

SOUTHWOLD COMMON TRUST (Charity No: 304819)

Annual Report for the year ended 31st March 2013

1. Southwold Common was registered as a charity in 1971 the objects of its foundation being to provide a recreational ground for the general benefit of inhabitants'. The beneficial area is 'the Town of Southwold'.

The governing instrument of the Charity is the Will of William Godell which is dated 22 May 1509 under which he left land, including The Common, to the Bailiffs and Commonalty of the 'Town of Southwold for ever to give and sell'.

The Town Councillors, as successors of the Bailiffs, are the Trustees of The Common. They serve as Trustees for four years, their terms as Trustees being co-terminus with their terms as town councillors.

In the year to 31st March 2013 the Trustees were as follows:

Mrs S Allen
Mrs T E Baggott (Chairman)
Miss E A Betts
Mr I Bradbury
Mrs S M Doy
Mrs K Flodin
Mr M Ladd
Mr R Temple
Mr S J Tobin
Mrs M C Tucker
Mr J A Windell
Mr J R Winter

2. The Trustees continue to receive requests for marquees on the Common. Those booking marquees are now provided with the terms and conditions of the permission, and are aware what is expected of them especially with regard to noise and litter.
3. The Trustees remain mindful of the problems previously encountered with travellers on The Common. To this end, as many access areas as possible have been posted to try to ensure that the Common is protected as far as possible. Users of the Common are asked to ensure that gates are kept locked when not in use and to ensure that posts which are removed to provide access are also replaced and locked.
4. The Common continues to be used for community events such as the Lions Spring Fete and to accommodate the Circus, the Beach Mission and the Adnams Comedy Tent. Last year the Common was used by over 200 school children to play on whilst waiting for the arrival of the Olympic Torch relay.

5. The Management Team has set up regular liaison meetings with the golf club, and the RDC to ensure that a good working partnership is in place and to discuss issues that need to be considered or addressed by either party.

6. Requests for parking on the Common are received by the Trustees throughout the year. In line with their charitable objects such requests are considered in line with the granting of the permission for 2 such occasions each year. These are at the Trustees discretion.