



The Herefordshire Wildlife Trust Limited

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended: 31 March 2021

Charity no: 220173

Company no: 743899



Artwork by Mariette Voke from the 'Artists into the Meadows' arts and poetry project at The Birches

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1. INTRODUCTION TO REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees, who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The Trustees have adopted the provisions of 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

This has been an exceptional year for the Trust, as for every other charity, with initial predictions showing a high level of adverse impact from Covid. Over the course of the year the financial impacts were ameliorated by Government support (Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and Business Grants) and emergency Covid grants from the National Heritage Lottery Fund and others. This support enabled the Trust to review its operations and trial new ways of working, allowing us to deliver most of the planned work for 2020/21.

2. CHARITABLE OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSE

The objectives of the Trust, as stated in the Memorandum of Association are:

For the benefit of the public - to advance, promote and further the conservation, maintenance, and protection of:

- wildlife considered to be worthy of protection for the public benefit and its habitats
- places of natural beauty
- places of zoological, botanical, geographical, archaeological or scientific interest
- features of landscape with geological and physiographical value

In any ways that are available in law and in particular, but not exclusively, by promoting biodiversity.

- To advance the education of the public in the principles and practice of:
 - sustainable development
 - biodiversity conservation
- To promote research in all branches of the study of the natural world which will be for the public benefit and to record and/or publish the useful results thereof.

Herefordshire Wildlife Trust's Vision

A Herefordshire richer and more diverse in wildlife, bringing its people closer to nature.

Our priorities are:

Caring for wildlife and wild places

Creating more, bigger, better and better-connected places where people and wildlife thrive

Inspiring people to act for nature

Inspiring and enabling more people, businesses and communities to take action for wildlife, wild places and nature, and place a wildlife rich world at the heart of education and learning for all.

... and to achieve the above

Greater investment in wildlife and people

Increasing and diversifying our funding base by encouraging grant funding bodies, statutory organisations and other partners, businesses and individuals to invest in achieving our conservation objectives.

3. ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

3.1 CARING FOR WILDLIFE AND WILD PLACES

Creating more, bigger, better and better-connected places where people and wildlife thrive.

3.1.1 Managing and improving our Nature Reserves for wildlife and people

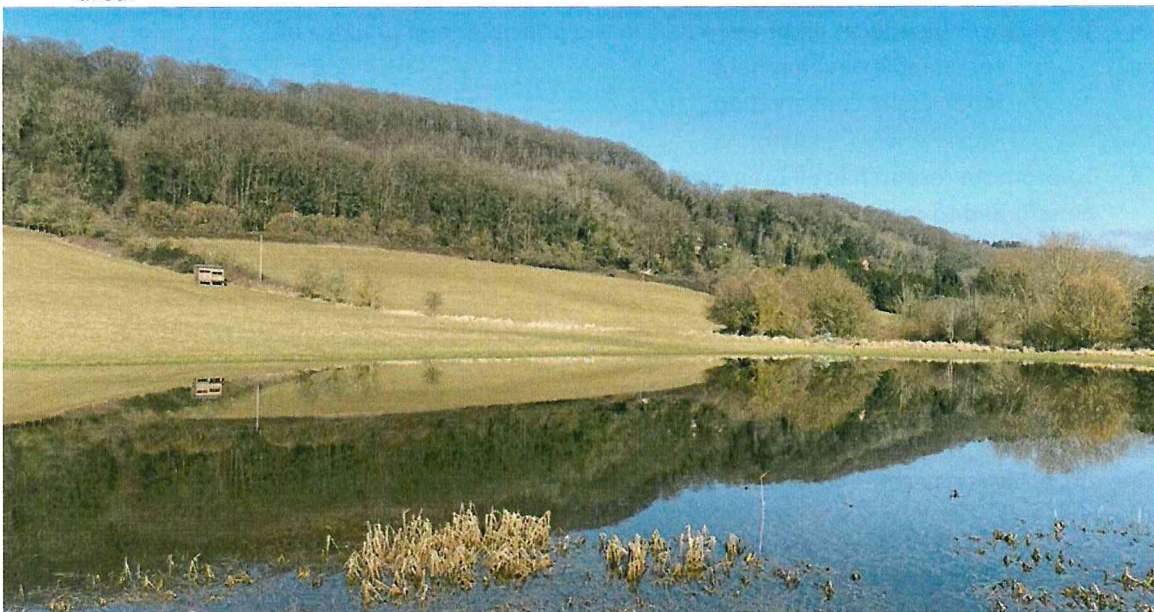
Our objective is to manage our Nature Reserve to maximise their wildlife value and showcase the Trust to the public, and we have been making great progress.

Most of the Reserves staff were put on furlough from April 2020 and all volunteering was ceased. Partial easing of the lockdown in July 2020 enabled Reserves staff to return to complete the Reserves audit and make a start on a busy year of fencing, woodland restoration and meadow enhancement.

Easing of lockdown saw increased visitors to most reserves, especially in the Doward. We collaborated with other Reserve owners to install signs to discourage anti-social behaviour such as wild camping and fires.

Key successes

- A generous benefactor gifted us a new Nature Reserves at Littley Coppice in the Malvern Hills.
- We purchased Round's meadow as an extension to our Common Hill Reserve using funds devolved to the Trust in lieu of an environmental fine.
- We updated our acquisition policy to enable the purchase of lower quality sites with restoration potential, to extend existing reserves or provide linking corridor or steppingstones.
- Under this policy, supported by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, we bought Oak Tree Farm in the Lugg Valley, to create a wetland linking Bodenham Lake to Wellington Gravel Pits. This was funded by a legacy, £80,000 from the Banister Trust, £40,000 from Severn Waste and with private donations. We have already installed a new hide overlooking the proposed wetland area.



- We are extremely grateful to Severn Waste for their continued support. This year they donated £40,000 to manage the Trusts Reserves, including fencing at Wessington to re-establish cattle grazing and deer fencing at Nupend and Lea and Paget's.
- We recruited more Volunteer wardens and now have 36 supporting the Reserves officers.
- Through the Woodland Grant Scheme, we carried out coppicing, thinning and ride creation at Romers Wood, Motlins Wood, Upper Swingley, Wern Wood, Court Wood and Clay Vallets.

- The Reserves staff completed the Reserves audit, including ash dieback assessments which will help us prioritise and plan for works on our Reserves.
- Wildflower seed and green hay harvested at the Birches, Tretawdy, Oak Tree Farm, Stockings Meadow, and Davies Meadow enriched some of our reserves and also some private sites owned by members of Herefordshire Meadows.
- The Team produced some excellent on-line blogs and videos explaining our work on Reserves.



Helleborines at Upper Welson Marsh



Volunteers sowing wildflower seed

- Richard Bavin’s ‘Into the Meadows’ art and poetry project continued at the Birches (See cover).

Management of the Trust Reserves is heavily supported by Basic Payment Scheme payments and Countryside Stewardship schemes under the EU Common Agricultural Policy. We have forecast a reduction in this support as we transition to new payments based on a ‘public payment for public good’.

3.1.2 Managing and improving Queenswood for wildlife and people

At Queenswood, we work with New Leaf Sustainable Development Ltd to manage the Country Park.

Under lockdown we closed the visitor facilities at Queenswood, but after an initial drop, the number of visitors increased, demonstrating the value of the Country Park to local residents.

Key successes

- We have continued with the forestry works to open up the rides and glades to sunlight, to create better conditions for woodland wildflowers, butterflies, pollinators and other wildlife.
- We cleared some conifers and undergrowth in the Arboretum to give specimen trees more space.
- We arranged ‘drop in’ sessions for customers to purchase sustainably sourced firewood.



Coppicing at Queenswood



3.1.3 Managing and improving Bodenham Lake for wildlife and people

Herefordshire Wildlife Trust continued our conservation work at the Lake through our funded projects.

Bodenham Lake remained open during lockdown and was well used by local people. Some incidents of anti-social behaviour led to closure of the car park at dusk to minimise Barbecues, litter and wild swimming.

Key successes

- Oystercatcher chicks have hatched for the first time ever at Bodenham Lake on the new islands.



- Phase 2 works creating new islands was completed, with two capped with gravel (donated by Tarmac) for ground nesting birds and one with a nesting bank for sand martin and kingfisher.
- Volunteer work continued to maintain the developing reedbeds and clear the site for the new easy access hide to be installed on the east side of the lake.
- The fruit trees in the orchard were pruned, with some mistletoe reduction.



New islands at Bodenham Lake

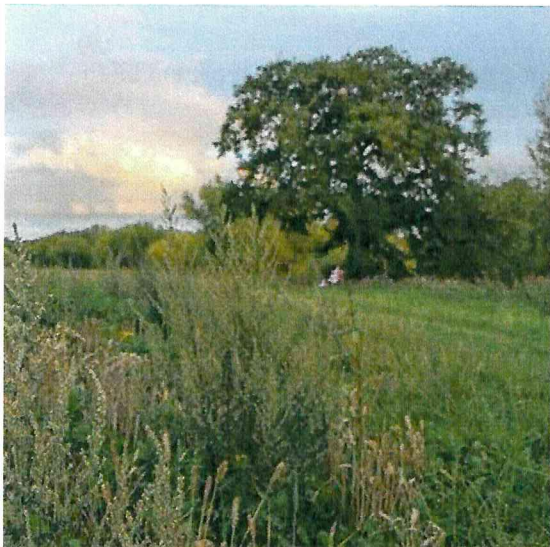
3.1.4 A Wilder Herefordshire

Herefordshire Wildlife Trusts aims to create a Wilder Herefordshire, with more, bigger, better and better-connected places where wildlife and people thrive.

