

THE SOUTH WOODFORD SOCIETY (SWS)
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

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SOCIETY INFORMATION:

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E18 1PR

Bankers:

HSBC
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E18 2LX

Website Information:

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<https://www.facebook.com/Southwoodfordsociety>

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REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR THE ACCOUNTING PERIOD ENDED ON 31 DECEMBER 2017

The South Woodford Society (SWSoc) was formed on 19 January 2015, the Society presents the Report of the Management Committee and its Unaudited Financial Statements for its third period of account.

The Society is a public benefit entity (PBE), formed as an unincorporated members' organisation.

AIM OF THE SOCIETY

To build a stronger community, make South Woodford a better place to live and work and protect the suburban nature, local character and green spaces of the neighbourhood.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SOCIETY

The objectives of the Society are:

- to promote membership to all the residents and businesses within the Roding and Church End Wards;
- to represent and promote the interests and rights of residents and businesses;
- to ensure that all residents are consulted and informed regularly and to encourage active engagement;
- to assist and promote social activities for recreation and enjoyment, and encourage a community spirit and sense of responsibility;
- to be non-party political; and
- to set out a neighbourhood plan for a specified area within the E18 postcode area.

ACHIEVEMENTS

2017 was a very busy and exciting year for SWSoc. Our main focus has been to improve our profile within the community and Redbridge Council and thanks to a number of committed team members, we have been very successful in doing this through our attendance and participation in Council meetings; involvement in the consultation on the draft Redbridge Plan and reaching out to the community and engaging with residents. On Social Media we now have over 1300 followers on Facebook alone and our Twitter numbers are growing.

As noted above during this year Redbridge consulted on its draft plan, known as the Redbridge Local Plan 2015 – 2030.

<https://www.redbridge.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/redbridge-local-plan-2015-2030>

The draft plan concerned us immensely; it had reference to a landmark building on Station Estate and also earmarked South Woodford as being suitable for tall buildings, and was designated as an area for growth and investment. Thankfully the final version of the plan emphasises that new development has to be in character and references to tall building and a landmark building have been removed although our area is still designated as an area for growth and development. We are pleased that we LBR listened to our concerns and acted accordingly.

The Society is keen to emphasise that it is not averse to development; South Woodford will change over time, however, all development should be in character with the area and where major development occurs we are keen to see a commensurate improvement in infrastructure.

Work continued in earnest on our local neighbourhood plan and we are still working, in conjunction with Redbridge Council, to agree on the right area boundary. Our application needed several modifications due to legal and planning technicalities and Neighbourhood Planning funding timetable. We ultimately decided it would be prudent to defer the Plan until 2018, which would then dovetail nicely with the new Redbridge Plan. We have recently submitted the amended boundary area as well as other information requested and we are hopeful that the Council will soon publish this for public consultation. 2018 will show a significant progress towards the completion of the plan.

During the year we continued to campaign against the threats posed by anti-social behaviour, over development and loss of services to the local area.

In January 2016, we ran our second annual quiz night, 20% of the funds raised from this very successful evening which attracted around 120 attendees was donated to Haven House. As this was the second year running that the event had been sold out, we decided to move the event to a larger venue for our 2017 quiz night held in February 2018, which subsequently also ended up being sold out!

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

Looking forward, 2018 will be an incredibly busy year for SWSOC. We will continue to engage with local councillors, Redbridge Council and the media.

As noted above, we have recently re-submitted the amended boundary area as well as other information requested and we are hopeful that the Council will soon publish this for public consultation. Our focus for 2018 will be significant development towards the completion of the neighbourhood plan.

Once we have received formal recognition from Redbridge Council of approval of our application, work will start in earnest to create the neighbourhood plan for South Woodford. This is very important in our quest to keep the suburban village feel of South Woodford. Effectively it serves as another layer of planning guidance that has to be taken into account when London Borough of Redbridge (LBR) makes planning decisions. With the adoption of the new Redbridge plan by LBR it is now an ideal time to progress with our plan, as they also have more time to work with us.

We will be again actively campaigning to boost membership even further to ensure our voice accurately reflects the views and opinions of local residents and businesses.

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

The SWSoc has issued 501 (2016:440) membership ‘certificates’, some of these relate to individual members, whereas, others are joint memberships. The total number of individual members of the Society is 556 (2016:490).

	2017		2016	
	Numbers	Percentages	Numbers	Percentages
Business Members from E18	63	11%	56	11%
Residential Member from E18	454	82%	415	85%
Residential Members from Outside E18	39	7%	19	4%
Total	556	100%	490	100%

Of the residential members outside E18, one member resides in Snaresbrook and the others in Woodford.

INVESTMENT POLICY

The Society only has minimal reserves and these are held in a non-interest bearing community bank account.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The following members served on the management committee for the entire accounting period unless otherwise stated:

Pearl Arbenser-Simmonds (Chair)

Nicky Tranmer (Vice Chair)
Matthew Shaw (Treasurer)
Louise Burgess (Secretary)
Patricia Darvell (Vice Secretary)
Margaret Farrow (Vice Treasurer)
Sam Ross
Rena Pathak

Committee Members were appointed by the Management Committee on the inception of the Society, and the Committee Members can appoint members of the Society to fulfil casual vacancies. Committee Members serve until the next Annual General Meeting (AGM) where if they so wish they can put themselves forward for re-election.

The Report of the Management Committee was approved by the Management Committee on 20 March 2018. Signed on behalf of the Committee by Matthew Shaw (Treasurer).



Matthew Shaw

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2017

	£ 2017	£ 2016
Bank and Cash	1,090	822
Prepaid Hall Hire	<u>75</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Assets	<u>1,165</u>	<u>822</u>
Unrestricted Reserves	<u>1,165</u>	<u>822</u>

These financial statements were approved by the Management Committee on 20 March 2018.
Signed on behalf of the Committee by Matthew Shaw (Treasurer).



Matthew Shaw

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31
DECEMBER 2017**

	2017	2016
<u>Income</u>		
Membership Subscriptions	-	20
Income from Social Events	677	710
Donations	40	40
Donations (Intangible Income)	<u>250</u>	<u>250</u>
	<u>967</u>	<u>1,020</u>
<u>Expenses</u>		
Expenditure on Social Events	(161)	(133)
Charitable Donations	(179)	(115)
Printing Postage and Stationery	<u>(284)</u>	<u>(250)</u>
	<u>(624)</u>	<u>(478)</u>
Surplus for the Period	<u>343</u>	<u>542</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention.

2. Income Tax

Being a members' organisation established as a public benefit entity, the Society is exempt from income tax with the exception of any interest earned on bank deposits.

3. Incoming Resources

Donations are recognised on receipt. The value of time given by volunteers is not valued in the financial statements, however, where goods and services are received without charge these are recognised at an estimate of their fair value as intangible income.

4. Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis.