

**THE WILDLIFE TRUST FOR BIRMINGHAM
AND THE BLACK COUNTRY LTD
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Company Number 01650938

Charity No. 513615

THE WILDLIFE TRUST FOR BIRMINGHAM AND THE BLACK COUNTRY LTD

CONTENTS

**YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017
PAGE**

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| Trustees' and Directors' Report | 1 |
| Report of the Independent Auditor | 24 |
| Statement of Financial Activities | 26 |
| Statement of Financial Position | 27 |
| Statement of Cash Flows | 28 |
| Notes to the Financial Statements | 29 |



Trustee Report 2016/17



DIRECTORS' AND TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Statement of Particulars

REGISTERED NAME The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country Ltd
COMPANY NUMBER 01650938 (England and Wales)
CHARITY NUMBER 513615
TRADING SUBSIDIARY Land Care Associates Limited (dissolved 9.5.17)
REGISTERED OFFICE 16 Greenfield Crescent, Birmingham, B15 3AU

BANKERS

Nat West Plc
Chamber of Commerce House
36 Highfield Road, Edgbaston
Birmingham B15 3BJ

AUDITOR

Stephen W Jones FCA
Chartered Accountant & Registered Auditor
King Edward House
82 Stourbridge Road
Halesowen, West Midlands B63 3UP

Patron Miss Gitta Tangye
President Professor David Bellamy OBE
Vice Presidents Professor Chris Baines
Peter Shirley MBE
Professor Ian Trueman

Trust Council (Trustees and Directors)

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| Needle, S. (Chair) | Appointed October 2014 |
| Smith, M. (Treasurer) | Appointed October 2014 |
| Anandou, J. | Appointed 19 th January 2016 |
| Trueman, I. | Appointed 19 th January 2016 |
| Crombie, N. (Vice Chair) | Appointed 19 th January 2016 |
| Knight, M. | Appointed 19 th January 2016 |
| Taylor, A. | Appointed 19 th January 2016 |
| Orchard-Webb, J. | Appointed 18 th January 2017 |
| Gus Wood | Appointed 18 th January 2017 |
| Brown, A. | Resigned 12 th September 2016 |
| Shirley, P. | Retired 18 th January 2017 |

Chief Executive

Stokes, G. Appointed October 2014

INTRODUCTION FROM THE CHAIRMAN, SIMON NEEDLE

Hello and welcome to our report for the year ending 31 March 2017.

Although I have been a Trustee since 2014 it's not been a full year since I was elected to the position of Chair; taking on the extra responsibility and juggling the demands of a full-time career plus stepping into the more than capable shoes of our previous chairman Peter Shirley. I have to say it was a little daunting at first, but with the support of my fellow Trustees and that of the Wildlife Trust staff the process has, I hope, been a relatively painless one for all concerned.

The last year has been a busy one with lots of new issues coming to the fore both locally and nationally and these have certainly given us some food for thought as to how we meet these challenges.

Looking around at the various Birmingham & Black Country Local Authorities one can see they all have pressures being put upon them whether that be budget cuts or requirements for more homes and businesses, nowhere is this more keenly felt than in our green spaces.

At the end of March this year we were all saddened to see one of our longest serving employees retire (Chris Parry) after over 30 years of service. As Principal Ecologist for the Trust one of Chris's key roles was to provide advocacy for the green environment, providing comment on various development plans or planning applications and raising the profile of ecosystem services, in effect giving nature a voice; this is vital work, especially during these times of austerity, and something that the Trust will continue to deliver in order to protect those valuable wildlife sites and the wider ecological network from which we all benefit. I'm sure you will all join me in wishing Chris all the very best on his retirement.

The 23rd June 2016 saw a landmark decision with the UK voting by a slim majority to leave the European Union. The aftermath of this has been a worrying time for many of us directly involved with Nature Conservation; most of the laws that protect our wildlife and environment are tied to our membership of the European Union. This includes our strongest protection for special wildlife sites and effective regulations on pollution of our air, land, seas and rivers. So leaving the European Union could have far-reaching implications for our wildlife and all the positive impacts a healthy natural environment has on our lives.

Earlier this year I was lucky enough to spend 3 days at Chair Con – an annual conference for the Chairs of all 47 Wildlife Trusts. It was a fantastic opportunity to be able to meet other Chairs and share ideas and opinions. As would be expected Brexit was a hot topic throughout the course of the event, although I think we all had our concerns that we could lose much of the protection for our UK wildlife and habitats we also felt that with the right pressure applied to Government, working together, we could bring about improvements. With this in mind a new coalition of charities had been formed called "Greener UK" and the Wildlife Trusts are part of this. Let's hope for a positive outcome all round.



Finally, I would like to do two things. Firstly, thank everyone who has helped on our successes over the last year: staff, trustees, members, volunteers, partners and funders alike. Without your continued support and dedication, we would not be able to rise to the challenges ahead. Secondly we have taken on a few new staff over the last twelve months and I would like to formally welcome them to the Trust. I, and the board of Trustees, look forward to working with them.



Simon Needle

TRUSTEE REPORT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2016 – 2017

The Board have pleasure in presenting their report, which also meets the requirements of a Directors' report as required by Company Law, together with the audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2017. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Charities SORP (FRS102) – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice*. The Report has been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Objectives and Activities

We have achieved a lot during financial year 2016 – 2017 with a focus of strengthening the Trust, securing our main projects and developing our strategy for the next five years and beyond.

Our Vision is for Birmingham and the Black Country to have more wildlife, more wild places and more people with a strong connection to the natural world every year.

Our new five-year strategy for 2017 – 2022: A Greener Future

The strategy was launched in November 2016 by our President Chris Baines at Sandwell Valley Farm attended by over 70 partners, supporters and our first ever member to join the Trust. It was a chance to celebrate what has been achieved, remind ourselves of the very real challenges ahead for the natural environment in the face of planned developments and a population increasingly disconnected from nature, and we were able to reinforce the partnerships that will be essential to achievement of the strategy, set out in our Strategic Goals for the next 5 years.

The Strategy has 4 strategic goals:

1. Space for nature is protected, restored, created and valued.
2. Everyone is connected to nature.
3. The natural environment is at the heart of planning, policy- and decision-making.
4. We are an effective organisation.

We plan to achieve our goals through 5 principal work streams:

1. To manage our portfolio of land holdings for the benefit of wildlife.
2. To work with other landowners to support and encourage them to manage their holdings for the benefit of wildlife.
3. To engage with the population of Birmingham and the Black Country to connect people with and to value nature, encouraging choices that protect the natural environment. This is achieved through events, training, education and our communications work.
4. To advocate on behalf of the natural environment protecting green and blue spaces.
5. To ensure science and evidence underpins all our work using a robust evidence base to target our resources to achieve the greatest impact. This includes hosting EcoRecord, the biological records centre for Birmingham and the Black Country.

ACTIVITY REVIEW

1. Space for nature is protected, restored, created and valued.

WILDLIFE TRUST SITES

Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood: Volunteer and community involvement with the reserve has increased thanks to funding from the W. A. Cadbury Fund which has seen us delivering a range of new activities and events. Our work to improve the meadows in Joy's Wood has been further enhanced through a Coronation Meadows project which saw volunteers spreading seed-rich hay from Illey Pastures on the site. Through this work four species of orchid and numerous other new species are now found on the reserve. Funding from the Veolia Environmental Trust and Tesco Bags of Help has been secured for 2017-18 which will see the restoration of important habitats, new boardwalks and a sculpture trail installed.

Deer's Leap Wood: Tesco Bags of Help Funding has enabled major new improvements to the path network, steps and entrance to the meadow so that the site is accessible and welcoming. The Shireland Brook has seen considerable improvement to the water quality due to our partnership with Severn Trent Water and planted wetland flora has established very well. Young woodland trees and planted hedgerows along fence-lines are developing well and the meadow has been very colourful.

EcoPark and The Growing Local Flora Project: Continuing site clearance and development of coppice woodland blocks means that woodland ground flora plants are being established and along with plant propagation techniques many plants are being grown on. Large numbers of primroses have been spectacular in spring and many NIA woodland sites have been supplied with plants. A wide variety of species have been seen across the site as wildlife habitats mature.

Hill Hook Local Nature Reserve: working with the Friends of Hill Hook to deliver a large enhancement project with derelict fencing cleared and earthworks to give a widened shallow bank along the north section of the brook. This has allowed wetland flora to be planted and a cleared bramble area seeded and planted with a large variety of species, which are establishing well. The walkway along this section has become very popular. Other funding has seen the long section of boardwalk and bridge replaced with plastic which will be much more durable and safe.

Turner's Wood: Important tree safety work has been completed and with site clearance, access and forest school area creation, St. Michael's School can now use the site; all enabled by the school's Awards for All funding.

Peascroft Wood: The volunteers worked hard edging the footpath, managing the woodland and the meadow (lots more meadow plants plus butterflies and other invertebrates this year) and keeping the site looking great for visitors. We ran a number of events including tree and woodland flora planting days, play events and manifest hunts over the summer. The Friends group had its first meeting; a brilliant step forward for the project and the site.

BIRMINGHAM AND BLACK COUNTRY NATURE IMPROVEMENT AREA

The Birmingham and Black Country Nature Improvement Area, funded by Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, continues to strengthen our partnerships, working with communities and land owners to improve spaces for nature. During this financial year the Wildlife Trust has delivered 92 Nature Improvement projects over 60 sites. We have improved 27 hectares of grassland, 37 hectares of woodland, and 951 metres of watercourse. The projects were made possible due to the fantastic volunteers, school groups and local communities giving their time and energy. We worked with 47 groups and recorded over 9,000 hours from 2,143 volunteers. The Wildlife Trust's Growing Local Flora project has continued to expand through 2016-17 and is providing millions of seeds and thousands of plants to our woodland projects.

The Trust developed a partnership with Buglife through their Urban Buzz programme which contributed to delivery of the NIA ecological strategy. Urban Buzz Birmingham is hosted by the Wildlife Trust and focuses on delivering pollinator-friendly habitat creation projects. This has now delivered over 100 projects.