The Wildlife Trusts collectively are now promoting Nature Recovery Strategies, to extend the Living Landscapes across the wider countryside and into towns and urban areas – bringing nature closer to everyone. We had three main wider countryside projects this year (see below) but are continually developing new conservation projects outside our Nature Reserves, increasingly by supporting other groups working on their local sites and issues.

Key successes

- Development work continued on a new county Natural Flood Management funding partnership.
- With three other Wildlife Trusts we are developing the Wentwood to Wyre project to restore landscape connectivity across Herefordshire, Monmouthshire, Gloucestershire, and Worcestershire. This will encompass the lower Wye Valley, the Doward, the Woolhope Dome and the Malverns.
- We have supported the Hereford City Branch and the Friends of Bartonsham Meadows. The meadows, owned by the Church Commissioners, were ploughed just before the February floods, leading to extensive erosion and soil and nutrient run-off in the River Wye. We are now working with a regenerative farmer, with traditional Hereford cattle, to restore the meadows.
- We supported Verging on Wild to seek grant aid for their work protecting roadside verges.



Bartonsham Meadows



Protected road verge

- We supported Extinction Rebellion in their autumn oak tree planting project.
- Plans have been drawn up for Natural Flood Management works on our reserve at The Parks.
- Our farm advisor for the Environmental Land Management Scheme Test and Trials project has completed 10 farm plans to test and improve the new Farm Environment Plans.
- We released a rust fungus to control Himalayan Balsam at Clifford Common – the first trial for the Wye catchment. Initial monitoring confirms infection. The results will be monitored.
- Overall, we advised 117 landowners responsible for 2,398ha of land.

Lugg Living Landscape

This Living Landscape, including Bodenham Lake, deploys multiple complementary funding streams and support from the Environment Agency, including the Restore our Amazing River (ROAR) project under their Water Environment Grant. Delivery of advice to farmers and landowners ceased during lockdown but resumed once field work and outdoor meetings were allowed.

Key successes

- Our Advisor prepared Countryside Stewardship applications for six landowners.
- We have strewn wildflower seed over 1.6ha, planted woodland and fenced 6km of the watercourses protecting it from further poaching and bank erosion.
- We carried out riparian tree surveys along 3km of the River Lugg.
- We are liaising with Tarmac regarding the restoration plans for Wellington Gravel Pits, a 130ha site in the heart of the Lugg Valley, which will eventually consist of 13 lakes.

Yazor Brooks Project

This successful project, running through the heart of Hereford City, continues with excellent public engagement and great support from our Hereford City Branch.

Key successes

- Volunteers continued weekly work parties through most of the year. They planted a small copse of 200 trees, carried out meadow restoration with wildflower seed from a Trust Reserve, built an otter holt, coppiced some riparian trees, cleared blockages and litter and continued Riverfly monitoring.
- We highlighted the potential to turn the Essex Arms site on the Yazor Brook, owned by the Herefordshire Council, into a city wetland Nature Reserve.



Yazor Brook in the heart of Hereford



Litter clearance on the brook

Ice Age Ponds Project

The Ice Age Ponds project, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, is a joint project with Herefordshire Amphibian and Reptile Team and the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust. It is working across the postglacial landscape of north and west Herefordshire researching and restoring ponds originally formed at the close of the Ice Age.

The Delivery phase of this project started in April, so the work had to be extensively reprofiled under Covid restrictions, to defer field work and bring other elements of the project forward.

Key successes

- An Ice Age Exhibition, with interactive family sessions at Herefordshire Museum.
- Creating two walking trail and geocache routes, for The Sturts Reserves and Birches Farm, and a landscape route for cars or bicycles with leaflets supported by a booklet, trail leaflets and an Ice Pond Discovery Experience mobile phone App.
- Thorough evaluation of maps, satellite and LIDAR imagery during lockdown saw the estimated number of Ice Age ponds rise from 300 to 1,300.
- After training by regular zoom, and outdoor as lockdown permitted, Volunteers commenced brief surveys on 120 new ponds and 45 ponds shortlisted for detailed survey.



Filming with Midlands Today



Surveying an Ice Age Pond

- Training courses for farmers and landowner advisors, to help them to understand the importance of these ponds, were held on-line and then followed by a webinar and leaflet.
- We recruited three Trainee wardens to support the project.
- Work started on the management of 15 ponds and two ghost ponds to attempt to restore their Ice Age profiles.

3.1.5 Addressing the climate crisis

Herefordshire Wildlife Trust is aiming to be carbon neutral by 2030. This year, we carried out our first annual carbon footprint, for the year 2019/20. Our footprint was the equivalent of 193 tonnes. This is 9.4 tonnes per full time person and 0.4 tonnes per hectare of land we own. The highest contributions came from livestock grazing our reserves at 54.5%, our staff commute at 29%, staff travel at 6% and electricity use at 5%.

We did not have all the data we needed to hand and had to extrapolate in some areas. Our carbon footprint for 2020/21 is likely to have been heavily reduced by lockdown and we will improve data collection from 2021/22, when we will prepare and start to implement a carbon reduction plan.

Over the coming year there will be an increasing focus on carbon reduction, both for HWT and for our advocacy externally as The Wildlife Trusts ramp up action on achieving net zero carbon by 2030.

3.2 INSPIRING PEOPLE TO ACT FOR NATURE

Inspiring and enabling more people, businesses and communities to take action for wildlife, wild places and nature, and placing a wildlife rich world at the heart of education and learning for all.

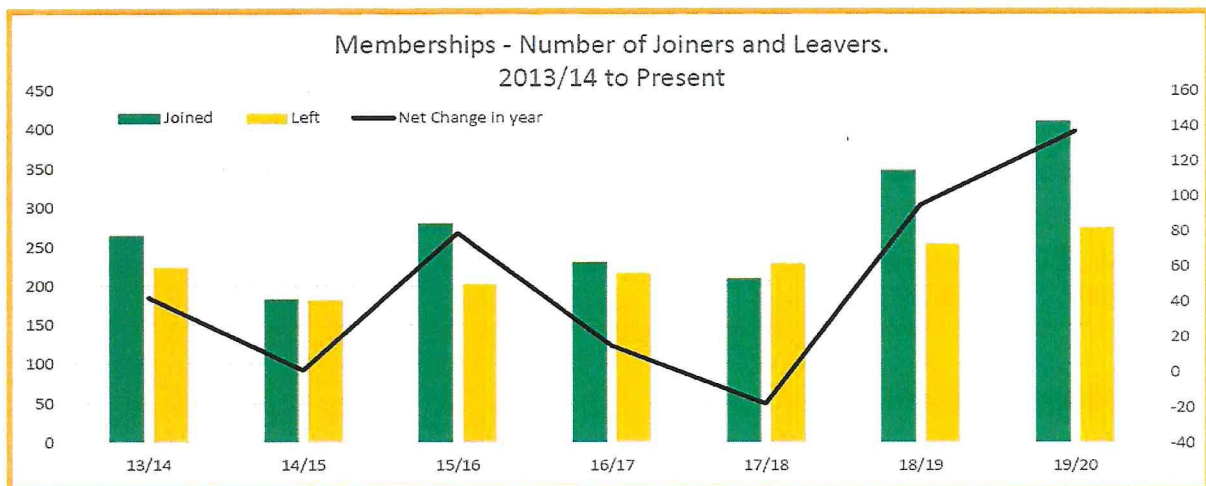
3.2.1 Encouraging more people to act for wildlife

We are increasingly working to take people on a journey from taking notice of nature towards acting to protect and conserve wildlife in whatever way they can: in their gardens, supporting our campaigns, by volunteering, or through donations to support our work. We have worked hard to maintain our contact with members, supporters and volunteers over the course of lockdown. This has prevented a significant loss of members as experienced by some other Trusts.

Members: We suffered initial cancellations of memberships in the early months of Covid and had to cease face to face recruitment, but after that our membership numbers stabilised and rose. We engaged South West Fundraising Limited from July and offered half price membership to participants in 30 Days Wild and via our January sale. We ended the year with 2,992 Memberships comprising 5,452 members (compared to 2,811 and 5,168 the previous year).

Results from across the Trusts for 2020/21 show HWT performing well on membership Key Performance Indicators. We are 39th out of 46 in terms of the absolute number of memberships, due to our small population, but our penetration rate is 15th best. We gained 110 memberships in a year when 16 Trusts lost membership and were 11th best for percentage membership growth at 3.9%.

Despite Covid, our retention rate was high, due in part to our efforts to maintain contact with our members. We continued our regular e-Newsletters and held welcome events via Zoom. Our '30DaysWild' engagement programme ran throughout June, with a record 749 participants (641 in 2019).



Membership rose to 5,452 over the year

Volunteers: The Covid lockdown clearly demonstrated the extent to which we rely on volunteers and miss them when they cannot help out. Despite Covid, our Nature, Nurture, Nourish project has started to improve our support for volunteers. This year we have 484 volunteers, who donated 9,788 hours (fewer than last year due to Covid). We ran 15 training courses, training 78 individuals in various survey methodologies.

Trustees: Having reviewed the Trustees skills audit in February 2020, we recruited three new full Trustees and co-opted a further new Trustee, to fill our skills gaps and increase the diversity of representation on the Board. This brought The Board membership back up to 14. The new Trustees were given a full induction, which was also open to existing Trustees, and attended an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion workshop.

