

## Treasurer's Report for the year ending 31 March 2020

A full copy of the Trust's accounts can be found at [www.derbycanal.org.uk/agm](http://www.derbycanal.org.uk/agm)

Page 8 of the accounts document commences with the income and expenditure account for the Trust, with additional income detail provided in notes 2, 3, 4 and 5 on page 12. Our total income for the period was £128,596 (2019 - £121,408) and our total expenditure £75,542 (£89,068) giving us a surplus for the year of £53,054 (£32,340) giving the Trust a total funds at the yearend of £201,158 (£148,104).

Of the total funds £85,518 (£64,857) are designated as "restricted" which is where the giver of the funds has specified the purpose for which they are to be utilised; this is broken down as follows:

Fund	Opening Balance	Income	Expenditure	Closing Balance	Comment
Draycott Golden Mile	£45,274	£7,839	£0	£53,113	Individual donations + £1368 Gift Aid
River Boat	£4,281	£73,000	£61,901	£15,380	Derby City grant
Sandiacre Lock	£14,999	£0	£451	£14,547	Erewash Borough grants
Machinery	£0	£3,187	£710	£2,477	Coop Store grants
Borrowash Lock	£0	£5,580	£5,580	£0	Erewash Borough grants
Packet	£303	£0	£303	£0	Individual donation

The unrestricted income for 2020 included:

- £22,782 a legacy from the estate of Reginald Handley;
- £7,082 membership income;
- £1,420 gift aid largely in relation to the membership income;
- £2,866 contract work and advertising;
- £4,359 unrestricted donations;
- £299 Give as you Live and ink cartridge recycling.

The Trust's expenditure (page 13 note 6), other than against the restricted funds as detailed above can be summarised as follows:

- £3,122 (£8,372) Administrative costs includes: Insurance £1,055; Subscriptions to Marketing Derby £500, Erewash Partnership £50, IWA £54, Grants online £50; Website and associated costs £286; Signage and rollup display banners £440; Postage stamps £200; Determining land ownership £123.
- £2,476 (£3,090) Depreciation the technical method of writing down the value of the equipment we own so that when a piece of equipment is worn out and worthless we are not recording a value for it.
- £300 (£300) Rent is for our storage compound.
- £515 (£500) The cost of the Independent Examination of our accounts.
- £1,616 (2019 included in Admin costs) General costs are those costs along the canal line that cannot be attributed to a specific project including: £774 for fuel for the tractor and portable equipment; £177 for treatments for Japanese Knotweed and tree routes; £205 to repair the event trailer; £233 service and repair of other equipment.
- £25 (£25) the cost of preserving our water extraction rights.

The Trust acquired new equipment during the year totalling £634 page 15 note 11 comprising £372 two Still Hedge trimmers; £262 a tree sapling puller.

The cottages; as advised last year the cottages were purchased by Chris Madge, the Trust has the option to acquire them "at cost". The works undertaken on the cottages are funded by loans from individuals to the Trust on commercial terms, at the yearend the loan balance stood at £120,000 (£40,000).

At the yearend expenditure on the cottages stood at £165,156 (£56,616). This is reflected on pages 15 note 12, page 16 note 14 and page 18 notes 16 and 17.

That brings me to the Trust's balance sheet, presented on page 9:

	2020	(2019)	Comment
Fixed assets	£40,921	(£42,763)	
Current Assets			
Debtors	£179,996	(£77,543)	Cottages £165,156, VAT refund £13,654, Prepayments £1,186
Bank accounts	<u>£100,756</u>	<u>(£68,298)</u>	
	£280,752	(£145,841)	
Creditors	<u>-£120,515</u>	<u>(-£40,500)</u>	Cottage Loans £120,000, Independent Examination Fee £515
Net current assets	<u>£160,237</u>	<u>(£105,341)</u>	
Net assets	<b><u>£201,158</u></b>	<b><u>(£148,104)</u></b>	
Funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	£85,518	(£64,847)	
Unrestricted funds	<u>£115,640</u>	<u>(£83,247)</u>	
Total funds	<b><u>£201,158</u></b>	<b><u>(£148,104)</u></b>	

I would ask that the accounts of the Trust be approved as documented and that CA plus be reappointed as Independent Examiners.

Chris ReesFitzPatrick

Trust Treasurer 2011 to 2020

## Summary Chairman's report

My report covers the period to August 2020 and is also available at [www.derbycanal.org.uk/agm](http://www.derbycanal.org.uk/agm)

### Strategy

The last year has enabled us to further demonstrate our capability. Nothing demonstrates this more than the positive comments received last week by Derby City Council who we are joining in a joint bid for Covid 19 funds to build a mooring basin and lock in the city centre. We are now seen as an organisation that gets things done,

### Funds raised

As reported above we have again raised funds well in excess of £100k in cash terms during the financial year. We have probably added a further £200k in services provided at Spondon over that time and can look forward to promised funding over the next 12 months of £350k to achieve the Draycott Canal section. Around the year end we called in the pledges for Draycott and received virtually all promised funds with many increasing their donation. As I speak we have all but a final £5k pledge in the bank and ready to go. Thank you to all our contributors, especially in these difficult times. The cottages development has continued with a total spend now approaching £350k funded by

additional Trustee loans of £80k during the year. We have also achieved loan funding to support the cottage development.