The work of the Nature Improvement Area is being recognised outside of the area and a number of professional workshops and learning visits have been undertaken. These have included a Countryside Management Training workshop on meadow creation that attracted members of ranger services, ecological consultancies and conservation NGOs from across the country. In 2017 the Wildlife Trust were awarded the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) NGO Impact Award at a ceremony in London for the work of the Nature Improvement Area.

2. Everyone is connected to nature.

Events: With the creation of a new People and Wildlife team in April 2016 the Trust has been able to increase the number of events we offer to people of all ages, covering a wide range of interests and knowledge of nature conservation. We have held 345 events involving 4579 people. Our events have been wide-ranging offering something for everyone from training sessions on woodland management, coppicing and hedge laying to bat and moth walks, fossil hunts in Birmingham city centre, seasonal walks to enjoy the snowdrops, bluebells and wildflower meadows, storytelling, a sweat lodge and lots of family activities thanks to players of the People's Postcode Lottery. Families have been able to enjoy mini-beast hunts, pond dipping, Halloween spooky activities, and a winter festival.

Centre of the Earth: built in 1991 the Centre of the Earth was for years a leading environmental education centre but in recent years has not been in use by the Trust. That changed in 2016 when we relaunched our activities at Centre of the Earth with a fantastic open day event consulting with the local community about how to meet their needs and operate it as a Health and Wellbeing Centre. Over 50 people including representatives from 15 different organisations and local schools attended the launch event suggesting ideas for Centre of the Earth. Guests were treated to a performance from a visiting Zulu choir.

Communications: With a new Communications Officer in post we have been able to increase the number of people we speak with regularly with monthly mailings reaching over 1,500 people across Birmingham and the Black Country. Our social media engagement is increasing with a rise in Facebook engagements from 0.5 per day (31.3.16) to 1.7 per day (31.3.17) and Twitter engagements increasing from 58 per day (31.3.16) to 60 per day (31.3.17).

30 Days Wild: The number of people taking part in the 30 Days Wild Challenge June 2016 completing Random Acts of Wildness increased from 210 people in 2015 to 714 in 2016. People took a few moments each day to spend time in nature and according to research conducted by the Wildlife Trusts with the University of Derby “samples of those taking part were found to have sustained increases in happiness, health, connection to nature and pro-nature behaviours.”

Help For Hedgehogs: Our Heritage Lottery Funded partnership with Birmingham City Council Rangers and the Friends of Brandwood End Cemetery brought together schools, community groups and local residents to find out whether hedgehogs continue to survive in the area, and how local people can provide ‘Help for Hedgehogs’.

A highlight from our Community Engagement Officer: “Running our second community event at Brandwood End, with around 80 people in attendance, I was giving a talk about hedgehogs. A lot of young children who were involved with the project from local schools were in attendance. The highlight was me posing questions to the crowd and adults having no clue of the answer and these young 8-9 year olds shouting out the answers and explaining them in as much detail as I would have! I let them come up to help teach the adults about hedgehogs with me – I claim they are my hedgehog army now.”

Education: We continue to work hard to develop our work with schools at the Trust. This year increasing the number of pupils visiting our sites from 7,657 last year to 8,430 this year. Some of our favourite feedback quotes are below:

“The outdoor environment both excited and calmed the children positively. The children’s understanding of the outdoors greatly improved with them using the names of plants and animals in their general vocabulary where they hadn’t used it before.”

“We would definitely like to visit again next year. The sessions were expertly led and managed very well. Our visit gave the children an opportunity to learn a lot.”

“It furthered their (pupils’) understanding of nature and the natural environment so well. They were keen to know more and you were only too happy to answer their many questions. Thank you!

It had a positive impact on pupil’s behaviour; they were all very engaged and motivated. It was lovely to be outdoors with them and they were buzzing with their experiences and understandings afterwards.”

Skills and Training



A week-long project, called My Choice My Future, aimed to support young people by providing opportunities to help improve their personal and practical skills. By the end of the week the students had successfully achieved their aim of redeveloping and regenerating the EcoPark orchard area so that it is once again accessible for educational purposes.

Throughout the project, the pupils learned a wide variety of practical skills such as woodland management, computer design, woodworking, health & safety and gardening proficiency. As Deborah, one of

the participating students said, “I wasn’t sure what to expect and it was hard physical work, but I enjoyed it and learnt a lot about nature”.

Jack, aged 15, encapsulated the spirit of the week saying that *“Taking part in this project has really inspired me to get out more. I have really enjoyed wildlife more since I have learned more about it”*.

Highlight from our Engagement Officer: *“With the Department for Work and Pensions I ran a session with some teenagers that had been unable to gain a work experience placement. The majority of these students have very little experience engaging with nature. I told them about the Trust and my job, working outdoors and showed them how to make nettle rope. The following day I received an email from DWP to say one of the young lads was so inspired by what he could do in nature he is now looking to work in wildlife after school.”*



Corporate Partnerships: The Trust has developed a number of key corporate partnerships working with them to deliver our strategy, engaging more people with nature.

Corporate Partner Case Study - National Grid: As part of National Grid’s biodiversity strategy they are reviewing management of their land holdings to identify biodiversity benefits. The sub-station at Oldbury was the first Nature Improvement Area project delivered on private land. Our Conservation Officers have improved the grassland areas creating meadows and enhanced the plantations. The overall aim of the project is to engage people with the site and work towards establishing a ‘Friends-of’ community group to ensure that area is sustainably managed in the future after the project has been completed.

3. The natural environment is at the heart of planning, policy- and decision-making.

Birmingham & Black Country Local Nature Partnership

Place, Business and People priorities help to deliver the LNP’s Vision *“to represent and champion the essential role of the natural environment in achieving a vibrant, healthy and prosperous Birmingham and Black Country.”*

Some highlights include:

- Showcase event at Birmingham City University attended by 70 delegates with presentations from DEFRA, Accord, Birmingham and Black Country Nature Improvement Area, Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership, Carillion PLC, Cllr. Lisa Trickett Birmingham portfolio holder for Sustainability.
- Written evidence presented to Future of Public Parks Inquiry with numerous citations in the [final report](#).
- CEO of Wildlife Trust for Birmingham & the Black Country appointed as Chair of the LNP.
- Development of a Natural Capital approach involving partners across the West Midlands Combined Authority.

West Midlands Combined Authority

The Trust has sought to engage in regional planning processes and has been involved in work with the emerging Combined Authority to ensure the importance of the natural environment is recognised in decision making.

In early 2017 the Trust led a series of workshops with organisations including Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, the Birmingham and Black Country Local Nature Partnership, Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull Local Nature Partnership, Canal and Rivers Trust, Midlands Environment Business Company, Sustainability West Midlands, Severn Trent, Environment Agency, Natural England and others to identify a [shared vision](#) for the natural environment of the combined authority geography.

Birmingham City Council

In December as a response to Birmingham City Council's proposed budget cuts to parks and green spaces the Trust led the development of [Greener Birmingham](#), a coalition of more than 30 organisations and individuals working together to protect and enhance the city's green spaces. We wrote an [open letter to Birmingham](#) highlighting the vital contribution natural spaces make to the health, wellbeing and happiness of everyone who lives and works in the city, and launching the 'Pledge for Nature' now signed by over 200 people.

HS2 Environmental and Landscape Work Stream Board for the West Midlands Combined Authority HS2 Growth Board

In December 2016 the Trust's CEO was asked to Chair the newly configured HS2 Environmental and Landscape Board for the WMCA HS2 Growth Board with the aim of seeking the best possible outcomes for the environment should Royal Assent be given (and HS2 becomes a reality). The Trust recognises that HS2 is potentially a divisive issue and that there will be significant negative impacts on the environment across the length of the route, including the Trust managed site, Park Hall Nature Reserve. We successfully petitioned HS2 for changes to the planned cabling works at Park Hall to preserve the majority of the ancient woodland there, and to ensure the Trust is involved in decisions to restore Park Hall as a nature reserve and provide public access once the line has been built. Our approach to deciding on Trust involvement with the HS2 Board recognised that there is an opportunity to embed environmental principles across all aspects of this large scale construction project that could improve not just HS2 but other developments in the combined authority area for nature. As Chair, the Trust CEO worked with the HS2 Growth Board to handpick board members ensuring an even mix of skilled and experienced ecologists to meet with HS2 Ltd and all the work stream leads.

The agreed Terms of Reference for the HS2 Environmental and Landscape Work Stream Board state:

"The purpose of the HS2 Environmental and Landscape Work Stream is to embed the environment and landscape best practice approaches within all the proposed HS2 project work and draw out additional benefits from any required mitigation measure. This will be achieved through working collaboratively to address, co-ordinate quality and aid delivery that will impact upon each and any current or new work stream(s) and/or work packages that have been/will be created for the development and delivery of the HS2 Growth Strategy."

Monitoring Town Planning Applications

Advocacy and Planning: Our Members' support is crucial in this area. As the pressures on the natural environment increase it is vital we stand up for nature in all areas including with regards to housing proposals, infrastructure projects and in all areas of regional planning.

With the support of a planning volunteer we were able to screen over 30 large scale planning applications and respond in detail to 14 that would have a significant impact on biodiversity and wildlife including plans for a substantial housing development on the site of City Hospital, adjacent to Centre of the Earth. We also submitted consultation responses to the government's Future of Public Parks Inquiry, and have been involved in consultation on the Black Country core strategy review. The Trust has now appointed a Senior Planning and Biodiversity Officer to support this work.

Science and Evidence

EcoRecord: Science and evidence underpins all our work. **EcoRecord** continues to collect, manage and interpret wildlife data in Birmingham and the Black Country providing access to information regarding designated wildlife sites, geological sites and species data critical to support the conservation, understanding and enjoyment of local biodiversity.