Under Covid Board meetings were successfully transferred to Zoom and the frequency of meetings was increased. There were six Board meetings, four Conservation Committee meetings, and five Finance Committee meetings with three Finance and one Conservation Committee meeting also treated as full Board meetings. The Trustees also carried out a comprehensive Governance Review.

Local Branch Groups: we have seven local branches, which normally run their own programmes of walks, talks and activities. Most of these came to a halt with lockdown, with only Hereford City branch and HWT centrally running events via Zoom. The online talks included some in depth reviews of new HWT work areas such as Nature Based Solutions and Putting Wildlife into Recovery, together with entertaining and informative talks from external speakers such as Dr Erica MacAllister on 'The Inside out of Flies'.

Key successes

- This year we only held 30 events for members and supporters, as 64 planned events were cancelled due to Covid. These events between them attracted 963 participants.



- We held our celebrity lectures online: Melissa Harrison in conversation with Monty Don. We had 200 attendees, good feedback and raised £2,540 in ticket sales and donations.
- We ran another photo competition for our 2021 calendar.
- We employed three former trainees on short term contracts. One of them has now secured a three-year contract with the Nature, Nurture, Nourish project.
- We now have independent Reserves volunteer groups doing great work at Brilley, Clifford Common, Birches Farm, Tretawdy Farm and Queenswood Country Park and Arboretum.

3.2.2 Bringing people closer to nature

We use the 5 ways to Wellbeing through Nature to encourage people to notice nature and then understand the benefits for physical and mental health, wellbeing and confidence. This ranges from providing inviting access facilities and interpretation on our Nature Reserves, through walks, talks and workshops to active engagement sessions for a range of participants.

Covid lockdown brought a massive change to engagement work with all face to face work initially shut down. Fortunately, many of the funders of our engagement programme allowed us to defer delivery on key projects or reprofile our work and the Brailsford Trust kindly allowed us to redeploy their funds.

This gave us time to completely reformulate our engagement programme: to deliver key elements by new means, to review our engagement activities, and to align our work more closely with the developing TWT strategy which aspires to 1 in 4 people taking action for nature.

Orchard Origins moved to the join the engagement team this year, with most of their activities carried out through the Building Better Opportunities project, supplemented by paid pruning work after the main harvesting and juicing season.

Building Better Opportunities and Landau

This year we continued our association with Landau, a social charity which facilitates partnership projects aimed at helping people gain education and employment. The Building Better Opportunities (BBO) project aims to build the skills and confidence of people who are not in work in order to help them into the job market. Places are available to anyone who is unemployed or economically inactive. The programme supports those with mental or physical disabilities, diverse ethnicities, migrants, the over 50s, ex-offenders, the homeless and the long-term unemployed.

A separate Landau project involves supporting hard to reach groups, whose isolation, poor mental health and low confidence are the main barriers to achieving employment and improving lives. Referrals come from social prescribers, YSS and Vennture. The project ended in January, but key elements are now incorporated into our Nature, Nurture, Nourish project.

Key successes

- We continued our support for participants during lockdown through an online nature and wellbeing course, Taking Notice of Nature – Stay Connected.
- ‘Wild & Well’ online/ practical workshops follow the ‘5 ways to wellbeing’ incorporating information on plants and wildlife, a mindfulness exercise, what to look out for in Nature and identification skills. Two participants fed back that ‘it feels like a lifeline’ and gives them something to think about during the intervening week.
- Take Notice of Nature participants have signed up as volunteers, put up bird feeders in their gardens for the first time, changed the way they garden, become wildlife photographers and generally learnt a lot about the wildlife on their doorsteps.
- BBO resumed in person juicing courses in October. They juiced 2,040 litres, producing 621 x 330ml bottles and 2,447 x 750ml bottles. They also held two single day apple harvesting and identification courses.
- We adapted our Level 2 Playway Course for BBO to run online and ran two courses.
- We are working with a residents’ association in Leominster to put in a wildlife garden with unemployed residents.
- The team made five videos on the 5 Ways to Wellbeing for new Wellbeing pages on the HWT website.



Working in the Wellbeing Garden



Apple harvesting

The Nature, Nurture, Nourish project

This is a new 3-year project which aims to greatly improve our support for our volunteers, through three new staff and a new, more responsive Customer Relationship Management system. Through this project we have improved our working systems for supporting volunteers and increased staff time to mentor and guide volunteers in a range of outdoor tasks and environments. We have also offered better training for volunteers and the staff supporting them and started effective tracking of each volunteer's journey with the Trust.

Key successes

- Good Volunteer Practice training for staff from the National Council of Voluntary Organisations.
- Mental Health First Aid course training courses for 15 staff.
- We have improved communication with volunteers through a monthly Volunteer newsletter.
- We updated the volunteer procedure and pages our website and introduced blogs to encourage our volunteers to share their amazing work.
- We are running five different Zoom groups, taking inspiration from Nature, sharing experiences and photos and learning about a range of wildlife from lichens to blackbirds, buzzards to hazel flowers.
- The Garden Gateway maintains the Forest Garden at Queenswood, initially working in on-line support groups, before resuming gardening on the ground. This small group really support each other and spent time with one participant commemorating the anniversary of a



bereavement.

- Key staff are participating in the University of Derby's Nature Connectedness course.
- We have taken on some new volunteer Wardens recently who will be covering: Parky Meadows, Quebb Corner Meadow, Upper Welson Marsh, Wern Wood and Upper Swingley.
- We commenced cleansing of our Subscriber database in readiness for the transfer over to ThankQ, with key staff attending essential training in the new system.
- ThankQ was installed in January, with the data transfer and testing in February and March.

Nature Tots

Our Nature Tots programme is funded through Children in Need and focuses on supporting families whose children have special development needs through engagement with wildlife and the outdoors. The project was paused during lockdown but resumed in a Covid safe manner with one to one work with individual families. This required a move from Queenswood to a more accessible site in Leominster Priory gardens.

Key successes

- We worked with the Priory Church, the Children’s Centre, and the Marches Family Network and local Nursery school to target families who meet the criteria for this project.
- Activities included den building, natural mobiles and sounds walks. Families discovered new places to play hide and seek around the site and explored ways of climbing over and around different trees.
- The final session had to be delivered on-line, but this was really positive in encouraging families to become a little more independent and explore for themselves with support online and by email.
- We created videos and online content with various activities, crafts and wildlife/nature to look out for on walks.
- We had really positive feedback from parents and carers who:
 - now take more notice of nature when they are on a walk or out and about.
 - understand more about how they can provide free and simple activities/play for their children with the natural resources in their gardens/on walks
 - noticed the development of children’s language, social skills, confidence and relationships
 - noticed dramatic changes on other children and benefits for the whole family



Materials to support our online course



Nature Tots in the mud kitchen

- 100% reported back that they are more physically active, have more confidence to try new things, that the sessions offered fun ideas to try at home and they now choose to play outside more.
- 88% of participants report that they “now communicate better with my children and family”.
- 75% of participants feel their children are more willing to engage and have a go at new things.
- 63% felt their children are more willing to try a variety of healthier foods.

3.2.3 Advocacy for wildlife

This year has seen widespread recognition of the importance of wildlife and nature for people's health and wellbeing, the catastrophic decline in wildlife and the impacts of climate change. The Wildlife Trusts nationally, under the leadership of the new CEO, Craig Bennett, has been at the forefront of advocacy and very much in the public eye. The 46 Wildlife Trusts have been collaborating throughout the year to revise our collective strategy to address the triple priorities of putting nature into recovery, using natural solutions to address the impacts of climate change and encouraging people to act for wildlife.

The reduction in staff management requirements, and the reduction in face to face engagement has allowed senior staff to devote more time to progress our advocacy programme and re-formulate our strategic direction to meet these new challenges. In particular, this has:

- underlined the importance of effective management of Nature Reserves, and improvement in data collection and handling, to develop Nature Recovery Networks
- highlighted the importance of nature-based solutions to the climate and ecological emergency and the opportunities that might arise in delivering these
- emphasised the importance of understanding our own organisation's carbon footprint

During Covid, much of our work has been behind the scenes, as key partnerships were suspended or converted to on-line events. Key to our advocacy this year has been our work with the Climate and Ecological Emergency Working Group (CEE), hosted by Herefordshire Council. This Group is considering the main issues, developing solutions and pulling together active stakeholders across Herefordshire to work toward a common goal.

In December, an HWT member drew our attention to extensive damage to the banks of the River Lugg near Kingsland. We publicised the case locally and nationally, to seek restoration of the riverbank, gain recognition of the threats facing our rivers and raise awareness of the impacts of funding cuts of the relevant statutory agencies. We gained extensive media coverage at local, regional and national level.

Key successes

- Raising the profile of damage to the River Lugg



River Lugg, before and after the works

- Partnership working continues with Herefordshire Council on a range of activities including Nature Recovery Networks, Local Wildlife Sites criteria for designation, Climate and Ecological Emergency (CEE) action planning, the issues around phosphates in the county, the Essex Arms potential wetland Nature Reserve and a follow on Herefordshire Natural Flood Management project.
- HWT is leading on development of the CEE land use and agriculture 'chapter' which will be produced publicly as part of a 9-year county plan to reach net zero.

