

COMPANY NUMBER:
05292627 (ENGLAND AND WALES)

CHIPPING NORTON LIDO LIMITED

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH NOVEMBER 2008

THE SOUTHILL PARTNERSHIP
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
SOUTHILL
CORNBURY PARK
CHARLBURY
OXFORDSHIRE
OX7 3EW

CHIPPING NORTON LIDO LIMITED

COMPANY INFORMATION

Company Number: 05292627 (England and Wales)
Registered Charity Number 1113869

Trustees: P N Barbour
P Neale
R Blakeley
C V Jarvis
J Johnson
S P Nelson
K C Norman (appointed 13/3/2008)
S S Watson
G Williamson

Secretary: P Neale

Registered Office: 6 Southill
Cornbury Park
Charlbury
Oxfordshire
OX7 3EW

Accountants: The Southill Partnership
Chartered Accountants
Southill
Cornbury Park
Charlbury
Oxfordshire
OX7 3EW

Bankers: HSBC Bank PLC
18 Market Place
Chipping Norton
Oxfordshire
OX7 5NE

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The Trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Acts 1985, present their report and the financial statements for the period ended 30th November 2008. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the statement of recommended practice (SORP) accounting and reporting by charities issued in March 2005.

Objectives and activities

The main objectives of the charitable company are to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Chipping Norton and the surrounding villages the provision of a Lido (open air heated swimming pool and recreational area) for their interest and social welfare. The objective of the charitable company is promoting health to the public at large through access to healthy recreation and sports education and of improving the condition of life of said inhabitants.

Structure, Governance and Management

- The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 1985.
- The company is established under a Memorandum and Articles of Association which determines the objects and powers of the charitable company. It is also governed by its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £5.
- The directors of the company are also the charity trustees for the purpose of charity law and under the company's Articles are known as members of the Management Committee. Under the requirement of the Memorandum and Articles of Association the members of the management committee are elected to serve for a period of three years after which they must offer themselves for re-election at the next Annual General Meeting.
- Ken Norman was appointed during the year as a trustee. As a matter of routine, new trustees are given a copy of the Charitable Company Commission's booklet entitled 'The Essential Trustee: What you need to know' as part of an induction pack, which they are advised to read without delay.
- All the trustees who served during the period are as detailed on the information page. Their knowledge is kept up to date by distributing charity newsletter and updates. Regular meetings also take place where matters are brought to the directors' attention.

Performance against aims and objectives

2008 was the Lido's fourth year of independent operation and a year in which it further consolidated its role in the recreational and sporting life of the community. In June the trustees were delighted that the Lido was awarded Charity and Community Project of the Year at the Oxfordshire Business Awards. This independently judged award recognised the fulfilment of aims, local job creation, management and leadership, community and staff commitment and involvement.

Despite a second consecutive summer of poor weather, user numbers rose against the previous year, although they remained well below the previous record attendance figures achieved in 2006.

2008	2007	2006
13,612	12,249	17,261

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Initiatives relating to the Lido's wider social objectives continued to be well supported and successful.

- Dip 'n' Chill evenings for young people attracted over **150 young people** from Chipping Norton and the surrounding villages and were funded by Oxfordshire County Council's Chill Out Fund and Emma's Trust. **542 visits** took place over June, July and August.
- **Free swimming** for the **Over 60s** occupied its popular slot on Wednesday mornings and was again sponsored by McCarthy and Stone for part of the season. **159 free swims** took place in 2008.
- The Lido supported the Kelloggs' free swim voucher initiative with a view to encouraging new users to visit the pool and provided **free swims to 650 people**.
- The annual Lido Fun Run took place at the end of July and attracted around **50 participants aged from 5 to late 50s**. This event aims to encourage families as well as individuals to become physically active together and is now seen as an annual fixture in the town's sporting calendar.
- The Chippy Olympics were held at The Lido during the school summer holidays - a series of **fun, sporty activities** both in and out of the water **for children**.

Financial review

Trading figures

Once again, income was affected by the poor weather throughout the summer months. Nonetheless, there was an increase of nearly £2,000 in casual ticket sales against the previous year, reflecting the rise in visitor numbers. Season ticket and swimming lesson sales were up against 2007, an increase of nearly £1,000 in income from these sources. Other trading income sources such as private hire and sale of goods, whilst down, are considered stable given the weather.

In terms of expenditure, water costs rose again but other costs remained pretty much unchanged. Staffing costs fell by around 10% - this was primarily due to poor weather conditions and reflects the willingness of staff to be stood down at short notice. The trustees particularly appreciate their co-operation in this area which has helped The Lido survive another season of adverse weather.