There are some exciting recording initiatives currently taking place which EcoRecord are involved with including:

- The Birmingham and Black Country Botanical Society's survey of Sutton Park with the aim of producing a publication 'The Flora of Sutton Park' next year.
- BrumBats, the local bat group, who are busy producing an atlas of the bats of Birmingham and the Black Country.
- Sandwell Valley Naturalists, who are carrying out surveys of the freshwater habitats of Sandwell Valley.

EcoRecord has also been involved in supporting the development of two European funding bids: (1) the Black Country Blue Network and (2) Natural Rivers-Improving ecological condition and habitat connectivity on the River Rea catchment.

We have worked with Buglife to carry out an invertebrate survey of several created meadows across Birmingham and the Black Country. The survey sites chosen represented a range of meadow creation techniques. There were a total of 12 meadows surveyed across 10 different sites.

We have seen a significant increase in the number of searches using our biodiversity information service. Users range from local authorities, statutory bodies, the general public and other organisations. Some key statistics below show the high level of use of EcoRecord data through the national biodiversity network gateway.

| EcoRecord download statistics summary | | 2015 - 2016 | 2016-2017 |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------------|-----------|
| Total Downloads | | 1203 | 3858 |
| Total Records Downloaded | | 4767031 | 12595849 |
| Records Downloaded per Purpose | | | |
| | Personal interest | 1057050 | 4940369 |
| | Educational purposes | 2021391 | 3875825 |
| | Research and scientific analysis | 668198 | 1151421 |
| | Media publication | 10591 | 10606 |
| | Conservation NGO work | 151111 | 1074590 |
| | Professional land management | 76 | 6260 |
| | Data provision and interpretation (commercial) | 237 | 10150 |
| | Data provision and interpretation (non-profit) | 12780 | 13751 |
| | Statutory work | 845597 | 1512877 |

4. An effective organisation

We set ourselves some key targets for 2016 – 2017 to ensure the Trust develops financial resilience and capacity to grow to achieve our strategic plan.

In August 2016 we secured a Heritage Lottery Transition Fund grant of £87,600 to develop the Trust's internal capacity to grow, to manage our reserves and to build our resilience. Part of this funding will enable the Trust to develop plans for all of the sites we manage, legal fees to secure the leases, review our income generation potential and to improve our internal systems including the installation of a new Customer Management System. This work will be complete by 30 April 2018.

We generated a good surplus on our budget this financial year as described in the Financial Highlights section below meaning the Trust now complies with the Trust's Reserves Policy.

During this period we brought financial management of the Trust in-house having previously worked with a financial consultant. This move has provided additional capacity for the Trust to improve our financial systems, strengthened our resilience and improved the governance. The Finance Manager is a Senior Manager post, which results in the increase of costs for senior management positions. In addition, the CEO now works full time (4 days per week in the previous financial year) and the newly created People and Wildlife Manager has been in post for a full twelve months. The Senior Management team are working effectively and efficiently in order manage operations of the Trust.

Investing in Wildlife – Thank you

Without support from all our members, corporate partners, grant funders and everyone who donates to the Trust we couldn't achieve our goals. We want to say thank you to everyone who worked with us, supported and invested in the wildlife of Birmingham and the Black Country during 2016 – 2017.

Thank you to the huge community of recorders who have worked with us over the past 12 months, all our volunteers and partner organisations in the Birmingham and Black Country Nature Improvement Area, and Birmingham and Black Country Local Nature Partnership. The Friends groups of parks and green spaces are vital to the management, protection and enhancement of natural spaces across Birmingham and the Black Country. Thank you to all of you for the work you do.

| Schools & Clubs | Funders | Partners & Supporters | Corporate Partners | Friends Groups |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------|--|
| Amblecote Primary | Martann Trust | Birmingham City Council | Black Country Consortium | Friends of Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood Nature Reserve |
| Ark Chamberlain Primary Academy | Big Lottery Fund | Castle Vale Community Environmental Trust | Carillion PLC | Friends of Rowley Hills |
| City Road Primary Academy | Heritage Lottery Fund | Buglife | Gowling WLG | Friends of Moorcroft Wood |
| Clifton Primary | The Wildlife Trusts | Summerfield Gardens | Bullring Birmingham | Friends of Hill Hook |
| Guardian Angels RC Primary | Esmée Fairbairn Foundation | Water Catchment Partnerships: Mid-Severn & Tame, Anker Mease | LMF | Friends of Bumble Hole and Warrens Hall LNR |
| Barford Primary | Roughley Trust | Birmingham Open Spaces Forum | Vine House Farm | Friends of Brandwood End Cemetery |
| Bells Farm Primary | | | Tarmac | |
| Billsley Primary School | Saintbury Trust | Canal and River Trust | South Staffordshire Water | Friends of Ley Hill Park |
| Blakesley Hall Primary | Players of the People's Postcode Lottery | The Real Junk Food Project | National Grid | Friends of Deer's Leap Wood |
| Bordesley Green Primary | J. Feeney Trust | Deer's Leap Residents Association | Severn Trent Water | |
| Bordesley Village Primary School | Joyce Farley Educational Trust | Martineau Gardens | Deutsche Bank | |
| International School | Birmingham City Council | Woodcraft Folk | Asda Small Heath | |

| | | |
|---|------------------------------------|---|
| Kings Norton Primary School | Birmingham Natural History Society | 306 Robins Scouts |
| Lyndon Green Primary | Dudley MBC | Northfield Ecocentre |
| Marlborough Infants School | Environment Agency | Birmingham City University |
| Marlborough Junior School | Natural England | University of Birmingham |
| Nishkam Primary School | Severn Trent Water | Department for Work and Pensions |
| Oasis Academy Hobmoor | | Brumbats |
| Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary | National Grid | University of Wolverhampton |
| Palfrey Infant School | Walsall MBC | St. Barnabas Church, Erdington |
| Palfrey Junior School | Sandwell MBC | |
| Percy Schumer Academy | Wolverhampton City Council | mac Birmingham |
| Redhill Junior & Infant | Woodsetton Charitable Trust | Castle Vale Allotments |
| Regents Park Community Primary | Tesco Bags of Help | Woodland Trust |
| Rookery School | W E Dunn Trust | Birmingham Botanical Society |
| Somerville Primary | Charles Brotherton Trust | Ikon Gallery |
| St Benedict's Infants School | Peter Storrs Trust | Ellen Pisolkar, Mike Poulton, Tony Sames, Prof. Ian Trueman |
| St Bernadette's Catholic Primary | CB & HH Taylor 1984 Trust | Warwickshire, Coventry & Solihull LNP |
| St John's Church of England Primary | Limoges Charitable Trust | Spring to Life |
| St Albans Catholic Primary School | The Veolia Environmental Trust | Warley Woods Community Trust |
| St. Michael's Church of England Primary | GJW Turner Trust | NCS The Challenge |
| Starbank Primary | Cole Charitable Trust | B – Row |
| Stratford Road Playgroup | Lady Tangye Charitable Trust | |
| Villiers Primary | Sutton Town Council | |
| Waverley School | Awards for All | |
| Wilkes Green Infant School | | |
| Woodhouse Primary Academy | | |
| Woodthorpe Junior and Infants Primary | | |
| Yarnfield Primary | | |

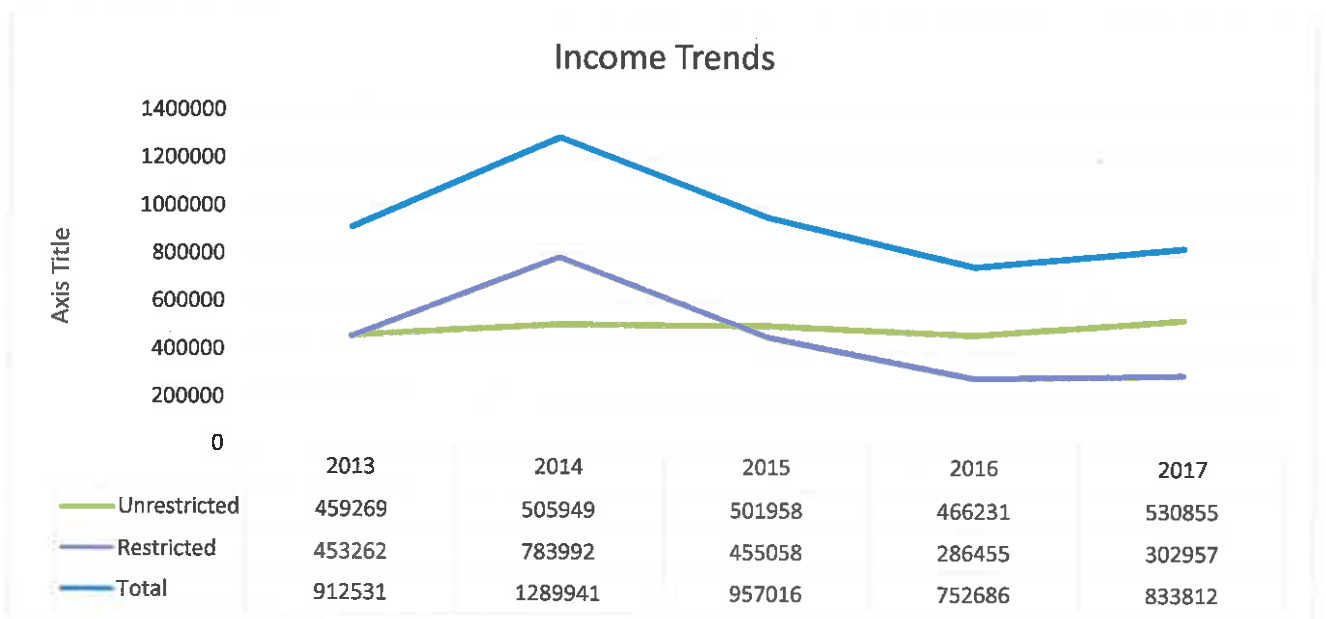
Our Volunteers

To achieve our goals we depend on the hard work and dedication of a large team of volunteers who work with us at our nature reserves, respond to planning applications, attend events, manage our website and so much more. We have started to introduce volunteer events to show our gratitude to these wonderful people and this will continue in 2017 – 2018.