- In partnership with Natural England, the Wye Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), the Malvern Hills AONB and Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, we have commissioned a Nature Recovery Network map for Herefordshire to inform future conservation activity.
- We brought together local naturalists to revise the criteria used to evaluate Listed Wildlife Sites.

3.2.4 Getting our message across

Our flow of good news stories for the media was somewhat curtailed this year by the impacts of Covid in reducing project delivery, but was bolstered by our activities for the Ice Age Ponds project and the Yazor Brooks, our appeal for Oak Tree Farm and the first fledging oystercatcher at Bodenham Lake. There was also extensive coverage of our plans to restore the barns at Tretawdy for holiday lets.

We were also approached for wildlife stories through lockdown for example covering oystercatchers, curlews, pine martens, apples, autumn wildlife, beavers and rutting deer.

Throughout the year, we continued to receive regular, positive local media coverage of our news and events, notably in the Hereford Times and on BBC Radio Hereford and Worcester. We generated media articles on several major topics over the course of the year which featured in many of the local magazines. In December, we got very full coverage, at local and national level, of our concerns about an incident of damage to 1.5km of riverbank on the River Lugg.

Our reach on social media continued to increase steadily over the year with followers increasing from 6,481 to 8,053 and a total of 68,573 social media engagements. We also saw a growth in people using our YouTube content, particularly over lockdown and in the winter months.

Key successes

- We been promoting national campaigns on Action for Insects, #NoMowMay, 30by30 and the petition against the Badger Cull.

Say no to neonics

Help us tell the Prime Minister that bee-killing pesticides have no place in a **wilder future!**

Sign our letter and write to your MP




- We promoted Dawn Chorus Day and 30 Days Wild, which attracted 749 participants (636 last year), most of whom were not already members of the Trust.
- We sent weekly news emails to 3,000 supporters and members. These scored an open rate of 39% (which is considered as a very high rate), with a slight increase in click through rate to 3.5% (very respectable) and lots of positive feedback. This is reflected in an unsubscribe rate of only 0.1% this year.
- Twitter and Instagram followers and Facebook likes all increased, as did viewings of our YouTube content.

Herefordshire Wildlife Trust is asking for donations.

Can you help us to raise £200,000 to purchase this beautiful wildlife meadow?

Ail Meadow is a traditional lowland pasture covering just over 14 acres. It lies within the wonderful, wildlife-rich landscape of the Woolhope Dome, very close to our own Wessington Pasture Nature Reserve. With your help, we plan to purchase the site and restore it as a hay meadow, with seasonal grazing, allowing the wildflowers to flourish and increase. Allowing the meadow to be sold on the open m... See More



URGENT APPEAL:
Please help us to purchase Ail Meadow
- a wildlife haven within the Woolhope Dome

#30by30

Performance for your post

1,850 People Reached

50 Reactions, Comments & Shares

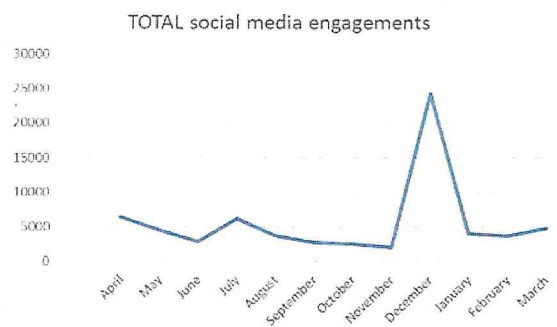
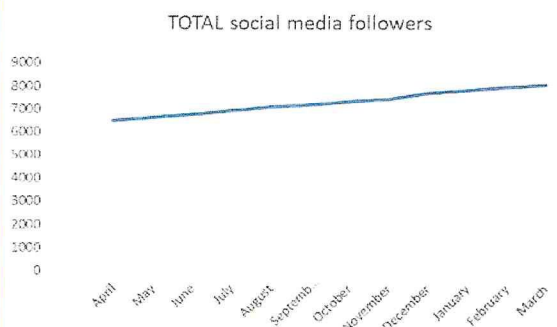
23 Like	18 On Post	5 On Shares
4 Love	3 On Post	1 On Shares
1 Comments	1 On Post	0 On Shares
22 Shares	22 On Post	0 On Shares
46 Post Clicks		
6 Photo Views	21 Link Clicks	19 Other Clicks

NEGATIVE FEEDBACK

1 Hide Post	0 Hide All Posts
0 Report as Spam	0 Unlike Page

Reported stats may be delayed from what appears on posts

- We introduced a range of new blogs on the website and vlogs on social media and launched a New 'Wild Hereford' page with all the Hereford City projects, events, walks and news.



- Usage of our website has increased by 29% and the website sessions have increased by 26%.
- We extended our reach and engagement through our website and social media platforms with key posts regularly reaching over 4,000 followers.

Herefordshire Wildlife Trust

Published by Frances Weeks · Favorites · January 19

We're a partner in this fantastic tree-planting project!



HEREFORDTIMES.COM

Why thousands of oak trees are being planted in Herefordshire

Top Tweet earned 14K impressions

What a great start to our appeal to buy the wonderful #AilMeadow & manage it as a #naturereserve - £19,720 already raised! A huge thank you to everyone who has donated so far 🍌💚 Please help us if you can! herefordshirewt.org/ailmeadow #30by30 #wilderherefordshire @WildlifeTrusts pic.twitter.com/T2Qbj2WgLe



URGENT APPEAL:
Please help us to purchase Ail Meadow
- a wildlife haven within the Woolhope Dome

#30by30

25 ❤️ 46

3.2.5 Helping our staff to thrive

This year has been really tough on our staff as some people were put on furlough during lockdown, whilst those still 'at work' strove to deliver our objectives on multiple fronts. We maintained contact with all staff throughout the year through fortnightly huddles over zoom.

During the first lockdown, all staff worked from home. We put in place flexible working arrangements and carried out full risk assessments of their working conditions to ensure that they were well provided for at home. An emergency grant from the National Heritage Lottery Fund paid for multiple zoom accounts, conversion to cloud based IT and various equipment required to work in a Covid safe manner. It also allowed us to bring more people back from lockdown and adapt our working practices, especially on funded projects, to operate in a Covid safe manner. This included understanding staff perceptions of their own vulnerability to Covid. Our arrangements were tested by a visit of the Council Public Health officers and the police to look at the Covid arrangements for the facilities and playground at Queenswood. Several of our staff caught Covid, but all recovered without any long-term impacts.

We made good use of online training and webinars particularly during lockdown. Online options improved the accessibility of training, especially for those with family commitments.

In August, our Nature, Nurture, Nourish project started up and we were able to offer Mental Health First Aid training for our staff, to support their own Mental health and that of colleagues, volunteers and participants in our projects.

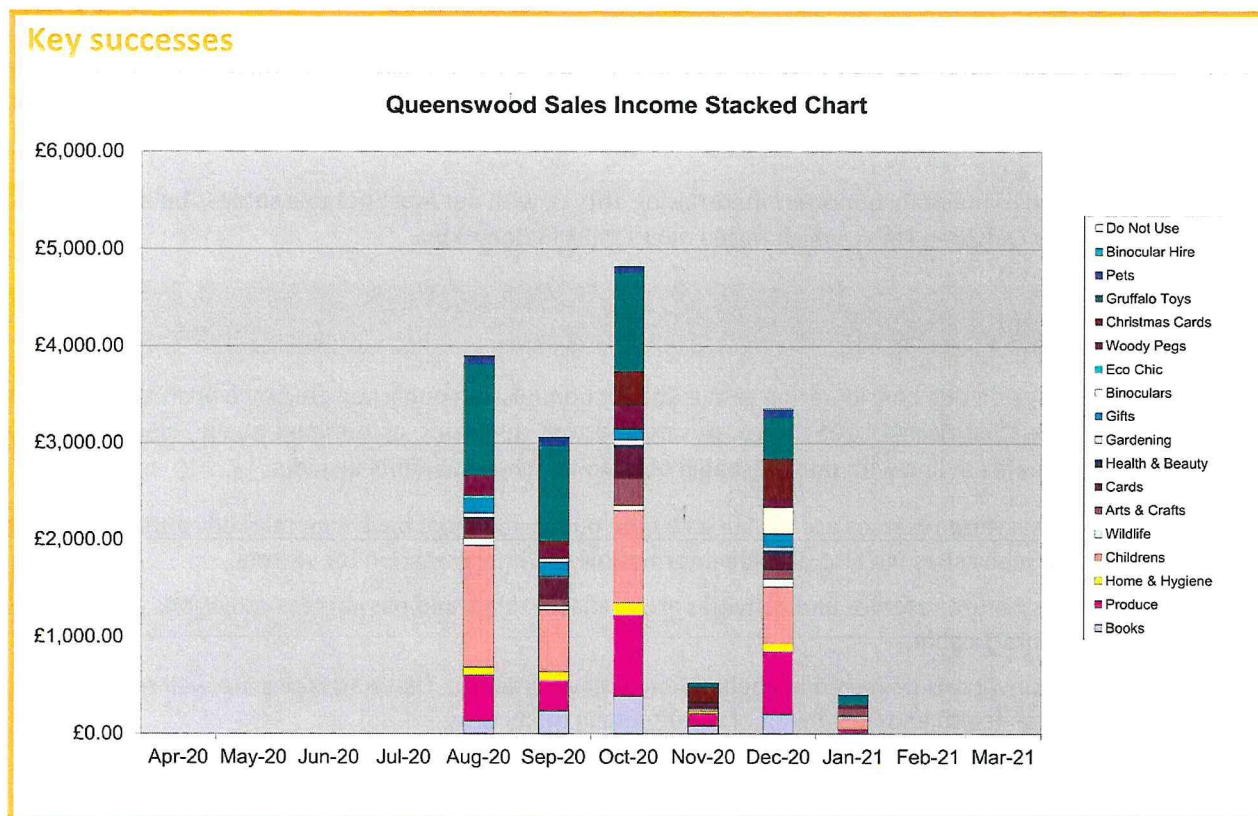
Against this backdrop, there was considerable turnover in staff as people pursued their personal career objectives, the most notable success being James Hitchcock leaving to become CEO of Radnorshire Wildlife Trust. This did enable some reallocation of work areas and roles, with some efficiencies and cost savings for core costs.

