter you have to be a member of The Fulham Society.

Articles included this year were on: Fulham Cemetery; the longstanding local building firm Marston Properties; Colehill Gardens; Wandsworth Bridge; profiles of several local historical characters; and a new walk, from Parsons Green Station to Putney Bridge Station. We also included planning updates on significant developments and brought news of local issues and events, including the Hammersmith Bridge closure, the new Sands End Community Centre and the Council's preliminary plans to introduce large wheely bins.

Website and Social Media

During the year we redesigned our www.fulhamsociety.org website to present a more modern and easier to use space, properly integrated with our social media feeds. We are delighted that this has attracted more traffic to our site and has helped to raise the profile of the Society in our 50th anniversary year (2021).

Local events and liaison:

Unfortunately the Covid-19 caused many cancellations of events with which we would otherwise have been involved. These include the Parsons Green Fair (July) and the North End Road Street Fairs (June & December)

The Society continues to support or liaise with a range of other groups and societies including Fulham Palace, the Fulham & Hammersmith History Society, the Hammersmith & Fulham Historic Buildings Group, the London Forum, the West London River Group and HACAN (Heathrow Airport Control of Aviation Noise).

Visits, walks, talks and parties

Sadly all events had to be cancelled because of the Covid-19 epidemic and we were unable to hold our Summer party in 2020.

The Fulham Society's Front Garden Competition

This was started in Summer 2018 with the aim of improving the environment and appearance of Fulham and to promote the Fulham Society. It ran in 2019 with more entries and prizewinners invited to the Society's Summer Party but in 2020 the competition was not held because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Donations

As set out in the Financial Report, we made donations of £4,600 to local projects during the year, with a particular focus on helping local people through the pandemic with food donations.

V Treasurer's Report: Financial Review

The Fulham Society is not required to have its accounts audited or examined independently and its constitution does not require this either. However, Wendy Shelton has reviewed our accounts every year and it is proposed to continue this, subject to approval every year at the AGM. The Committee is satisfied that Wendy is sufficiently thorough, objective and independent to provide reassurance in the accounts prepared by the Honorary Treasurer. Since 2018-19 it has been referred to as an "Independent Review" rather than an "independent examination" as a more accurate description. The annual accounts for 2020/21 are attached to this document and will be presented to the AGM.

Reserves Policy

As the Society has no physical assets, land or buildings, and no restricted or designated funds, the Society's reserves comprise the cash held in current and deposit bank accounts as well as the investments in M&G charity funds. The Society has estimated total reserves are required of £19,000 - £28,000 and has decided on a prudent approach by aiming to retain reserves of £25,000-£28,000. The Reserves Policy is summarised with the financial report at the AGM every November. It is provided on request to any member. From time to time the Committee reviews the Reserves Policy but have so far decided not to change it since it was approved in 2017.

When the Treasurer reports that current funds exceed the amounts required to be held in Reserves, the Committee is actively encouraged to suggest projects that the Society should fund or contribute towards. Any such projects must meet the Society's formal objectives. Where such excess funds are identified but not yet spent, they are held temporarily in an "environment fund".

Public Benefit Statement

Charity Trustees have a duty to report in their Annual Report on their Charity's public benefit, and they should be clear about what benefits are generated by the activities of the Charity. The benefits must be related to the objectives of the Charity. The Trustees consider that The Fulham Society meets the public benefit requirements, and they confirm that they have taken into account the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit published at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/charitable-purposes-and-public-benefit> .

Approved by the Trustees on 15th November 2021 and signed on their behalf by

Isobel Hill-Smith,
Chairman

THE FULHAM SOCIETY

Receipts and Payments for Years to 26th March

	2021	2020
Receipts		
Subscriptions & Donations ¹	£ 4,111	£ 4,537
Net Income from Functions		£ 351
Income from investments JH Deposit a/c & Env fund	£ 422	£ 483
Gift aid & other income ²	<u>£ 1,595</u>	<u>£ 691</u>
	<u>£ 6,128</u>	<u>£ 6,062</u>
Payments		
Printing, Post, Stationery, Web	£ 4,726	£ 1,496
Dues and Subs	£ 65	£ 45
Charges, Insurance, Miscellaneous		£ 621
Front Garden Competition		£ 797
Donations ³	<u>£ 4,600</u>	<u>£ 4,170</u>
	<u>£ 9,391</u>	<u>£ 7,129</u>
Surplus (Deficit) of Receipts over Payments	(£ 3,263)	(£ 1,067)

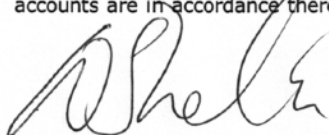
Balance Sheets at 26th March

	2021	2020
Accumulated funds		
as at 26 th March of Previous Year	£ 29,678	£ 30,745
Surplus (Deficit) of Receipts over Payments	<u>(£ 3,263)</u>	<u>(£ 1,067)</u>
Carried forward	<u>£ 26,415</u>	<u>£ 29,678</u>
Represented by		
Lloyds Current account	£ 1,182	£ 2,444
Lloyds Deposit a/c Environment Improvement Fund	£ 5,235	£ 7,233
Julian Hodge Deposit Account	£ 10,000	£ 10,000
M&G Funds at cost ⁴	<u>£ 10,000</u>	<u>£ 10,000</u>
	<u>£ 26,417</u>	<u>£ 29,677</u>


Notes for Year ending 26th March 2021

1	Includes Special Donation	<u>£ 250</u>
2	Gift Aid for 2018/19	£ 884
	Gift Aid for 2019/20	<u>£ 711</u>
		<u>£ 1,595</u>
3	Foodbank	£ 1,000
	Covid Boxes	£ 2,600
	Rays Playhouse	<u>£ 1,000</u>
		<u>£ 4,600</u>
4	Market Value on 26 th March	<u>£ 9,801</u>

I have examined the books and records of the Fulham Society and confirm that the above accounts are in accordance therewith.



Wendy Shelton, Independent Reviewer



David Chamberlain, Hon. Treasurer