During the financial year 2016 – 2017 8,742 (1,222 – 2015/16) people collectively volunteered 35,681 hours (8,468 hours – 2015/16) of their time to work with and support The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country.

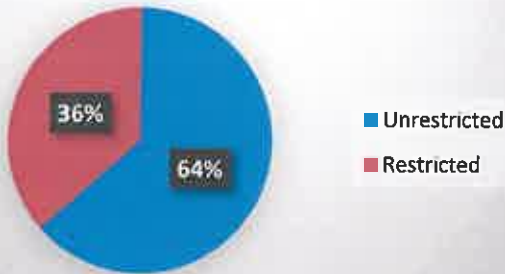
We are very grateful to everyone who has donated their time, money or energy to the Trust over the past financial year. None of the work we do would be possible without this money.

Financial Review



The Trust's income has increased by 10% from last financial year overall with restricted income growth of 5% and unrestricted income growth of 13% to achieve an overall income of £833,812.

2017 Income Analysis

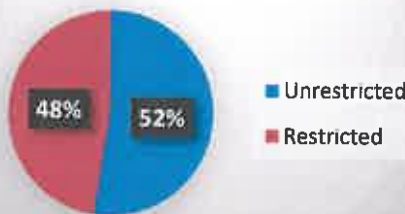


Unrestricted income represents money given to support the Trust’s achievement of core charitable aims such as membership subscriptions. **Restricted** income is given for a specific purpose and usually with clear outputs to be achieved and includes grant funding such as Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and Service Level Agreements.

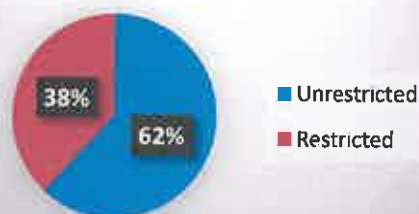
The proportion of unrestricted to restricted income has improved over the past three years with unrestricted representing 52% of total income in financial year 14-15, 62% of total income in financial year 15-16 and 64% in financial year 16 – 17. This represents a transition to a

healthier and more sustainable organisation.

2015 Income Analysis

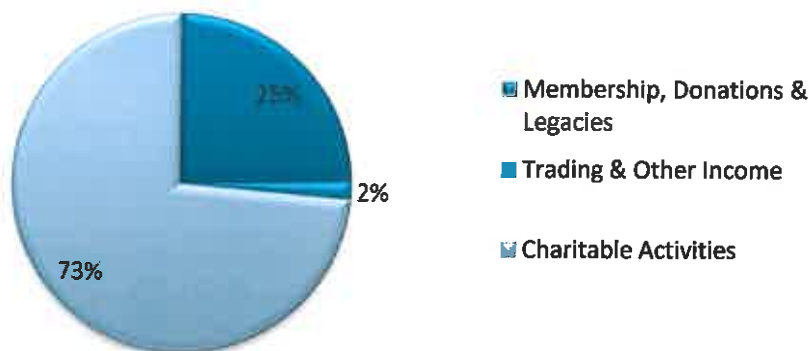


2016 Income Analysis



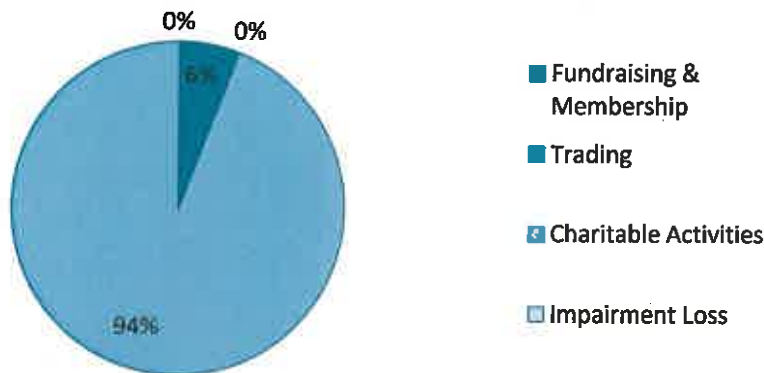
| Income Breakdown | 2016-17 £ | 2015-16 £ |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Membership, Donations & Legacies</i> | 207,101 | 225,111 |
| <i>Trading & Other Income</i> | 15,743 | 22,453 |
| <i>Charitable Activities</i> | 610,968 | 505,122 |
| Total incoming resources | 833,812 | 752,686 |

Income Breakdown 2016-17



Income Increase: The Trust’s income for charitable activities increased by 20% from financial year 2015 – 16. This represents grant funding, service level agreements and income generated for and through our primary charitable activities such as delivering environmental education sessions.

Expenditure Breakdown 2016 - 17



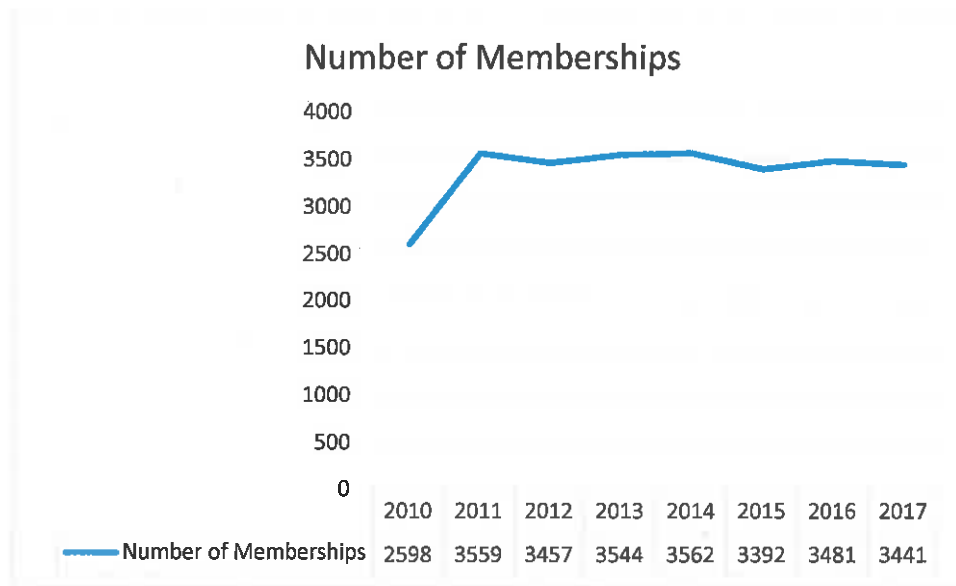
Expenditure: Our Expenditure has increased slightly from the previous financial year to ensure delivery against agreed priorities, commitments to funders and achievement of our strategic aims.

Fundraising and Membership: In line with Charity Commission Statements of Recommended Practice, and in agreement with our independent auditor, the treatment of expenses incurred to communicate and consult with our members has changed to reflect the importance of our members to achievement of our charitable aims. Recruiting new members remains in 'Fundraising and Membership'.

| Expenditure Breakdown | 2016 - 17 | 2015 - 16 |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Fundraising & Membership | 40,360 | 117,076 |
| Trading | 0 | 7,139 |
| Charitable Activities | 653,250 | 457,422 |
| Impairment Loss | 0 | 82,099 |
| Total | 693,610 | 663,736 |

Thank you to all of you: Our Members

Without the support of our Members we could not do what we do. You provide us with the mandate to achieve our charitable aims, the support of our members for wildlife and the natural environment of Birmingham and the Black Country is the reason local leaders are willing to talk to us and you do of course provide critical funding for wildlife. **Thank you.**



Through a focus on improving our communications with our members and increasing the engagement of members with the Trust through events we have been able to reduce the numbers of people cancelling their membership slightly and so we have managed to stop the decline in our member numbers.

A total membership income of £205,565 was generated with expenditure of £40,360 resulting in a surplus of £165,205 contributing to the achievement of our charitable aims and objectives.

Recruiting new members is vital to the Trust’s ongoing stability. The majority of new members are recruited through Wildlife Fundraising Central Ltd. WFC was set up in 2013 by 8 Wildlife Trusts to recruit new members. A total of £40,360 was paid by WTBBC to WFC in financial year 2016 – 2017.

The expenditure on membership figures also includes £10,170 in membership fees to be part of the federation of Wildlife Trusts nationally.

Thank you.

Our Impact in Numbers

| The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country Achievements | 31.3.00 | 31.3.05 | 31.3.10 | 31.3.15 | 31.3.16 | 31.3.17 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|------------|
| These figures provide a snapshot in time of the work of The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country. The figures are independent for the financial year of the report. | | | | | | |
| SPACE FOR NATURE | | | | | | |
| Number of nature reserves owned by WTBBC | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Nature reserves leased/managed | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Hectares of land managed for wildlife (leased or owned) | 1.49 | 1.49 | 70.47 | 93.07 | 93 | 93 |
| Number of sites improved for wildlife (working with landowners) | | | | | 43 | 60 |
| Total hectorage of habitats improved for wildlife: | | | | | | |
| Grassland - Ha | | | | 9 | 11 | 27 |
| Woodland (including wet woodland) - Ha | | | | 17 | 25 | 35 |
| Heathland - Ha | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Hedgerows - Metres | | | | 3190 | 1,512 | 853 |
| Wetland (Fen, Marsh, Reedbeds) - Ha | | | | 0 | - | 3 |
| Watercourse - Metres | | | | 363 | 130 | 951 |
| Total - Ha | | | | 26 | 36 | 65 |
| CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE | | | | | | |
| People engaged with events | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 3,771 | 4,579 |
| Total number of events organised | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 153 | 346 |
| Approximate number of visitors to WTBBC sites | N/A | N/A | N/A | 200000 | 200,000 | 200,000 |
| Education Centres in use | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Pupils reached | N/A | N/A | 6500 | 7352 | 7,657 | 8,430 |
| Number of volunteers | | | | 1600 | 1,222 | 8,742 |
| Total number of volunteer hours | | | | 13289 | 8,468 | 35,681 |
| THE VOICE OF NATURE | | | | | | |
| Nos of planning applications: | | | | | | |
| screened | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 38 | 36 |
| responded to | 557 | 75 | 7 | 25 | 26 | 14 |
| No of wildlife sites given advice on | N/A | N/A | N/A | 35 | 3 | 19 |
| EcoRecord number of biological records held | N/A | N/A | 525396 | 564388 | 571,766 | 597,436 |
| EcoRecord number of records requested | N/A | N/A | N/A | | 4,767,031 | 12,595,849 |
| AN EFFECTIVE ORGANISATION | | | | | | |
| Staff employed | 11 | 17 | 19 | 21 | 14 | 16 |
| Trainees/apprentices | | | | | 3 | 2 |
| Total number of members | | 1960 | 2422 | 3562 | 3,418 | 3,441 |
| Annual income | 327012 | 477529 | 793302 | 957016 | 752,687 | 833,812 |
| Annual Expenditure | 312963 | 512147 | 839361 | 1132111 | 663,736 | 693,610 |

Structure, Governance and Management

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country is one of 47 independent charities, which form a national partnership - The Wildlife Trusts through the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts. Collectively these 47 Trusts manage 98,510 ha of land for wildlife and for people, inspiring 8.2 million visits to wildlife sites. Together we have 839,745 members and 2,500 nature reserves throughout the UK. Becoming a family member of The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country also offers membership to the national environment club, Wildlife Watch, which provides projects for members and affiliated schools, so involving them directly with environmental issues.