3.3 GREATER INVESTMENT IN WILDLIFE AND PEOPLE

We have been exploring multiple avenues to increase and diversify our funding base to ensure that Herefordshire Wildlife Trust is a resilient and sustainable organisation.

3.3.1 Commercial activities

Our steady improvements of last year were brought to an abrupt halt by the Coronavirus pandemic, which saw the closure of both shops and cessation of Orchard Origins work parties. During the first easing of lockdown, we continued to accept donations for the charity shop and sold these through various outlets online before re-opening the shop. Further lockdowns again closed the Shops, but we were fortunate in gaining Business Support Grants to support ongoing rental and running costs during closure.



3.3.2 Fundraising

This has been an exceptionally difficult year for fundraising. Normally, grants make a very significant contribution to achieving our objectives and we have a pipeline of grants lined up to support our work, both for conservation and engagement activities.

With the onset of Covid, the majority of our funding streams closed to normal applications and re-purposed their effort on emergency Covid support. Whilst we were successful in securing £41k in emergency grants for the Queenswood and Bodenham Lake partnership and £147k for HWT, we were unable to submit a grant application to HLF following our successful Expression of Interest for Oak Tree Farm, or to continue work on any of our proposed future projects.

Mid-year, the government started to release Green Recovery funding, through various sources. However, most of these funds required large scale ‘shovel ready’ projects which could be delivered within a short timescale. A key output for most of these included creation of employment opportunities. HWT did not have worked up projects available off the shelf and lacked capacity to work these up quickly. Hence, whilst we submitted bids to some of these, we were unsuccessful in our applications.

Over the course of the year, we applied for grants to the value of £4,022,088 and secured grants of £488,280, giving us a success rate of approx. 12%. This compares to a 58% success rate the previous year. As noted above, some of the larger grant applications were highly speculative and would have been a challenge to deliver had they been successful. However, the almost complete closure of our normal sources of funds is likely to have a knock-on effect in future years as it will create a funding gap between ongoing projects such as the Ice Age Ponds and our next major conservation project.

The suite of Covid support measures, including the emergency grants, the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) and the Covid business grants, were fundamental to our financial sustainability this financial year. The emergency grant funded our transfer to a cloud-based IT solution and the new TWT financial software, to facilitate home working. The CJRS allowed us to put 60% of staff on furlough in the early months, whilst the

emergency grant enabled us to bring some staff back to work to deliver our core objectives. The emergency grant also funded additional short-term staff to help us catch up, contracts for Reserves work that would otherwise have been carried out by volunteers and many items of equipment required to work in a Covid safe manner.

We have attempted to maintain our other fund-raising efforts, with our most notable success being our Appeal for the purchase of Oak Tree Farm, which raised over £105k in donations.

4. DELIVERING PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees have given due consideration to the Charity Commission published guidance on Public Benefit as required under the Charities Act 2011 and are satisfied that our work, as outlined above, clearly provides multiple public benefits in line with our charitable objectives. These benefits include:

- The Trust's nature reserves are well used by the public and most have way-marked routes for people to use. At many sites we also provide information and interpretation for visitors.
- The Trust's nature reserves and activities are available to all, and easy access provisions are made wherever practicable.
- Much of our work is delivered in conjunction with volunteers. These activities are well recognised to improve the health and well-being of volunteers in many ways.
- Our young Volunteer Assistant Reserve Officers and the participants in our Building Better Opportunities courses all gain valuable experience which improves their employability.
- Our people and wildlife outreach programmes are aimed at communities, children's centres, adult groups and the wider public. Some of our funding enables us to offer free activities in socially deprived communities.
- Contact with the natural world and the appreciation of wildlife and wild places provides great pleasure to many people and is well recognised as contributing towards health and well-being.
- We gather conservation data and provide expert advice to Local Authorities and others to ensure that planning decisions are made on a rational basis after taking full account of the public benefit of wildlife.
- Lastly, the Trust can exert influence through its members at a local level, regionally through the West Midlands Wildlife Trusts and nationally through membership of the RSWT.

5. THE IMPACT OF CORONAVIRUS AND LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Herefordshire Wildlife Trust initially entered the 2020/21 with severe concerns about finances due to the Coronavirus pandemic, with reforecasts showing increased deficits across a range of activities. However, we received significant support from Government including the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) and the Business Support grants. These, together with grants from the National Heritage Lottery Fund, for both Queenswood and HWT, ameliorated the impacts on our finances.

We maintained close attention to Government briefings and advice, carried out an organisation Covid Risk Assessment and developed a range of Covid Method Statements covering our main areas of work, amended throughout the year in response to Government legislation, guidance and advice.

During first two quarters of the year, we furloughed 16 people – just over 60% of our staff. We retained the core Senior Management Team throughout the year, but with some staff working reduced hours. We deployed the CJRS carefully to maintain support for Senior staff and carry out essential items of work. Only the Retail staff and sessional engagement workers remained on furlough throughout the 3 lockdowns. In all we lost 767 days of staff time.

We brought most of the staff back from furlough in July and took advantage of this quiet time to complete our Nature Reserve audit and review all engagement delivery. This thinking time paid dividends for our delivery later in the year and will inform future programmes of work. The emergency funding also allowed us to recruit some temporary staff and pay for some contract work to catch up on lost delivery.

Despite our concerns at the start of the year, in particular in suspending practical works on Reserves and all volunteering, engagement and retail activities, we managed to deliver well against our original objectives for the year. A few engagement projects have been deferred to 2021/22 and only one major project, tackling ash dieback in the trees alongside the A49, was deferred.

Grant funded projects are key to our delivery, and we have endeavoured to ensure a steady stream of projects across financial years to support our work. A worrying longer-term impact on the Trust arises from the closure of many of our normal sources of grant aid, such that we have not been able to develop continuation projects in the normal timeframe.

At this point in time, it is still not possible to predict fully how the coronavirus will impact on the future finances of the Trust, but we are optimistic that the measures we have taken will serve us well.

6. GOING CONCERN

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate particularly after taking account of the impact of the Covid pandemic. They have re-assessed the business plans, income and expenditure projections, and taken the Charity's reserve levels into account. The Trustees have made this assessment for a period of a least one year from the date of approving the financial statements and their conclusion is that there is no doubt about the Charity's ability to continue operating as a going concern.

7. FINANCIAL REVIEW

7.1 Review of the financial position at year end

The Trust's total income for the year increased to £1,847,562 (2020: £1,385,527). However, due to the effects of the pandemic the income is not easily comparable to the prior period. Key income is discussed in more detail in the notes to the financial statements. Our ongoing success in recruiting new members, combined with an increase in annual subscriptions, led to a 5% rise in membership subscriptions to £160,000.

7.2 Financial effect of significant events

Expenditure within the Trust reduced over the year at £1,341,507 (2020: £1,431,482) this is largely due to the pandemic which meant some projects were unable to continue in the short term. There were also cost savings made on wages due to staff going on furlough and others reducing their hours.

After taking into account the unrealised gain on investments, the Trust reported a net surplus for the year of £567,676 (2020: loss £86,363).

7.3 Financial reserves policy

Total funds as at 31 March 2021 were £4,236k (2020: £3,688k) and comprised unrestricted funds of £466k (2020: £313k) and restricted funds of £3,770k (2020: £3,355k).

The Board, working through its Finance Committee, regularly reviews the level of reserves that are maintained and required to ensure funds are available to deliver the Trust's services and activities and to secure, as far as possible, future financial viability. The 2020/21 review of reserves has included assessing the impact of Covid on the business plan and operations of the Trust and its projected income and expenditure, and taking into account the management of financial risks, particularly the uncertainty of future income streams.

From this review we have determined that the Trust should maintain free reserves within a range of £100k - £300k (equivalent to between 3 and 9 months' unrestricted expenditure) to be assured that we are able to sustain its operations in the long-term as well as meet other obligations, irrespective of short-term fluctuations of income. The Trust's obligation to maintain and manage its substantial area of nature reserves is of an enduring nature and, were it to cease operations, the view of the Trustees is that significant time and resource would be required to put in place orderly arrangements to ensure their future status was not compromised.

We consider our free reserves as at 31 March 2021 to be £207k (2020: £111k) representing the unrestricted funds less the value of our designated funds of £5k (2020: £5k), tangible fixed assets of £2k (2020: £6k) and fixed asset investments of £251k (2020: £191k). Given the current highly uncertain environment we consider it appropriate that our free reserves are currently in the middle of our desired range.

The fixed asset investments are not included in the free reserves as they are not principally held to underpin the Trust's recurrent operations but rather to provide funds to be drawn upon where needed for exceptional and investment purposes such as future capital expenditure on the acquisition of land to provide nature reserves.