### **Land Purchase**

Paul Turner is nearing a successful conclusion to purchase from Sustrans of a stretch between Breaston and the M1. We have also started a dialogue with owners in the open fields between the Draycott Mile and Borrowwash bottom lock. We are pushing the latter as a means for constructing an off road cycle/foot/towpath ahead of a full canal restoration. It may also offer some significant wildlife benefits.

### **Derby**

It now appears that Derby Council will oppose any plans for an HS2 tram connection using our route. The funding for a River Trip Boat has now been received (and the grant increased by £8k). We commissioned the boat in September and were just on schedule to complete ready for May – until we were hit by the pandemic. We are now back on track with plans to launch in September, although passengers may be limited to social bubble groups for a while. We have a plastic recapture boat on board, which is generating a lot of interest and a prerecorded commentary by David Suchet.

Our “vision” video has been presented in Derby and recently to the new Chief Executive at DCC with the result that we are now firmly in the groups deciding on the future use of the river in the city. We are also working with Atkins who are working up the business case for the Derby Arm visitor centre and the marina/lock in the city centre. If we attract backers for these developments it will accelerate the canal restoration significantly.

### **Draycott Cottages**

This project has been interrupted by the Covid 19 pandemic, but work is now fully recommenced with special measures in place to ensure safety of the volunteers, who continue to turn up three times a week. The water supply (borehole) and waste management systems have been installed and fit out of plumbing and electrics is well advanced in the three cottages. Landscaping is well under way at the back and sides with outhouses almost complete. The next few weeks will see the basic car park installed and the outside toilet block constructed by CRT apprentices. We expect the works to be completed in the next year, with the possibility of sale/rental of the cottages earlier than that.

Planning permission for a change of use has finally been received and valuations (as I write) have increased so that we now expect an asset valuation of £1.1m on completion.

### **Draycott Canal**

We now have planning permission and have attracted a grant from Network Rail of £350k to complete the works. Detailed planning is underway with contractors and our biggest concern at present is dealing sensitively with the requirements to manage the water vole population that have taken up residence in the ditch. Our Mitigation Strategy is to undertake preparatory works in Autumn to create a receptor area and then transfer the voles in the spring to allow the works to be completed. We are getting close.

### **Borrowwash**

Little works other than maintenance have been possible at Borrowwash following a very successful Waterways Recovery Group visit in July 2019. The 2020 WRG visit aiming to complete the structural works were cancelled due to the pandemic. We hope to get back there with WRG next year and may even have some progress with the sewer relocation, but even parliamentary assistance isn't having much effect there.

### **Spondon**

The stretch of 300m of canal at Spondon has now been excavated by Wheeldon Brothers, the developer. During lockdown they also undertook to finance the removal of

spoil (at a value of around £200k). There will be a fair bit of tidying up to do when we take over the canal maintenance, but it should be our first stretch in water.

At Spondon we have been in discussion with Derby City Council to look at enhancing the existing path for cycles. The bad news is that they want it three metres wide in the middle of the track. The good news is that they have agreed that when we restore we can recreate it on the towpath and narrow it where necessary. We've done some excavation in readiness using some sonar type equipment to locate the canal edge. The big gain for us would be convincing them to extend the cyclepath along our whole line to Sandiacre and we have had a good reception so far.

### **Sandiacre Lock**

We still await progress on the sewer removal, but are currently undertaking investigative work to enable a detailed proposal for where to put the relocated sewer. We don't know if the chamber walls are too thick to accommodate the pipe at present.

We agreed a legal document with Derbyshire County Council to rebuild Cockayne Bridge when we know what level we require. If Bostocks lane remains as it is we would look to lower the canal through Cockayne to allow us to go under Bostocks Lane. If it is rebuilt or becomes a dead end (as has been suggested) we could go through at the existing level.

### **And finally a thank you**

To the volunteers who continue to provide so many hours, not only to build the cottages, and river boat, but also to maintain the stretches we need to look after. Our army is growing steadily and after the hiatus of the pandemic we have inevitably a few who cannot risk supporting us. However we have attracted new people desperate to get out and do something worthwhile. We are grateful for all the effort and welcome anyone interested in supporting us. Please be assured we have carefully considered how to make this safe for all.

And to those people who have recognised us by making donations either to our projects or by bequest in their wills. We appreciate every penny and work very hard to ensure that it is all spent as you would want it to be spent – on restoring our canal.

### **And a request**

If you haven't already done so can you please provide us with an email address so that we can keep you up to date more easily. The Covid 19 pandemic shows us that posted materials are more of a risk for our distributors and recipients than the faster method of email. If you don't have emails do you have a friend or relative who would receive them for you? If so please let us know at [membership@derbycanal.org.uk](mailto:membership@derbycanal.org.uk)

Chris Madge