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country is a registered charity (No. 513615) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 01650938). The Trust was established in 1980 to protect our local natural heritage and encourage people to engage, enjoy and get involved with the natural environment. We are a membership organisation, governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Work is carried out by a staff team total of 16 individuals (at 31 March 2017) 13.9 full time equivalent posts plus two Wilder Choices trainees per year funded through Heritage Lottery Fund's Skills for the Future programme. The Trust could not achieve the impacts we do without the commitment and hard work of a large number of volunteers.

In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

A council of voluntary Trustee Directors manages the Trust. The Council of Trustees is responsible for the overall governance of the Trust. The Trust's Council is elected from the membership in accordance with its governing documents at the Annual General Meeting: Trustees are either co-opted during the year or elected at the Annual General Meeting. Co-opted Trustees must stand for election at the Annual General Meeting immediately following their appointment. Council may co-opt additional members from time to time as it sees fit.

Organisational Structure

The overall responsibility for the charity lies with the Trustee Directors who have delegated the day to day management of the charity to the Chief Executive. The Trustee Directors meet regularly to agree strategy, review progress, review financial information, and discuss policy issues. To facilitate effective operation, the Chief Executive has delegated authority within terms of reference approved by the Trustees for some operational matters, including finance.

Induction and training of new trustees

The Trustee is provided with copies of the charity's key documents, including its Memorandum and Articles, Governance Handbook, latest Annual Report and Accounts, minutes of recent Council meetings, policy documents and further information on the role and responsibilities of charity trustees. New Trustees are required to confirm that they have studied these documents and raised any queries or obtained further information which they may need.

Following election or co-option of a Trustee the Chair will introduce a new Trustee at their first meeting of Council. They will also participate in a formal induction process to familiarise them with the extent and nature of the Trust's operations. After election at the Annual General Meeting Trustees serve for a period of 3 years and may be elected for a further period of 3 years.

Developments in Charity law and good practice are monitored and important developments are brought to the notice of Trustees.

The relationship between staff and Trustees is crucial to the Trust's continuing success. Trustees bring a range of skills and experience to the responsibilities of the role which requires them to have an understanding of all aspects of the Trust's work. Trustees meet at quarterly Council meetings each year where they review strategy and operational performance, set policies and agree budgets.

Key Management Remuneration

None of the Trustees receive remuneration or benefit for their work with the Group and Charity. Any connection between Trustees and any company the Trust works with is disclosed to the Board.

The Directors who are the charity Trustees, and the senior management team, comprise the key management personnel of the charity in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. All directors give their time freely and no director received remuneration during the year. The pay of senior staff is reviewed annually. In setting these salaries Trustees benchmark against pay levels in similar organisations of a similar size.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities and Corporate Governance

The Trustees, who are also the directors of The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black County Limited for the purposes of company law, are responsible for the preparation of the Annual Report of the Trustees and financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the financial activities of the Charity and of its financial position at the end of that period. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the policies adopted are in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and with applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity or its subsidiary will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities and to provide reasonable assurance that:

- The Charity is operating efficiently and effectively
- All assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition and are properly applied
- Proper records are maintained and financial information used within the Charity, or for publication, is reliable
- The Charity complies with the relevant laws and regulations.

Trustees are also required to comply with the 2006 Charities Act section 4 to have had due regard to guidance published by the Charity Commission. The Trustees confirm compliance with section 4.

Processes are in place to ensure that performance is monitored and the appropriate management information is prepared and reviewed monthly by executive management and regularly by the Board of Trustees. All Trustees sit one or two sub committees of Council, Resources and Operations which review in more detail, the Trust's activities. Financial and management information of the Trust is progressively being loaded onto files viewable on the Internet.

The systems of internal control are designed to provide assurances against material misstatement or loss. They include:

- An annual budget approved by the Trustees;
- Regular consideration by the Trustees of financial results, variances from budget, non - financial performance
- Delegation of day to day management authority and segregation of duties;
- Identification and management of risks.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable website.

Risk Management

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of a Risk Register and Management Strategy, reviewed annually, and by peer review by Trustees. Procedures are also in place to ensure compliance with health and safety legislation, policies and procedures including frequent audit of health and safety protocol. We take every effort to minimise our environmental impacts and intend to work towards full environmental impact assessments and audits.

External risks are analysed and attempts made to mitigate or plan for them where possible. Currently identified external risks include (in no particular order) the impact of public sector funding cuts, recent negative fundraising media stories, climate change and globalisation, and the increasing pressures and competing demands for land use for housing, transportation and economic regeneration purposes.

The Trustees have examined the principal areas of the charity's operations and considered the major risks which may arise in each of these areas. In the opinion of the trustees the charity has established resources and review systems which under normal conditions, should allow the risks identified by them to be mitigated to an acceptable level in its day to day operations.

Public Benefit

The advancement of environmental protection and improvement is recognised as a charitable purpose and is regarded universally as producing a public good. The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country exists to promote the care and protection of the environment and therefore provides a clear public benefit. The Wildlife Trust's philosophy is based on the belief that the natural world deserves conserving for its own sake and, since this is widely perceived to be a worthy aim of public policy, it may fairly be regarded as a benefit to the public at large. However, the public benefits provided by The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country go much further.

Firstly, our nature reserves are used by the public, and many have access on way-marked routes. At most sites information and interpretation is provided to visitors. There are a few cases where there may be a conflict between management requirements and unfettered access, but where this occurs we strive to keep any restrictions to a minimum.

Secondly, our education programmes are aimed at schools, colleges, adult groups and the wider public. Education is also, of course, recognised as a charitable activity in its own right.

Thirdly, our information gathering and provision of expert advice and opinion to local authorities and others helps to ensure that planning decisions are made on a rational basis taking full account of the public benefit of wildlife.

Fourthly, we can exert influence through our membership at local level, and nationally through our membership of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts. It is also our belief that the involvement of many volunteers in our work provides an outlet for altruistic endeavour, which is of special benefit to those involved as well as delivering benefits to the wider public.

Promoting the enjoyment of the natural world is an important part of what we do: contact with the natural world and the appreciation of wildlife and wild places provides great pleasure to many people and contributes towards wellbeing and health. Our nature reserves and activities are available to all and we try to make special provision for the disabled and disadvantaged wherever possible.

Organisational Structure

The Wildlife Trust is governed by an elected Council and is therefore directly accountable to the members of the charity. The Memorandum and Articles of Association gives Council the powers to:

- (i) Administer the affairs of the Charity
- (ii) Exercise all the powers of the Charity
- (iii) Determine the policy of the Charity

Council formally delegates certain functions and responsibilities to several committees which deal with specific policy and organisational issues. The day to day management of the Charity's affairs is the responsibility of the Chief Executive who is accountable exclusively to the Council for achieving, via the Development Plan, the Wildlife Trust's aims and for complying with Council policies. A team of professionally trained staff report to the Chief Executive.

The Trust is also grateful to a large body of volunteers, drawn from both within and beyond our membership without whose assistance our effectiveness would be greatly diminished.

Related Parties

The Charity does not own any subsidiary companies having closed down Land Care Associates Limited at the end of the 2015-16 financial year.

Financial reserves

Trustees keep the reserves of the Trust under regular review. The past three years have been challenging for the Trust as following a period of difficulty, Trustees have sought to increase the reserves of the Trust to meet with advice received on the amount necessary to achieve financial resilience. In the previous year's Accounts, the Trustees met the requirement that ideally, they should aim to acquire sufficient free reserves equivalent to three months' core operating costs equating to approximately £100,000. Such reserves would be held in case of any sudden decline in income or unexpected cost or risk exposure, and to ensure that the commitments to meet contractual obligations to staff, premises and funding partners can be met. At the year-end general 'free' unrestricted reserves amounted to £106,581 excluding revaluation and designated reserves.

This year, following Notice being given to vacate the Trust's offices in Edgbaston, future expenditure will be required on creating a temporary office whilst negotiations are concluded for a long term home for the Trust. In addition, the Trust was attacked by a Ransomware virus and now needs to update its IT equipment and systems.

Additional designated reserves for both these requirements in the current year have been provided in the accounts, which however may require further fundraising when the full implications have been ascertained.

Whilst there can be no certainty in relation to the timing and amount of charitable grants and receipts the Directors and Trustees believe that the Trust's record of obtaining further funding will continue, albeit, with uncertainties as to when cash actually becomes available. Increasing private sector funding to partly replace reducing public sector funding has been secured.

However, whilst the Trust may be considered to punch above its weight (in terms of resources available compared to some other County Wildlife Trusts), in what is delivered, its financial constraints are limiting delivery to the vision it has.