7.4 Investment performance

The Finance Committee has adopted a policy of investing funds to produce the best financial return within an acceptable level of risk. This involves investment in a range of medium-risk stocks and shares with a view to generating both income and capital growth, whilst maintaining a balance between investments and funds held on deposit. Ethical considerations are important to the Trust and policy is being reviewed to give broader consideration to investments that enhance biodiversity, promote wildlife conservation and support environmental protection, consistent with Trustees' duty of sound financial management. The Trust's investment policy is reviewed by the Finance Committee annually. Funds are invested by Brewin Dolphin, under their Risk Category 6 – moderate risk, on a discretionary basis. The value of funds under management was £251,155 at 31st March 2021 (2020: £190,893).

8. GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity is managed in accordance with the Articles of Association. The current Articles were adopted by special resolution passed on 18th October 2016, as amended 17th October 2020. The Trust is a company limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006. The Trust was registered as a charity on 30th November 1962 and incorporated on 12th December 1962 in England and Wales.

The Trust is governed by a Board of Trustees, consisting of up to fourteen Trustees, meeting at least five times a year. Trustees are elected at the relevant Annual General Meeting. Associate Trustees can also be co-opted by the Board of Trustees in between AGMs and serve as non-voting members until their appointments as full Trustees are confirmed by a vote at the subsequent Annual General Meeting. They may serve a term of up to nine years, subject to re-election every three years. There are two sub committees to the Board covering Finance and Conservation respectively.

The Trustees appoint a Chief Executive Officer to manage the day-to-day operations of the Trust, including the management of staff and the development and implementation of policies, strategies and business plans.

The elected Trustees are the Directors of the Trust for the purpose of the Companies Act and are the Officers of the Company. Trustees have control of the Trust, its property and funds. The Chair, Vice Chair and Honorary Officers are elected at the first Board of Trustees meeting following the Annual General Meeting. There are currently 13 elected Trustees and 1 co-opted Trustee. Directors of the charitable company, in their capacity as members, guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of a winding up.

New Trustees are recruited mainly through advertisements placed with volunteer agencies and within the Trust's own publications. A panel of the CEO and up to three existing Trustees interviews prospective candidates and makes recommendations for appointment. Recommendations are based on an assessment of the individual's skills and experience against a Trustee role description and skills gap audit of the Board.

All new Trustees receive an induction pack, which includes a copy of the Trustee personal specification, the Code of Conduct and the terms and conditions of service as a Trustee. Also, they receive the latest audited accounts, minutes of the last two Board of Trustees meetings, the Charity's governing documents and contact details for other Trustees. The Trust also offers full induction and a Trustee mentoring scheme, pairing new Trustees with existing Trustees, to help them to learn about the organisation. There is a Trustee training budget for governance-related issues, which includes provision for 2 'all Trust' meetings of staff and Trustees each year.

Senior management level are recruited with direct trustee input in terms of both candidate selection and remuneration levels to be offered. All positions are periodically benchmarked against similar roles in other Wildlife Trusts and the conservation sector more broadly in terms of both pay and level of responsibility.

The Trust is a member of The Wildlife Trusts (TWT) partnership (registered as the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts, charity number 207238). TWT acts as an umbrella body encouraging coordination and cooperation throughout the movement and undertaking lobbying and public relations on behalf of all Wildlife Trusts. Partners have the use of TWT's logo and benefit from the resources, best practices and experience of TWT and other member Trusts. Membership gives the Trust a national voice and profile.

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.

9. REFERENCES AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number	743899 (England and Wales)
Registered Charity number	220173
Registered Office	Queenswood Country Park, Dinmore Hill, Leominster HR6 0PY

10. STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also the directors of Herefordshire Wildlife Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Thorne Widgery Accountancy Ltd, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 21/9/21..... and signed on its behalf by:



Brian Hurrell – Chair

11. INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Herefordshire Wildlife Trust Ltd (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. 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).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 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; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 23 to the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company 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, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditors under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Fraud and breaches of laws and regulations - ability to detect

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to fraud

To identify risks of material misstatement due to fraud ("fraud risks") we assessed events or conditions that could indicate an incentive or pressure to commit fraud or provide an opportunity to commit fraud. Our risk assessment procedures included:

- o Enquiring of trustees, the finance committee and inspection of policy documentation as to the Charity's high-level policies and procedures to prevent and detect fraud as well as whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud.
- o Reading Trustees' meetings and finance committee minutes.
- o Considering performance targets for management.

We communicated identified fraud risks throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of fraud throughout the audit.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of
The Herefordshire Wildlife Trust Ltd

As required by auditing standards, and taking into account our overall knowledge of the control environment, we perform procedures to address the risk of management override of controls, in particular the risk that management may be in a position to make inappropriate accounting entries. On this audit we do not believe there is a fraud risk related to revenue recognition because the revenue is non-judgemental and straightforward, with limited opportunity for manipulation.

We did not identify any additional fraud risks. We performed procedures including identifying journal entries to test based on risk criteria and comparing the identified entries to supporting documentation. These included those posted by finance management/ those posted and approved by the same user/ those posted to unusual accounts.

Identifying and responding to risks of material misstatement due to non-compliance with laws and regulations

We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial and sector experience, and through discussion with management (as required by auditing standards) and discussed with management the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations.

We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.

The potential effect of these laws and regulations on the financial statements varies considerably.

Firstly, the Charity is subject to laws and regulations that directly affect the financial statements including financial reporting legislation, taxation legislation and the Charities Act legislation and we assessed the extent of compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement items.

Secondly, the Charity is subject to many other laws and regulations where the consequences of noncompliance could have a material effect on amounts or disclosures in the financial statements, for instance through the imposition of fines or litigation or the loss of the Charity's license to operate. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: health and safety, anti-bribery, employment law, data protection, anti-money laundering and specific areas of other legislation recognising the nature of the Charity's activities.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of management, inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. Therefore, if a breach of operational regulations is not disclosed to us or evident from relevant correspondence, an audit will not detect that breach.

Context of the ability of the audit to detect fraud or breaches of law or regulation

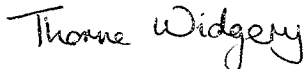
Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of fraud, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. Our audit procedures are designed to detect material misstatement. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance or fraud and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



for and on behalf of Thorne Widgey Accountancy Ltd
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

Eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006
2 Wyevale Business Park
Kings Acre
Hereford
Herefordshire
HR4 7BS

Date:22/9/21.....

12. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of Financial Activities
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	367,730	444,761	812,491	319,344
Charitable activities					
Landscapes	5	119,585	293,721	413,306	414,351
Queenswood site		-	228,300	228,300	218,469
Engagement		-	321,095	321,095	137,734
Other trading activities	3	48,749	11,592	60,341	132,907
Investment income	4	7,809	-	7,809	7,218
Other income		4,220	-	4,220	155,504
Total		<u>548,093</u>	<u>1,299,469</u>	<u>1,847,562</u>	<u>1,385,527</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	6	197,190	9,578	206,768	310,332
Charitable activities					
Landscapes	7	166,367	409,956	576,323	652,888
Queenswood site		-	194,444	194,444	312,148
Engagement		60,941	303,031	363,972	156,114
Total		<u>424,498</u>	<u>917,009</u>	<u>1,341,507</u>	<u>1,431,482</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>61,621</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>61,621</u>	<u>(40,408)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		185,216	382,460	567,676	(86,363)
Transfers between funds	21	<u>(32,467)</u>	<u>32,467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		152,749	414,927	567,676	(86,363)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>312,919</u>	<u>3,355,182</u>	<u>3,668,101</u>	<u>3,754,464</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>465,668</u></u>	<u><u>3,770,109</u></u>	<u><u>4,235,777</u></u>	<u><u>3,668,101</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
31 March 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	13	2,086	3,260,175	3,262,261	2,988,146
Investments	14	<u>251,155</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>251,210</u>	<u>190,893</u>
		253,241	3,260,230	3,513,471	3,179,039
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	15	18,735	-	18,735	22,940
Debtors	16	76,852	85,000	161,852	61,842
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>185,783</u>	<u>424,879</u>	<u>610,662</u>	<u>455,683</u>
		281,370	509,879	791,249	540,465
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>(34,801)</u>	-	<u>(34,801)</u>	<u>(51,403)</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>246,569</u>	<u>509,879</u>	<u>756,448</u>	<u>489,062</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		499,810	3,770,109	4,269,919	3,668,101
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	18	<u>(34,142)</u>	-	<u>(34,142)</u>	-
NET ASSETS		<u>465,668</u>	<u>3,770,109</u>	<u>4,235,777</u>	<u>3,668,101</u>
FUNDS					
21					
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund				460,668	307,919
Designated Funds				<u>5,000</u>	<u>5,000</u>
				465,668	312,919
Restricted funds:					
Restricted				<u>3,770,109</u>	<u>3,355,182</u>
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>4,235,777</u>	<u>3,668,101</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The members have not deposited notice, pursuant to Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006 requiring an audit of these financial statements.

