



Woodcote Millennium Green Trust

Charity Registered Number 1075872

Trustees Report - Year ended 31 December 2025

Registered Address 6 Sunnybank, Epsom, Surrey KT18 7DX

Trustees Who Acted During the Year

Mr J Cowling (Maintenance & Project Management)
Mrs E Frost (Woodcote (Epsom) Residents' Society)
Dr A Harwood (Project Management)
Mr L Jennings (Digital Marketing Website Management)
Mr P Masters (Legal Representative)
Ms E Bagnall (Previously Mrs E Norris) (Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals NHS Trust)
Mr A Stamper (Treasurer)
Mr M Swan (Chairman)

Mr C Frost – Life President

Two Trustees' terms of office came to an end during 2025. Each expressed their wish to continue serving for a further four years.

Two other Trustees expressed their wishes to stand down during 2025. Each one has a replacement starting 1st January 2026.

Governance The Trust is governed by Deed, and Trustees are appointed under the terms of that Deed for a period of four years' service but may continue for further terms of office.

Recruitment of Trustees We seek Trustees through our AGM, Newsletters and from our regular volunteers.

GDPR Data Protection laws in Europe changed with the GDPR replacing the Data Protection Act with effect from 25 May 2018.

We constantly review our policy and make proper changes to adhere to and follow these regulations. A copy of our privacy policy is shown on our website.

Marketing The Trust issues Newsletters from time to time delivered locally to over 500 households to keep the local community informed of what is going on in the Trust.

We advertise the AGM through this medium as well as the Trust's website and Facebook.

We are always interested in ideas to improve the Newsletters and we encourage our readers to contact us with any suitable ideas for future articles.

We have a website which we endeavour to keep up to date and we use this forum, along with social media posts, to raise awareness of the Trust and to enable, amongst other things, those that wish to donate online to do so.

We also have a Facebook page to enable us to engage and communicate with a wider audience on an ad hoc basis.

We held a fete in 2025 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Trust and establishment of the Green, and to raise further awareness of the Trust's aims and activities. The fete was on Saturday 6th September on the Green, and it was a tremendous success. There were more people attending and more stalls than we'd had at our fete in 2010 celebrating the Trust's 10th year. Importantly, we raised a record amount of money!

After all the hard work and careful planning, we were delighted with the way it turned out. The event really was exactly what we had planned and hoped for: a real celebration with a genuine local community spirit! Furthermore, the weather was extremely kind to us, especially considering the amount of rain we experienced the following week!

The feedback was superb afterwards. One pleased parent said, "*My children went to bed very happy and worn out!*" The next week at the school gate, another parent remarked that their own parents (grandparents living locally and who had gone to the fete) were still raving about it! The Punch & Judy Show was a huge hit, and it was great seeing so many people having a go at the fete games and spending time at the various stalls. Some brilliant photos of the day were posted on our website for people to find and enjoy.



Courtesy of Tea & Crumpet Photography

It wasn't just the members of the fete committee who helped pull this all together. There were also many local volunteers who delivered leaflets, prepared the glade, set up stalls, ran them during the day and took them all down again at the end. We really are very fortunate to have such people in our community. Our grateful thanks continue to go out to every one of them.

And of course, without the support of our event sponsors, we most definitely would not have had such a fantastic fete. We acknowledge again our thanks to all the companies and individuals listed below:

Ben's Butchery	Liquid Gold Whisky Company
Coll Associates	Peacock & Co Solicitors
David Lloyd Leisure	ProCook
Denbies Wine Estate	Royal Automobile Club
Epsom Picturehouse	Sweet Lavender Flowers
Gail's Epsom	Tea and Crumpet Photography
Horton Golf Park	7 th Epsom Scouts
Laithai Therapy Epsom	8 th /14 th Epsom Air Scouts

Objectives

To maintain and enhance the area known as Woodcote Millennium Green in the Woodcote area of Epsom, Surrey for the enjoyment and relaxation of all in the neighbourhood and the wider community.

We constantly check the condition of the paths and bridges as well as the seats, benches, sundial, trees and the pond to keep the Green a safe and pleasant place for all to enjoy.

We had one of the bridges repaired during 2025.

To encourage a diverse range of wildlife, dying trees may be left standing to rot, where it is safe to do so, to allow a diverse range of organisms to find a home, from microscopic slime moulds, numerous species of fungi, mosses, and insects, to larger animals such as bats and birds. We try to keep open areas for meadow flowers to grow and a glade to allow migration of wildlife.

The pond is the main focus of the Green, and we are currently investigating options available to have the pond partially relined with puddle clay to prevent it from drying up.

Fund Raising

WMGT constantly relies on philanthropic support to advance its mission and sustain its activities. For example, the Trust applied to Waitrose and Waitrose selected to highlight Woodcote Millennium Green in their Community Matters Programme for January 2026. Local customers may vote in store with green tokens to support the Green or one of two other highlighted local causes. At month's end, Waitrose will make donations to each local cause based on the number of votes each receives.

We also look for other innovative opportunities to raise funds ourselves. Our wonderfully successful fete in 2025 raised over £1,700.

We continue to raise funds through our Newsletter which goes out twice a year. Our bank details are on the donation slip delivered with each Newsletter and we encourage donors to complete Gift Aid forms if they are eligible.

We encourage direct donations made either by direct transfer or by setting up a direct debit to our bank account. These direct funding methods help us to minimise our banking costs. Our bank charges us for handling cash and cheque deposits.

We have noted however, that donations over the past two years have dropped, and we hope that following the success of the fete, this trend will reverse to help us preserve our green space and enhance community well-being for future generations.

Ideas and suggestions are always welcome.

Achievements and Performance

The Trust continues to enhance the area and to maintain it for the benefit of the neighbourhood. To achieve this, we hold regular maintenance mornings/afternoons throughout the year. These have been well supported, and we continue to recruit new volunteers to help us. To accommodate volunteer availability, we also hold task-specific maintenance sessions, for example, to cut up or cut down dead or fallen trees and to make emergency repairs.

The Trustees would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the very important contribution of the many volunteers and organisations that have helped us to maintain the Green during 2025.

Once again, during 2025 we have had several volunteers helping with the general maintenance of the Green as part of their Duke of Edinburgh award.

We are delighted that many residents, people connected to Epsom Hospital and others have continued to enjoy the amenities of the Green during 2025.

Once again, this year we saw more moorhen chicks but alas no duck chicks. The Duck House appears to be more popular with the moorhens than the ducks!

Risk Policy

Public Liability Insurance for Public Access covers the Green. The Trustees review Health and Safety matters including risk assessments at every Trustees' Meeting.

As part of our risk assessment, we constantly check target areas on the Green and act when and where necessary.

Reserves Policy

The Unrestricted Funds "General" and Endowment Funds "Patrons" are held to undertake the maintenance of the Green in current and future years. Restricted funds are made up of donations given for a specific purpose or use.

The Trustees regularly review the progress of the investments.

2025 Full Year Report on Accounts and Finances

Statement of Income and Expenses

Cash Movements	General	Restricted	Patrons	2025	2024	2023
Resident's Donations	2,683	-	-	2,683	3,031	2,417
Gift Aid from HMRC	763	-	-	763	573	710
Grants/External donations/Other	46	-	-	46	1,031	56
25th Anniversary Fete income	6,316	-	-	6,316	-	-
Interest Received	48	-	-	48	55	35
Income for the Year	9,856	-	-	9,856	4,690	3,218
Maintenance of the Green	- 5,155	-	-	- 5,155	- 2,511	- 2,063
Tools, Servicing & Capital items	- 47	-	-	- 47	- 528	- 194
Insurance & Admin	- 883	-	-	- 883	- 492	- 481
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pond	-	-	-	-	- 5,878	-
Path Renovation	-	-	-	-	-	- 756
25th Anniversary Fete expenses	- 4,607	-	-	- 4,607	-	-
Expenses for the year	- 10,693	-	-	- 10,693	- 9,409	- 3,494
Operating cash movements	- 837	-	-	- 837	- 4,719	- 276
Proceeds from sale of Charifund units					6,000	-
Total Cash Movements	- 837	-	-	- 837	1,281	- 286
Opening Cash Balance	2,751	648	150	3,549	2,268	2,554
Closing Cash Balance	1,914	648	150	2,712	3,549	2,268

Summary of Income & Expenses

Total income more than doubled in 2025 due entirely to the fete. However, residents' donations, excluding those made directly in support of the fete, fell back to the 2023 level which will have the knock-on effect of reducing the Gift Aid income in 2026. Additionally, year-on-year the total income comparison to 2024 is distorted due to a very generous bequest from the estate of Mr John Norrington in 2024.

Excluding the impact of the fete the total expenditure through 2025 was massively more than prior years due to a major increase in maintenance spend. The maintenance costs included two bridge repairs totalling £1816, installation of removable posts at £500 plus additional gardening at £475 and leaf/debris removal to reduce the fire risk at £228.

This resulted in an overall cash outflow of £837 which is the third consecutive year of negative operational cash flow. I presume that this is a reflection of the aging infrastructure of the Green.

Income

As stated above total income more than doubled due to the outstanding success of the fete.

The level of residents' donations in 2025 was very similar to 2023. However, the earlier positive trend of an increasing proportion of the donations being paid directly into our account reversed down to only 79% from 84%.

Gift Aid income received from HMRC based on the tax paying residents' donations increased in line with the rise in donations from 2024 to £763. However, due to the fall in residents' donations in 2025, compared to 2024, this will result in less Gift Aid income in 2026. However, if we can determine that the donations made by residents specifically to support the fete can be included in our Gift Aid submission, then this will boost our income in 2026.

Expenses

Total expenditure, excluding the fete, in 2025 was 13% higher than 2024. This was because in 2024 a significant sum was spent on initial investigations of the long-term sustainability of the pond, which may need much further work in future to preserve its integrity. It is reasonable to presume, as time progresses, that increasing investment to maintain the integrity of the pond and the general maintenance of the Green's infrastructure will be necessary.

Fortunately, the Trust has considerable financial investments, summarised below, established on the inception of the Trust, to be able to maintain this marvellous local asset for the enjoyment of all.

Statement of Current Assets

Trust Assets	General	Restricted	Patrons	2025	2024	2023
CAF Gold Account	523	581	150	1,254	2,171	1,522
CAF Current Account	1,357	67	0	1,424	1,324	711
Petty Cash	34	0	0	34	55	34
Total Cash	1,914	648	150	2,712	3,549	2,268
Investments	39,901	0	56,401	96,302	78,470	76,211
Total Cash and Investments	41,814	648	56,551	99,014	82,019	78,479

Despite the profit made at the fete there was a net overall cash outflow of £837 for the reasons outlined above. However, our long-term investment established on the foundation of the Trust, performed very well through 2025 increasing in value to £17,832, a 25% increase, slightly better than the 22% growth in the FTSE All-Share index.

The Trust continues to re-invest the dividend income generated by the fund. This totalled £4,693, an annual growth of 9%.