Pensions: Royal London manages all pension funds on behalf of the staff members. The Trust contributes 7% in addition to staff contributions.

FUTURE PLANS

Our plans for the future are ambitious.

Our ultimate goal for within a generation is that we have sufficiently achieved our aims to integrate nature into planning, policy, education and people's lives that we no longer need to exist. We aim to achieve this by engaging more of the 2.2 million people who live in Birmingham and the Black Country, inspire and engage them with nature and work with them to develop the skills and knowledge necessary to protect, manage and restore the natural environment.

In the shorter term we plan to grow the Trust to achieve even more. Over five years we expect to double our staff team to deliver large scale projects with greater benefits for wildlife and for people.

The Nature Improvement Area will continue and we will work to secure funding to deliver projects across the five local authority areas engaging communities with improving their local wild spaces. We will focus more on species such as salmon in the river Stour and hedgehogs in residential areas to improve habitats so these species can once again flourish.

We look forward to increasing our dialogue with the West Midlands Combined Authority and the West Midlands Mayor to secure the future of our natural environment and to promote the opportunities to further nurture our wildlife and natural environment in new physical developments.

Our Heritage Lottery Funded Natural Prospects programme will enable new people to enter the conservation career path through funded traineeships.

We will move our head office and ensure all our sites are providing the greatest benefits possible for nature and for people.

We will review our internal processes to ensure we are as effective, efficient and robust as possible to achieve the best outcomes for wildlife including improvement of all our impact monitoring systems.

Statement as to disclosure of information to Auditors

The members of Board who were in office on the date of approval of these financial statements have confirmed, as far as they are aware, that there is no relevant audit information of which the auditor is unaware. Each of the members of Board have confirmed that they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as members of Board in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

Thank you

You are The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country. Our members make everything possible. Thank you for all your support over the past twelve months. We look forward to working with you to ensure that Birmingham and the Black Country is recognised for the quality and quantity of wildlife that can be found here.

Approved by the board of Trustees on 19 September 2017

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees



Simon Needle

Chair of Trustees

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE WILDLIFE TRUST FOR BIRMINGHAM AND THE BLACK COUNTRY LTD
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

I have audited the financial statements of The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and The Black Country Ltd for the year ended 31 March 2017, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the cash flow statement and the related notes on pages 29 to 39. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's Trustees and members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. My audit work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charitable company's Trustees and members those matters I am required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for my audit work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities the trustees (who are also the directors of The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country Ltd for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

My responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require me to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, I read all the financial and non-financial information in the Report of the Trustees to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by me in the course of performing the audit. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

Opinion

In my opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2017 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and The Republic of Ireland"; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In my opinion the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

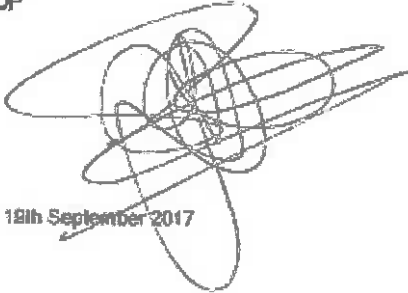
**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE WILDLIFE TRUST FOR BIRMINGHAM AND THE BLACK COUNTRY LTD
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017**

Matters on which I am required to report by exception

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires me to report to you if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for my audit have not been received from branches not visited by me; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

Stephen W Jones (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of STEPHEN W JONES FCA
Registered Auditor
Chartered Accountant
King Edward House
82 Stourbridge Road
Halesowen
West Midlands
B63 3UP



Dated 12th September 2017

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

SUMMARY INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

| | Notes | Restricted Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Total 2017 | 2016 |
|--|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| INCOME & ENDOWMENTS FROM | | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 500 | 206,601 | 207,101 | 225,111 |
| Trading and other income | 2 | - | 15,743 | 15,743 | 22,454 |
| Charitable activities | | 302,457 | 308,511 | 610,968 | 505,122 |
| Total incoming resources | | 302,957 | 530,855 | 833,812 | 752,687 |
| EXPENDITURE ON | | | | | |
| Raising funds - Membership | 4 | - | 40,360 | 40,360 | 117,076 |
| Raising funds - Trading | 4 | - | - | - | 7,139 |
| Charitable activities | 4 | 269,078 | 384,172 | 653,250 | 457,422 |
| Impairment loss -exceptional item | 7 | - | - | - | 82,099 |
| Total resources expended | 4 | 269,078 | 424,532 | 693,610 | 663,736 |
| NET INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS | | 33,879 | 106,323 | 140,202 | 88,950 |
| Gross transfers between Funds | | - | - | - | - |
| NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | | 33,879 | 106,323 | 140,202 | 88,950 |
| Total Funds Brought Forward at 1 April 2016 | | 77,332 | 164,497 | 241,829 | 152,879 |
| Total Funds Carried Forward at 31 March 2017 | 14 | 111,211 | 270,820 | 382,031 | 241,829 |

The notes on pages 29 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

The Statement of Financial Activities contains all the recognised gains and losses of the year and it reflects in its entirety the continuing operations of the charity.

THE WILDLIFE TRUST FOR BIRMINGHAM AND THE BLACK COUNTRY LTD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

31 MARCH 2017

| | | 2017 | | 2016 | |
|---|-------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Notes | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed assets | | | | | |
| Tangible Assets | 7 | | 25,881 | | 34,831 |
| Heritage Assets | 8 | | 79,762 | | 79,762 |
| | | | <u>105,643</u> | | <u>114,593</u> |
| Current assets | | | | | |
| Debtors | 9 | 116,833 | | 91,210 | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 321,822 | | 165,517 | |
| | | <u>438,655</u> | | <u>256,727</u> | |
| Creditors (amounts falling due within one year) | 10 | <u>106,349</u> | | <u>61,573</u> | |
| Net current assets | | | 332,306 | | 195,154 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | | <u>437,949</u> | | <u>309,747</u> |
| Creditors (amounts falling due after more than one year) | 10 | | (55,918) | | (67,918) |
| Net Assets | | | <u>382,031</u> | | <u>241,829</u> |
| Funds | | | | | |
| Restricted funds | 12 | | 111,211 | | 77,332 |
| Unrestricted funds | | 106,581 | | 44,512 | |
| Unrestricted funds - Designated | 14 | 105,000 | | 60,746 | |
| Unrestricted funds - Revaluation reserve | 8 | 59,239 | | 59,239 | |
| | | <u>270,820</u> | | <u>164,497</u> | |
| Members funds | 14 | | <u>382,031</u> | | <u>241,829</u> |

Limited Liability

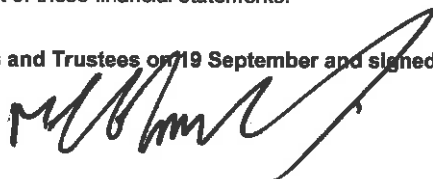
The company is limited by guarantee and in the event of liquidation each member's contribution as defined in clause 7 of the Memorandum of Association is limited to a sum not exceeding 50p (fifty pence).

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small charitable companies.

The notes on pages 29 to 39 form part of these financial statements.

Approved by the Board of Directors and Trustees on 19 September and signed on its behalf.

Martin Smith - Director and Trustee



STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2017

Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Net Movement in Funds | 140,202 | 88,950 |
| Add back Depreciation charge | 8,950 | 8,385 |
| Add back impairment loss | - | 82,099 |
| Add back loss on disposal | - | 368 |
| Decrease (increase) in Debtors | (25,623) | 66,329 |
| Decrease (increase) in Creditors | 44,776 | (80,563) |
| Net cash arising from operating activities | <u>168,305</u> | <u>165,568</u> |

Statement of Cash Flows for year ending 31 March 2017

| | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Cash arising from operating activities | <u>168,305</u> | <u>165,568</u> |
| Cash flows from investing activities | - | - |
| Interest income | - | - |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets | - | - |
| Cash provided by (used in) investing activities | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Cash flows from financing activities | | |
| Repayment of borrowing | (12,000) | (12,002) |
| Cash used in financing activities | <u>(12,000)</u> | <u>(12,002)</u> |
| Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalent in the year | <u>156,305</u> | <u>153,566</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year | 165,517 | 11,951 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year | <u>321,822</u> | <u>165,517</u> |

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES**1.1 Preparation of the financial statements and going concern basis**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland FRS102 (effective 1 January 2015)", Financial Reporting Standard FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of heritage assets.

In preparing the accounts the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS102 and the Charity SORP FRS102 the restatement of comparative figures were required. The Trustees consider that no restatements were required upon adoption.

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Directors and Trustees believe that the charity will be able to continue to operate within the current financial arrangements for at least twelve months from the date of approval of these financial statements and that there are no material uncertainties which affect this basis. The Trust continues to be in a state of change and it is recognised that during this period of change there will continue to be financial challenges. The ongoing monitoring of budget and cash flow projections indicates the need for income increases and cost reductions (or both) in this period. The Trustees believe this is achievable.

1.2 Previous Consolidation of Subsidiary

Consolidated accounts were previously prepared to incorporate Land Care Associates Limited, the Trust's former trading subsidiary. Land Care Associates Limited ceased to trade in the year to 31 March 2016 and has been dissolved and struck off the company register at Companies House on 9 May 2017. Consequently the amounts included for 2017 are for charity only, with comparatives being effectively consolidated figures. However the Trust took over the limited trading activities of Land Care Associates Limited and as such there are no 'discontinued' activities to separate in the SOFA. The unaudited results for 2016 of the subsidiary are shown in note 3 to clarify the position.

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and The Black Country along with seven other Trusts formed a company - 'Wildlife Fundraising (Central) Limited' (by guarantee) following the demise of another fundraiser company. Details of the related party transactions are disclosed in note 15 of the accounts. No minority interest is adjusted in these accounts as the share of the company and its results are currently immaterial.

1.3 Income and Expenditure Account

The charitable company is a non profit making organisation and the results of the year have in accordance with Charities SORP (FRS102) been presented in the form of an income and expenditure account.

1.4 Incoming Resources

Income is generally recognised on a receivable basis and is reported gross of related expenditure, where the amount is reasonably certain and when there is adequate certainty of receipt. The specific bases used are as follows:

- Voluntary income includes members subscriptions, donations (including related gift aid tax) legacies and grants of a general nature.
- Subsidiary trading income is the total amount received for goods and services provided, excluding VAT. Intercompany transactions are excluded on consolidation.
- Contractual income is recorded when receivable.
- Grants received during the year which relate to the following financial year are carried forward in creditors.

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been allocated to the appropriate heading in the financial statements.

- Costs of generating funds relate to expenditure incurred in raising voluntary income and fundraising trading costs.
- Charitable activities' expenditure relates to expenditure on meeting the charitable objects. This includes materials and bought in services, staff costs, information systems, communications, rented accommodation and general management directly chargeable to projects, thereby covering both

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.5 Resources expended (continued)

internal costs and external charges for such costs. Such costs incurred internally are apportioned to projects based on direct staffing levels.

- Governance costs are associated with the governance arrangements of the group and relate to the professional costs of running the charity.
- Support costs including staff costs, information systems, communications, office accommodation and general management, are fully apportioned to other cost categories, and are primarily based on direct staffing levels.
- Membership recruitment costs, where an agency charges the trust a fee based on the first years membership income for recruitment of new members, are charged to the accounts over a period of 10 months. Surplus new income is therefore only accounted for after this period has ended and this policy is viewed as being prudent.

1.6 Depreciation of fixed assets

Depreciation is calculated to write off the book value of each tangible fixed asset over its expected useful life at the following rates:-

| | |
|---|---|
| Centre Of The Earth | 4% straight line (see note 7) |
| People and Wildlife Centre | Yearly impairment review |
| Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment | 25% straight line |
| Motor vehicles | 25% reducing balance basis |
| Freehold Land (hereafter described as land) | Annual revaluation (no depreciation provided) |

Expenditure on fixtures, fittings and general office equipment purchased by the charity for projects is currently written off in the year in which the expenditure is incurred, expenditure incurred for administration purposes is capitalised and depreciated as stated above.

Land, classified as heritage assets, had previously been included in the accounts at cost. The trustees revalue the assets annually as this provides more relevant information on the activities and assets held by the charity. Full details of original cost can be found in note 8 to the accounts.

1.7 Operating Leases

Payments under an arrangement which is in substance of a rental nature (operating leases) are charged in the financial statements as incurred.

1.8 Pensions

The group makes payments of employers contributions into independently administered money purchase pension policies for qualifying employees. Pension costs are charged in the financial statements on an accruals basis.

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.9 Volunteer help

It is not current policy to place a value on the time volunteered by Trustees, Directors or temporary or occasional volunteers.

1.10 Fund Accounting

Restricted funds - these are funds received for undertaking an activity specified by the donor.

Unrestricted funds - these are funds which can be used in accordance with the charitable objects at the discretion of the Trustees.

1.11 Irrecoverable Vat

The charity is partially exempt. Irrecoverable Vat is allocated to the appropriate cost categories.

2 Analysis of Income from Generated funds

| | Restricted Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Total 2017 | Total 2016 |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Voluntary Income | | | | |
| Members subscriptions & donations (including gift aid) | 500 | 206,601 | 207,101 | 210,566 |
| Other donations | - | - | - | 12,845 |
| Legacies | - | - | - | 1,700 |
| | <u>500</u> | <u>206,601</u> | <u>207,101</u> | <u>225,111</u> |
| Activities for generating funds | | | | |
| Subsidiary trading income (note 3) | - | - | - | 9,451 |
| Other income | - | 15,743 | 15,743 | 13,003 |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>15,743</u> | <u>15,743</u> | <u>22,454</u> |

3 Details regarding the trading subsidiary and its net income.

In the year to 31 March 2016 the charity controlled Land Care Associates Limited, a company limited by guarantee, operating from the same head office premises as the charity. It initially carried out environmental consultancy work that was not appropriate for the charity to do because of its charitable status.

Land Care Associates Limited was incorporated in the UK and registered in England, and the accounts have previously been audited and filed at Companies House. The company ceased trading in the year to 31 March 2016 and has since been dissolved and struck off the register at Companies House. A summary of the comparative financial position is given below.

| Profit and Loss Account | UNAUDITED |
|---|------------------|
| | 2016 |
| | £ |
| Turnover | 9,451 |
| Cost of sales | (1,550) |
| Gross Profit | <u>11,001</u> |
| Administration expenses | 6,730 |
| Other operating income | <u>23,437</u> |
| Operating profit | 27,708 |
| Interest payable | <u>(168)</u> |
| Profit on ordinary activities before taxation | 27,540 |
| Tax on Profit on ordinary activities | - |
| Profit for the financial year after taxation | <u>27,540</u> |
| Reserves brought forward | <u>(27,782)</u> |
| Amount written off in parent charity accounts in 2017 | <u>(242)</u> |

Note

In order to permit the maximum payout to creditors The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country (parent charity) proposed not to pursue the outstanding balance owed to them if agreement was reached. The amount of £23,437 was treated as irrecoverable in the parent charity financial statements in 2015 in anticipation of an agreement which was subsequently reached.

| Balance Sheet | 2016 |
|--|----------------|
| | £ |
| Tangible fixed assets | - |
| Current Assets | 4,318 |
| Creditors: amounts falling due within one year | <u>(4,560)</u> |
| Net assets | <u>(242)</u> |
| Reserves - Profit and loss account | <u>(242)</u> |

The charity has no further liability to Land Care Associates Limited.

4 Analysis of Total Resources Expended

| | Direct Costs £ | Support Costs £ | Total 2017 £ | Total 2016 £ |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Raising Funds | | | | |
| Costs of raising voluntary income | 40,360 | - | 40,360 | 117,076 |
| Fundraising trading: costs of services and other costs | - | - | - | 7,139 |
| | <u>40,360</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>40,360</u> | <u>124,215</u> |
| Charitable Activities | | | | |
| Project management etc. | 528,315 | 106,000 | 634,315 | 433,106 |
| Governance costs being audit, accountancy & legal fees | - | 18,934 | 18,934 | 24,316 |
| | <u>528,315</u> | <u>124,935</u> | <u>653,250</u> | <u>457,422</u> |

(See note 5)

| | 2017 £ | 2016 £ |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| The above costs include:- | | |
| Depreciation of tangible fixed assets - owned | 8,950 | 8,385 |
| Bad Debt write off | 5,112 | - |
| Operating lease rentals | 24,613 | 23,239 |
| Equipment lease rentals | 2,393 | 1,690 |
| Auditors remuneration | 5,000 | 4,750 |
| Auditors accountancy fees | 1,000 | 2,000 |
| Pension costs | 20,911 | 12,850 |

5 Allocation of Support Costs

| | Cost of generating funds £ | Charitable activities £ | Total 2017 £ | Total 2016 £ |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Management staff costs | - | 5,805 | 5,805 | 49,786 |
| Premises and administrative | - | 119,130 | 119,130 | 114,332 |
| Total support costs allocated | <u>-</u> | <u>124,935</u> | <u>124,935</u> | <u>164,118</u> |

6 Staff costs

No remuneration was paid to the trustees in the year nor were any expenses reimbursed to them.

| | 2017 £ | 2016 £ |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Total emoluments :- | | |
| Staff wages | 346,430 | 272,788 |
| Pension contributions | 20,911 | 12,850 |
| Employer's national insurance | 26,958 | 22,966 |
| | <u>394,298</u> | <u>308,604</u> |

Average number of employees by category (and also average monthly head count):-

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Direct charitable work | 15 | 12 |
| Fundraising | - | 1 |
| Administrative | 1 | 1 |
| | <u>16</u> | <u>14</u> |

There are no employees earning in excess of £60,000.

The number of employees to whom retirement benefits are accruing was as follows:-

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|-----------|----------|
| | <u>12</u> | <u>8</u> |

The key management personnel, the senior management team, received total employee benefits in the year of £129,603 (2016 - £69,173). During this period we brought financial management of the Trust in-house having previously worked with a financial consultant. This move has provided additional capacity for the Trust to improve our financial systems, strengthened our resilience and improved the governance. The Finance Manager is a Senior Manager post, which results in the increase of costs for senior management position. In addition, the CEO now works full time (4 days per week in the previous financial year) and the newly created People and Wildlife Manager has been in post for a full twelve months.

7 Tangible Fixed Assets

| | Centre Of The Earth | People & Wildlife Centre | Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment | Total |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| COST | | | | |
| 1 April 2016 | 151,578 | 82,099 | 45,968 | 279,645 |
| Additions | - | - | - | - |
| Disposals | - | - | - | - |
| 31 March 2017 | 151,578 | 82,099 | 45,968 | 279,645 |
| DEPRECIATION | | | | |
| 1 April 2016 | 122,746 | 82,099 | 39,969 | 244,814 |
| Charge for the year | 4,271 | - | 4,679 | 8,950 |
| Eliminated on disposal | - | - | - | - |
| Impairment | - | - | - | - |
| 31 March 2017 | 127,017 | 82,099 | 44,648 | 253,764 |
| NET BOOK VALUE | | | | |
| 31 March 2017 | 24,561 | - | 1,320 | 25,881 |
| 31 March 2016 | 28,832 | - | 5,999 | 34,831 |

The Centre Of The Earth is built on land which is leased from Birmingham City Council on a twenty five year lease from 24 March 1998.

The net book value as at 31 December 1997 is being written off over the term of the lease by equal annual instalments.

The People and Wildlife Centre cost relates to expenditure incurred on professional design studies for future accommodation requirements of the Charity. Due to the current financial position and the general economic climate the trustees have taken the decision that the project will no longer proceed and it therefore has been fully written off under an impairment adjustment in 2016.