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet - continued

31 March 2021

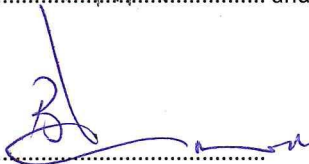
The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

These financial statements have been audited under the requirements of Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on21/9/21..... and were signed on its behalf by:



.....
B Hurrell - Trustee

The Herefordshire Wildlife Trust Ltd

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	Notes	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>439,724</u>	<u>(201,561)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>439,724</u>	<u>(201,561)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(321,691)	(149,718)
Purchase of fixed asset investments		(33,012)	(141,573)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		1,500	398,096
Sale of fixed asset investments		<u>34,316</u>	<u>42,689</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		<u>(318,887)</u>	<u>149,494</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
New loans in year		<u>34,142</u>	-
Net cash provided by financing activities		<u>34,142</u>	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		154,979	(52,067)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>455,683</u>	<u>507,750</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>610,662</u>	<u>455,683</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1. **RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	567,676	(86,363)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	47,576	47,932
(Gain)/losses on investments	(61,621)	40,408
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	(1,500)	(153,846)
Decrease in stocks	4,205	10,045
Increase in debtors	(100,010)	(12,965)
Decrease in creditors	<u>(16,602)</u>	<u>(46,772)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>439,724</u>	<u>(201,561)</u>

2. **ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

	At 1.4.20 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.21 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>455,683</u>	<u>154,979</u>	<u>610,662</u>
	<u>455,683</u>	<u>154,979</u>	<u>610,662</u>
Debt			
Debts falling due after 1 year	<u>-</u>	<u>(34,142)</u>	<u>(34,142)</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>(34,142)</u>	<u>(34,142)</u>
Total	<u>455,683</u>	<u>120,837</u>	<u>576,520</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 '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, with the exception of investments which are included at market value.

Going concern/Covid

The Trustees have assessed whether the use of the going concern basis is appropriate particularly after taking account of the impact of the Covid pandemic. They have re-assessed the business plans, income and expenditure projections, and taken the Charity's reserve levels into account. Their conclusion is that there is no doubt about the Charity's ability to continue operating as a going concern.

The Trustees have made this assessment for a period of at least one year from the date of approving the financial statements and are assured that the Charity has adequate resources to continue to operate for the foreseeable future. The Charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

Income

Income, including voluntary income, grants and investment income, is recognised in the SOFA when the Charity becomes entitled to it, it is more likely than not that the income will be received, and the monetary value of the income can be estimated with sufficient accuracy.

Entitlement to legacy income is assumed when there is sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to the Charity, usually through the notification of a Will. Receipt of legacy income is deemed probable when there has been a grant of probate, and it has been established that there are sufficient assets in the estate to pay the legacy and there are no conditions attached to the legacy that are outside the control of the Charity or uncertainty around the receipt of the gift. Income from pecuniary legacies is recognised upon notification or receipt if earlier.

Revenue grants in respect of specific contracts are credited to the SOFA in the period in which the expenditure is incurred.

Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time is not recognised, refer to the trustees' annual report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Raising funds

Cost of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of landscapes, Queenswood and engagement activities undertaken to further the purposes of the charity and their associated support costs.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Fixed assets, other than land and property, are stated at original cost or, if donated, the value at date of receipt. In 2019 the Trust moved headquarters from Lower House Farm to be located on the Queenswood site which is included in the balance sheet as a leasehold asset. Lower House Farm was disposed of during the previous financial year.

FRS102 requires that provision be made for depreciation of fixed assets having a finite useful life. However, the Trustees are of the opinion that the residual value at the end of the estimated useful life of the nature reserves and freehold properties are not likely to materially differ from its cost. This is because it is the Charity's policy to maintain the nature reserves and freehold properties in such a condition that their value is not diminished by the passage of time; the relevant expenditure is charged against income in the financial period in which it is incurred. Therefore, any element of depreciation is considered to be immaterial and no provision is made.

Leasehold assets are depreciated at 2% and 20%.

Vehicles and computer equipment are depreciated at 25% per annum, plant and equipment at 15% and fixtures and fittings at 10% and 20%, so as to write off the cost less residual value over their expected useful lives. Items costing under £1,000 in the charitable company are not capitalised.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted funds are donations and other incoming resources receivable or generated for the objects of the trust without further specified purpose and are available as general funds.

Restricted Funds/Designated Funds

The trust's restricted funds are those where the donor has imposed restrictions on the use of funds.

Designated funds are unrestricted general funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

Explanations of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Investments

Investments are valued at mid-market price at the balance sheet date. Realised investment gains/losses represent the differences on sale of investments between the proceeds on sale and the opening market value and/or cost of additions in the period. Unrealised investment gains/losses represent the differences between the closing market value and the opening market value and/or cost of additions in the period.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any discounts due.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Creditors and provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the profit and loss account as incurred.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
Donations	30,751	289,399	320,150	38,091
Gift aid	44,607	14,190	58,797	37,852
Legacies	7,398	100,750	108,148	91,368
Grants	125,432	40,422	165,854	-
Membership	<u>159,542</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>159,542</u>	<u>152,033</u>
	<u>367,730</u>	<u>444,761</u>	<u>812,491</u>	<u>319,344</u>

31.03.20 - £227,506 Unrestricted, £91,838 Restricted

The Trust has been extremely fortunate and grateful to receive a wide variety of generous donations and legacies and grants in the year to 31 March 2021.

Donations include £80,000 from the Banister Trust towards the purchase of Oak Tree Farm, £10,000 from Hoople for the refurbishment of the Viewpoint at Queenswood, £90,000 gift of land at Litley Coppice all of which are included in restricted funds.

Legacies include the gift of land at The Goggin (£85,000)

Grants include Government support of £80,990 via the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme and £78,574 via the Small Business Grant. These enabled retention of staff through lockdown and offset the losses incurred due to closure of both shops during lockdown.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.3.21 Total funds	31.3.20 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Fundraising	1,505	-	1,505	10,820
Shop sales	38,775	792	39,567	105,483
Other sales incl. consultancy & orchard related income	8,469	10,800	19,269	16,604
	<u>48,749</u>	<u>11,592</u>	<u>60,341</u>	<u>132,907</u>

31.03.20 - £132,346 Unrestricted, £561 Restricted

During the year both shops had to close during the national lockdowns, hence the reduction in shop income.

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.3.21 Total funds	31.3.20 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Investment Income	<u>7,809</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,809</u>	<u>7,218</u>

31.03.20 - £7,218 Unrestricted, £Nil Restricted

5. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Landscapes	Queenswood site	Engagement	31.3.21 Total activities	31.3.20 Total activities
	£	£	£	£	£
Project grants and sponsorship	412,906	47,154	321,095	781,155	602,373
Queenswood site income	<u>400</u>	<u>181,146</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>181,546</u>	<u>168,181</u>
	<u>413,306</u>	<u>228,300</u>	<u>321,095</u>	<u>962,701</u>	<u>770,554</u>

During the year the Trust received grant funding of £188k from the Heritage Lottery Covid emergency fund to support Covid safety measures, our transition to home based working and essential catch up work on the Trust's Nature Reserves.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

6. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
Staff costs	42,216	-	42,216	65,351
Travel and volunteer expenses	-	-	-	717
Fundraising, marketing and appeal costs	42,151	9,457	51,608	48,702
Support costs	<u>36,220</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>36,341</u>	<u>44,561</u>
	<u>120,587</u>	<u>9,578</u>	<u>130,165</u>	<u>159,331</u>

Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
Purchases	14,626	-	14,626	45,712
Staff costs	23,461	-	23,461	48,874
Ledbury shop expenses	21,007	-	21,007	26,070
Queenswood shop expenses	2,915	-	2,915	3,161
Support costs	<u>13,647</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,647</u>	<u>25,878</u>
	<u>75,656</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>75,656</u>	<u>149,695</u>

Investment management costs

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.21 Total funds £	31.3.20 Total funds £
Investment management costs	<u>947</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>947</u>	<u>1,306</u>
Aggregate amounts	<u>197,190</u>	<u>9,578</u>	<u>206,768</u>	<u>310,332</u>

31.03.20 - £299,859 Unrestricted, £10,473 Restricted

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 8) £	Totals £
Landscapes	454,716	121,607	576,323
Queenswood site	181,863	12,581	194,444
Engagement	<u>316,517</u>	<u>47,455</u>	<u>363,972</u>
	<u>953,096</u>	<u>181,643</u>	<u>1,134,739</u>

8. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management £
Raising donations and legacies	36,341
Other trading activities	13,647
Landscapes	121,607
Queenswood site	12,581
Engagement	<u>47,455</u>
	<u>231,631</u>

	Raising Funds £	Charitable Activities £	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Staff wages costs	26,966	101,493	128,459	145,015
Office and other costs	22,341	77,589	99,930	116,852
Governance, legal and prof.	<u>680</u>	<u>2,562</u>	<u>3,242</u>	<u>9,700</u>
	<u>49,987</u>	<u>181,644</u>	<u>231,631</u>	<u>271,567</u>

Support costs are allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the resources used.

9. NET (INCOME)/EXPENDITURE

Net (income)/expenditure is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
Depreciation - owned assets	47,576	47,929
Surplus on disposal of fixed assets	(1,500)	(153,846)
Auditors - audit fee	8,440	9,990
Pension charge	26,368	26,876
Operating leases	14,830	16,605
Gains/(losses) on investments	<u>61,621</u>	<u>(40,408)</u>

The value of the Trust's investment portfolio at 31 March 2020 was severely affected by the impact of the Covid pandemic on broader stock and bond markets, which fell significantly on 23 March 2020.

The year ended 31 March 2021 has shown that unrealised losses have been recouped and a gain has been recognised.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

Trustees received no remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2021 nor for the year ended 31 March 2020.

