



Treasurer's Report – December 2019

The Friends of Gedling Country Park was formed on 29th September 2014 and this report is for our fifth financial year for the period from 1st January 2019 to 31st December 2019.

We are a UK registered charity number: 1167205.

Key Events

The group has had many fantastic donations and grants received during this year and a full list is included below.

Following on from the generous donations made from the Co-op Local Community Fund in 2017 and 2018, we have continued to receive further donations in 2019. The recipients of this fund are voted for by local members of the Co-op in Mapperley, and for 2019 we have received donations totalling £7,211, for which we are very grateful to both the Co-op and its members. This will be used to implement a new nature 'Tree Trail' in the country park, new educational booklets to be distributed to local schools and for contributing towards the cost of other landscaping improvements and planting.

In last year's report, I announced that we had been gratefully awarded a grant of £5,000 from the OneFamily Foundation for the enhancement of bees, bird nesting and other wildlife habitats in the country park. £978 of this was paid to us in 2018 and the balance of £4,022 paid during 2019 and used to provide significant improvements to the two lagoons in the south of the park including a bird nesting raft, and the implementation of a new bee compound in a more sheltered location in the park.

We also kindly received a grant from Gedling Borough Council of £500 to allow us to produce a further print run of the educational Nature Trial booklet, once the current stocks run low.

Trustee Thanks

Our members continue to provide excellent support to the group, both in terms of their volunteer time each week, and in their annual membership fees. I am pleased to report that we have had a record year of fees received from our members totalling £1,005 (up from £765 for 2018, £755 for 2017 and £580 for 2016). This clearly shows that our membership grows from strength to strength and underpins everything that we do for the park. I would like to thank every member who has chosen to join our group – contributing such a vital amount of funding to us and enabling us to continue our volunteer activities in the park.

Here is the list of organisations who have generously supported the Group this year (in alphabetical order):

- Co-operative Group Limited
- Foresight Group
- Gedling Borough Council and its Councillors
- Nottingham City Council Catering Services (who operates Cafe 1899 in the park and offers a 10% discount for all FGCP members)
- Nottingham & Nottinghamshire Field Club
- OneFamily Foundation
- Rotary Club, Carlton



And here is the list of individuals who have also generously supported the Group this year (in alphabetical order):

- Councillor Emily Baily-Jay
- Councillor Tammy Bisset
- Councillor Helen Greensmith
- E&A Gorski

I would also like to thank those people who ticked the Gift Aid box when making membership payments or donations. This will allow us to claim from HMRC an extra 25% on these amounts.

Income Received

The income received for the period from January 2019 to December 2019 (including the aforementioned donations and memberships) was as follows:

Category	Amount	Description
Donations	£7,798	Donations from various individuals and organisations listed above, including £7,211 from the Co-Op.
Grants	£4,522	£4,022 from OneFamily Foundation for the enhancement of the southern lagoons bird nesting habitats and £500 from Gedling Borough Council for the Nature Trail education booklets.
Membership Fees	£1,005	Membership fees taken for individual and family membership.
Fund Raising Events	£70	Monies raised from various wildlife walks we held in the park, the 2019 AGM raffle and the sale of some re-usable mugs.
TOTAL	£13,395	

Expenditure

For the same period, expenditure was as follows:

	Amount	Description
Bee and Honey Making Costs	£3,597	Implementation of a new bee compound including: a shed, security fencing and drainage.
Grounds Maintenance/Development	£1,844	Installation of three bird nesting rafts in one of the southern lagoons, three portable bird hides, improvements and repairs to various lagoon drainage pipes and weirs.
Equipment	£918	The purchase of 9no. high powered bird watching binoculars, post hole digger, auger, underwater camera and various items of gardening and personal protection equipment for volunteer sessions.
Insurance	£423	Provision of public liability and volunteer personal accident insurance (also providing trustee, finance, libel and slander protection).



Plants/Trees/Seeds	£364	Planting of willow trees and spring bulbs along the existing Nature Trail and purchase of seed for the bird feeders located near to the café.
Marketing, Communications and Web	£371	Web site hosting, new membership cards, stamps and printing costs for membership forms, park history booklets and photo competition photos.
Finance Charges	£111	Bank service charges from Unity Bank and transaction fees from PayPal.
Fund Raising and Volunteer Days	£104	Costs associated with the fund raising events and volunteer days, including refreshments.
Forums and Event Attendance	£40	Membership fee for Greenwood Community Forum and stand cost at Gedling Gala (July 2019).
TOTAL	£7,772	

Bank Reconciliation

The opening balance as of 1st January 2019 was £5,401.82 (comprising of £4,994.29 held at Unity bank, £407.53 held with PayPal and no cash holdings).

Total income for 2019 was £13,395.11 and total expenditure was £7,771,60.

The closing balance as of 31st December 2018 was £11,025.33 (comprising of £10,732.08 held at Unity bank, £293.25 held with PayPal and no cash holdings).

**Nick Benedek, Treasurer, Friends of Gedling Country Park
31st December 2019**