8 Heritage Fixed Assets

| | Total Land £ |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| COST/REVALUATION | |
| 1 April 2016 | 79,762 |
| Additions | - |
| Disposals | - |
| 31 March 2017 | <u>79,762</u> |
| DEPRECIATION | |
| 1 April 2016 | - |
| Charge for the year | - |
| Eliminated on disposal | - |
| 31 March 2017 | <u>-</u> |
| NET BOOK VALUE | |
| 31 March 2017 | <u>79,762</u> |
| 31 March 2016 | <u>79,762</u> |

Cost or valuation at 31 March 2017 is represented by:-

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| | £ |
| Valuation in 2017 | 79,762 |
| Cost | <u>-</u> |

If the Land had not been revalued it would have been included in the accounts at the following historical cost

| | 2017 £ | 2016 £ |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Cost - amount paid for land | 10,523 | 10,523 |
| Cost - donated value of land | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| | <u>20,523</u> | <u>20,523</u> |

Heritage assets consist of land at Portway Hill, Pelsall Common Spinney (Turner's Wood) and Deer's Leap Wood. The land has been valued by the trustees at the year end using standard prices based on the current value in the area for woodlands (14 acres or less) of £6,000 per acre.

Such land that has been acquired or donated to the charity is managed and preserved in accordance with the charity's objectives for wildlife and their habitat. Access to such land is available to the general public.

Other heritage assets may be purchased by, or donated to the charity, as and when circumstances permit.

5 year summary:-

| | | Cost £ |
|---------------|------|---------------|
| Acquired in - | 2012 | 10,522 |
| | 2013 | 10,000 |
| | 2014 | 1 |
| | | <u>20,523</u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

31 MARCH 2017

| 9 Debtors | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Due after more than one year:- | | |
| Long term loan to associated undertaking (note 15) | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Amounts falling due within one year:- | | |
| Trade debtors | 70,348 | 30,897 |
| Other debtors | 36,485 | 13,430 |
| Prepayments | <u>36,485</u> | <u>36,884</u> |
| | <u>116,833</u> | <u>91,210</u> |

| 10 Creditors | 2017 | 2016 |
|---|----------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Amounts falling due within one year:- | | |
| Bank overdraft (secured) | - | - |
| Other Loans - The Wildlife Trusts | 12,000 | 12,000 |
| Trade creditors | 74,878 | 22,875 |
| Social security and taxation | 7,152 | 10,521 |
| Accruals & other creditors | <u>12,319</u> | <u>16,177</u> |
| | <u>106,349</u> | <u>61,573</u> |
| Amounts falling due after more than one year:- | | |
| Other Loans - The Wildlife Trusts | <u>55,918</u> | <u>67,918</u> |
| | <u>55,918</u> | <u>67,918</u> |

The loan from The Wildlife Trusts is repayable in equal instalments of £1,000 per month. The remaining balance due after more than one year is subject to an ongoing review of the repayment terms but no earlier than 31 March 2018.

The bank overdraft is secured by a legal mortgage over the Centre Of The Earth and a fixed and floating charge over all other assets of the charity.

11 Other financial commitments

a) Project commitments

The charity and group have no commitments on its projects except where funding has already been received in advance at 31 March 2017.

b) Operating Leases - annual commitment for year to 31 March 2018.

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Land & buildings:- | £ |
| Leases expiring within one year | 7,717 |
| Leases expiring within two to five years | 2,500 |
| Leases expiring after more than five years | <u>3,950</u> |

c) Equipment Lease

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Photocopier | |
| Leases expiring within two to five years | <u>2426</u> |

12 Funds of the Charity

The restricted fund represents monies receivable for projects which can only be spent on their respective activities and are analysed as follows:-

| | At 1 April 2016 | Incoming | Outgoing | Transfers | At 31 March 2017 |
|--|--------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|---------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Peascroft Wood | 23,048 | 7,530 | 24,391 | - | 6,187 |
| Pelsall Common Spinney aka Turners Wood | 6,773 | - | 3,067 | - | 3,706 |
| Environment Agency (net £8891.00 + VAT) | - | 8,891 | 8,891 | - | - |
| Esmee Fairbairn (NIA 175) | 23,411 | 105,400 | 102,289 | - | 26,523 |
| SLA Kier/Highways England | - | 2,250 | 2,250 | - | - |
| Catchment (Western Power) | 24,100 | - | 700 | - | 23,400 |
| Birmingham Natural History Society (July onwar | - | 5,000 | 5,000 | - | - |
| Groundwork UK (Tesco Grant) Dears Leap | - | 12,000 | 12,000 | - | - |
| Birmingham City Council EcoRecord SLA Invoice | - | 19,330 | 19,330 | - | - |
| Tame Sub-Hosting, Catchment | - | 6,000 | 6,000 | - | - |
| Wolverhampton EcoREcord | - | 4,500 | 4,500 | - | - |
| Biodiversity Wolverhampton | - | 5,000 | 5,000 | - | - |
| Walsall EcoRecord | - | 5,340 | 5,340 | - | - |
| Birmingham LNP | - | 7,000 | - | - | 7,000 |
| HLF Transition Fund | - | 43,800 | 24,305 | - | 19,495 |
| Sandwell EcoREcord | - | 5,495 | 5,495 | - | - |
| HS2 EcoRecord | - | 8,400 | - | - | 8,400 |
| Deers Leep Invoice 590 Birmingham CC | - | 6,000 | 6,000 | - | - |
| Tesco Bags for Help Centre of the Earth | - | 12,000 | 3,000 | - | 9,000 |
| Tesco Bags for Help Friends of Group | - | 10,000 | 10,000 | - | - |
| Biodiversity Sandwell | - | 5,000 | 5,000 | - | - |
| Dudley EcoREcord | - | 5,826 | 5,826 | - | - |
| Esmee Fairbairn (515) | - | 5,000 | 4,500 | - | 500 |
| Tesco bags for Help - Peascroft 17-18 | - | 1,000 | - | - | 1,000 |
| Tesco bags for Help - Turners Wood 17-18 | - | 5,000 | - | - | 5,000 |
| Veolia Project - Eco Park | - | 1,000 | - | - | 1,000 |
| Birmingham City Council | - | 3,500 | 3,500 | - | - |
| Birmingham City Council | - | 2,195 | 2,195 | - | - |
| | <u>77,332</u> | <u>302,457</u> | <u>268,578</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>111,211</u> |

Transfers are made between Restricted and Unrestricted Funds at the time the specific restrictions have been fulfilled.

The Trustees confirm that all restricted fund balances at the year end have subsequently been spent or will be spent in the forthcoming financial year.

13 Analysis of fund balances between the net assets

| | Restricted Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Total 2017 | Total 2016 |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Tangible fixed assets | 10,000 | 15,881 | 25,881 | 34,831 |
| Heritage assets | - | 79,762 | 79,762 | 79,762 |
| Debtors | - | 116,833 | 116,833 | 89,736 |
| Cash | 101,211 | 220,611 | 321,822 | 161,673 |
| Creditors- due within one year | - | (106,349) | (106,349) | (56,013) |
| Creditors- due after more than one year | - | (55,918) | (55,918) | (67,918) |
| | <u>111,211</u> | <u>270,820</u> | <u>382,031</u> | <u>242,071</u> |

14 Designated fund

The designated fund of £105,000 relates to the balance of funds received in the accounts for the year to 31 March 2017 remaining unspent but designated by the Trustees for use on our commitments post year end.

15 Related party transactions

Non Consolidated Associated Company

Wildlife Fundraising (Central) Limited is a company set up in 2013 by eight Wildlife Trusts following the demise of a previously used fundraising company. As part of the setting up arrangement each trust was to provide a loan to the company. The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country Limited provided £10,000 (secured by a fixed and floating charge) as shown in the balance sheet in debtors over 1 year and as such the new company is an associated undertaking. There is no share capital as the company is limited by guarantee. The Trusts liability is limited to £1 in the event of liquidation. At 31 March 2016 (the latest date for which accounts are available) Wildlife Fundraising (Central) Limited has a net surplus of reserves amounting to £49,231 (2015 - deficit £5,991). The trust has not consolidated the results on the grounds of immateriality. The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country Limited paid commission amounting to £48,892 (net of VAT) (2015 - £35,556) to Wildlife Fundraising (Central) Limited during the year, and the Trust owes the company a balance of £26,174 (gross) (2015 - £nil) at the year end for commission invoiced but not yet paid.

The Trust is affiliated to The Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT), a registered charity that acts as an umbrella group for county wildlife trusts, and provides assistance and co-ordination of activities and campaigning at a UK level. An annual contribution is payable to RSWT amounting to £10,170 (2016 £9,990). The trust also purchased publications and other sundries from RSWT amounting to £9,495 (2016 - £10,971), with £4,778 (2016 - £1,496) owed to RSWT at the year end.

Details of a loan from RSWT to the Trust can be found in note 10 to the accounts.

16 Comparatives figures 2015-2016 for the Statement of Financial Activities

| | Restricted Funds | Unrestricted Funds | Total Funds 2016 |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| INCOME & ENDOWMENTS FROM | | | |
| Donations and legacies | - | 225,111 | 225,111 |
| Trading and other income | - | 22,454 | 22,454 |
| Charitable activities | 286,455 | 218,667 | 505,122 |
| Total incoming resources | 286,455 | 466,232 | 752,687 |
| EXPENDITURE ON | | | |
| Raising funds - Membership | - | 117,076 | 117,076 |
| Raising funds - Trading | - | 7,139 | 7,139 |
| Charitable activities | 243,865 | 213,557 | 457,422 |
| Impairment loss -exceptional item | | 82,099 | 82,099 |
| Total resources expended | 243,865 | 419,871 | 663,736 |
| NET INCOME BEFORE TRANSFERS | 42,590 | 46,360 | 88,950 |
| Gross transfers between Funds | - | - | - |
| NET INCOME) FOR THE YEAR AND NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | 42,590 | 46,360 | 88,950 |
| Total Funds Brought Forward at 1 April 2015 | 34,742 | 118,137 | 152,879 |
| Total Funds Carried Forward at 31 March 2016 | 77,332 | 164,497 | 241,829 |