Grants, fundraising and sponsorship

Chipping Norton Town Council remained the only source of public funding for core costs with a grant of £2,000 plus another £500 towards the trustees capital appeal. Other revenue grants were received from Oxfordshire County Council's Chill Out Fund and Emma's Trust who funded the Dip 'n' Chill evenings. A small capital grant was received from Midcounties Co-operative to pay for new inflatables which are used in Dip 'n' Chill sessions and at private events or parties.

Fundraising from the general public focused on the annual Auction of Promises and on a new Lido Lottery. This year's auction was once again hosted by Jeremy Clarkson and raised £18,707 against expenses of £2,165. For the first time the Auction was held at The Lido in a large marquee and was supported by Chipping Norton School's All Stars jazz band. The Lido Lottery was introduced in January 2008 and revives the original lottery which ran during the 1960s when funds were being raised to build the pool. The lottery raised nearly £2,500 by the end of the financial year. There are currently over 150 subscribers. Both the Auction and Lottery played a vital role in raising unrestricted income which supports core costs and helps the Lido meet the trading deficit.

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Approaches to other grant-making bodies and trusts continued with a view to building capital funds in advance of replacing the plant room during the winter of 2008-09. A grant awarded in the previous year by WODC in connection with a new water treatment system was deferred and will be drawn in spring 2009. We received gifts from several local trusts and by the end of the financial year had accumulated over £19,500 towards the new plant room.

Partnerships with commercial sponsors remained an important source of additional income – McCarthy and Stone part-funded free swimming for over 60s again, while CETA continued its support for ongoing revenue costs, and Andrew Bennett Upholstery helped fund the Dip 'n Chill evenings. Gifts in kind were a further source of support, in particular the donation of uniforms by JTL, and the work carried out by Bruce Coombes (carpentry).

Finally, the trustees would like to record their thanks to Pete Clifton (plant room maintenance), Michael White (plumbing), Mark Walters (electrical work) and all the local organisations, businesses, individuals and volunteers whose ongoing support helps ensure The Lido remains open.

The trustees also wish to place on record their appreciation of The Lido's manager, Marie-Ann Roberts, and The Lido staff whose continued dedication plays a central role in everything The Lido offer the local community.

Plans for Restricted Funds

Towards the end of the year, the directors formulated plans for the short-term complete renewal of the plant room and for the future installation of renewable energy technology. With advantageous gas and electricity contracts due to expire in spring 2009, gaining greater control over these costs will play a key part in securing the pool's long-term survival and will also significantly reduce its carbon footprint. New energy-efficient equipment (pool and shower boilers) and a UV water treatment system were planned for installation prior to opening in April 2009 and will be funded by The Lido's capital (restricted) fund and a grant from West Oxfordshire District Council.

The installation of a water borehole in order to meet the pool's day-to-day water requirements during the season was also researched. Quotations and a prognosis report were obtained and funding options explored.

Proposed use of the restricted funds:

Project	Total cost	From Restricted fund
Showers	£18,000	£3,000
Water bore and treatment	£14,800	£4,000
Plant Room refit	£13,400	£13,200
Total	£46,200	£19,200

The balance will be found from further grant applications.

In addition to these immediate domestic improvements to the plant, ambitious plans for heating the pool using a ground source heating system supported by solar photovoltaic panels were formulated and costed. Funding applications to the Low Carbon Buildings Programme Phase 2 and the Community Sustainable Energy Programme were submitted. Provided funding can be secured in time, the directors intend to install this equipment in 2009 in order to benefit from cost savings at the earliest opportunity.

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Unrestricted funds reserves policy

The trustees have examined the charitable company's requirements for reserves in the light of the main risks to the organisation, as outlined below. The Lido aims to have operating reserves of sufficient to meet the working capital requirements of operating the pool for six months without the need for fundraising – the trustees currently estimate this to be circa £25,000.

Additionally the trustees have the aim of building up a reserve of a further £50,000 for maintaining and replacing plant.

Potential risks

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charitable company faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks. Major risks identified include:

- Adverse weather always has a significant impact upon the Lido's ability to generate income from ticket sales putting greater pressure on the trustees to 'fundraise.' The trustees have mitigated this by reducing as far as possible the utility bills and exploring new efficient technologies as described above.
- Recession will have an impact upon the ability to raise funds and potentially upon attendance.
- Risk of plant failure during season has been mitigated by a replacement programme as described above.
- Vandalism and attempted break-in continues to be an issue – The risk is mitigated by locking away any valuables, ensuring we leave no cash on the premises and liaising with Police Community Support Officers.

This report was approved by the board and has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.