Trustees' expenses

During the year one Trustee (2020: one) was reimbursed for expenses totalling £112 (2020: £804).

A Trustee was also paid £Nil (2020: £1,174) for acting on behalf of HWT in meetings regarding the Wilder Youth Forum.

11. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Wages and salaries	545,074	562,571
Social security costs	40,647	40,789
Other pension costs	<u>26,368</u>	<u>26,876</u>
	<u><u>612,089</u></u>	<u><u>630,236</u></u>

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension costs represents contributions payable by the charitable company and amounted to £26,368 (2020: £26,876).

The key management personnel of the Trust, comprise the Chief Executive, Estates Senior Manager (resigned 01/02/2021 not replaced during the year), Conservation Senior Manager and Finance Manager. The total amount of employee benefits of the key management personnel of the trust were £162,359 (2020: £167,458).

Average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.3.21	31.3.20
Average Employees	<u>40</u>	<u>36</u>

Staff numbers increased over the duration of the NHLF Emergency grants due to staff recruited to catch up on lost delivery.

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE CHARITY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	227,506	91,838	319,344
Charitable activities			
Landscapes	118,033	296,318	414,351
Queenswood site	171,093	47,376	218,469
Engagement	12,389	125,345	137,734
Other trading activities	132,346	561	132,907
Investment income	7,218	-	7,218
Other income	<u>742</u>	<u>154,762</u>	<u>155,504</u>
Total	669,327	716,200	1,385,527

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE CHARITY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	299,859	10,473	310,332
Charitable activities			
Landscapes	152,892	499,996	652,888
Queenswood site	239,393	72,755	312,148
Engagement	<u>95,229</u>	<u>60,885</u>	<u>156,114</u>
Total	787,373	644,109	1,431,482
Net gains/(losses) on investments	<u>(40,408)</u>	-	<u>(40,408)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(158,454)	72,091	(86,363)
Transfers between funds	<u>37,594</u>	<u>(37,594)</u>	-
Net movement in funds	(120,860)	34,497	(86,363)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	<u>433,778</u>	<u>3,320,686</u>	<u>3,754,464</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>312,918</u></u>	<u><u>3,355,183</u></u>	<u><u>3,668,101</u></u>

The above relates to the year ended 31 March 2020

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Short leasehold £	Long leasehold £	Improvement to property £
COST				
At 1 April 2020	1,738,380	4,750	851,992	375,957
Additions	321,691	-	-	-
Disposals	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,060,071</u>	<u>4,750</u>	<u>851,992</u>	<u>375,957</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 April 2020	-	4,750	68,160	-
Charge for year	-	-	17,040	-
Eliminated on disposal	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>4,750</u>	<u>85,200</u>	<u>-</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 March 2021	<u>2,060,071</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>766,792</u>	<u>375,957</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>1,738,380</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>783,832</u>	<u>375,957</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS - continued

	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST					
At 1 April 2020	87,670	61,717	93,882	52,903	3,267,251
Additions	-	-	-	-	321,691
Disposals	-	-	(9,392)	-	(9,392)
At 31 March 2021	<u>87,670</u>	<u>61,717</u>	<u>84,490</u>	<u>52,903</u>	<u>3,579,550</u>
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 April 2020	58,932	26,759	68,185	52,319	279,105
Charge for year	7,262	11,802	11,154	318	47,576
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	(9,392)	-	(9,392)
At 31 March 2021	<u>66,194</u>	<u>38,561</u>	<u>69,947</u>	<u>52,637</u>	<u>317,289</u>
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 March 2021	<u>21,476</u>	<u>23,156</u>	<u>14,543</u>	<u>266</u>	<u>3,262,261</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>28,738</u>	<u>34,958</u>	<u>25,697</u>	<u>584</u>	<u>2,988,146</u>

In 2016, Herefordshire Wildlife Trust entered into partnership with New Leaf to accept the lease of Queenswood Country Park and Bodenham Lake as an asset transfer from Herefordshire Council. 50% of the insurance value of the lease is included within our tangible fixed assets, depreciated at 2% annually.

14. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Shares in group undertakings £	Listed investments £	Totals £
MARKET VALUE			
At 1 April 2020	155	190,738	190,893
Additions	-	33,012	33,012
Disposals	(100)	(28,602)	(28,702)
Revaluations	-	56,007	56,007
At 31 March 2021	<u>55</u>	<u>251,155</u>	<u>251,210</u>
NET BOOK VALUE			
At 31 March 2021	<u>55</u>	<u>251,155</u>	<u>251,210</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>155</u>	<u>190,738</u>	<u>190,893</u>

The listed investments comprise fixed and variable interest rates stocks and UK and international unit and investment trust holdings listed on the UK Stock Exchange.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

14. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS - continued

Listed investments	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
UK Fixed interest securities	39,199	38,135
UK Equities and equity funds	71,336	49,912
Overseas equity funds	<u>140,620</u>	<u>102,691</u>
	<u>251,155</u>	<u>190,738</u>

The investment figure in the Balance Sheet also includes £Nil (2020: £100) which is the nominal value of the shares held in its wholly owned subsidiary Orchard Origins C.I.C (Co No 09355762). There are no fixed asset investments held within Orchard Origins C.I.C balance sheet. Orchard Origins C.I.C has been dormant since January 2018 and was dissolved on 6th October 2020.

The investment figure in the Company Sheet also includes £55 (2020: £55) which is the nominal value of the shares held in Queenswood and Bodenham Lake C.I.C (Co No 10226868). Queenswood and Bodenham Lake C.I.C has remained dormant since incorporation.

Cost or valuation at 31 March 2021 is represented by:

	Shares in group undertakings £	Listed investments £	Totals £
Valuation in 2021	-	251,155	251,155
Cost	<u>55</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55</u>
	<u>55</u>	<u>251,155</u>	<u>251,210</u>

The company's investments at the balance sheet date in the share capital of companies include the following:

Orchard Origins C.I.C

Registered office:

Nature of business: Conserve and manage orchards

Class of share: %
 holding
 Ordinary 100

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Aggregate capital and reserves	-	100

Queenswood and Bodenham Lake C.I.C

Registered office:

Nature of business: Conservation

Class of share: %
 holding
 Ordinary 55

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Aggregate capital and reserves	55	55

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

15. STOCKS

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Finished goods	<u>18,735</u>	<u>22,940</u>

16. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Trade debtors	51,303	32,356
Other debtors	20,398	15,226
Accrued income	85,000	-
Prepayments	<u>5,151</u>	<u>14,260</u>
	<u>161,852</u>	<u>61,842</u>

Accrued income reflects the value of the restricted land at The Goggin which is in the process of being transferred to us.

17. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Trade creditors	21,629	29,769
Social security and other taxes	274	10,479
VAT	5,464	2,644
Other creditors	1,500	1,098
Deferred income	5,000	5,000
Accrued expenses	<u>934</u>	<u>2,413</u>
	<u>34,801</u>	<u>51,403</u>

Deferred income

	31.3.21
	£
At 1 April 2020	5,000
Resources deferred in the year	-
Amounts released from previous year	<u>-</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>5,000</u>

Deferred income for the year ended 31 March 2021 and 31 March 2020 relates to grant funding.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

18. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Other loans (see note 19)	<u>34,142</u>	<u>-</u>

19. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Amounts falling between two and five years:		
Other loans - 2-5 years	<u>34,142</u>	<u>-</u>

The long term loan is from The Wildlife Trusts Emergency Fund, the deadline for repayment is June 2023. No repayments are required before this date, however the trust plan to repay the loan before its maturity.

20. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Within one year	14,091	15,121
Between one and five years	<u>8,857</u>	<u>22,948</u>
	<u>22,948</u>	<u>38,069</u>

21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.20	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.21
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	307,919	185,217	(32,468)	460,668
Designated Funds	<u>5,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>
	312,919	185,217	(32,468)	465,668
Restricted funds				
Restricted	3,355,182	382,459	32,468	3,770,109
	<u>3,668,101</u>	<u>567,676</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,235,777</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	548,093	(424,497)	61,621	185,217
Restricted funds				
Restricted	1,299,469	(917,010)	-	382,459
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,847,562</u>	<u>(1,341,507)</u>	<u>61,621</u>	<u>567,676</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds for the year ended 31 March 2020

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.20 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	428,778	(158,453)	37,594	307,919
Designated Funds	<u>5,000</u>	-	-	<u>5,000</u>
Restricted funds				
Restricted	433,778	(158,453)	37,594	312,919
Restricted	3,320,686	72,090	(37,594)	3,355,182
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>3,754,464</u>	<u>(86,363)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,668,101</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	669,327	(787,372)	(40,408)	(158,453)
Restricted funds				
Restricted	716,200	(644,110)	-	72,090
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>1,385,527</u>	<u>(1,431,482)</u>	<u>(40,408)</u>	<u>(86,363)</u>

The Herefordshire Wildlife Trust Ltd
Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Restricted Funds	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Gains / Losses and transfers	Closing Balance
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Core	21,645	-	(6,152)	-	15,493
Marketing	2,236	-	(462)	-	1,774
Nature Reserves (b)	1,747,015	90,000	(2,498)	231,692	2,066,209
Orchard Origins	2,319	-	(550)	-	1,769
Play Rangers Office	4,148	-	(1,605)	-	2,543
Queenswood	35,230	-	(8,598)	-	26,632
QW shop	1,756	-	(524)	-	1,232
Queenswood and Bodenham lake	783,832	-	(17,040)	-	766,792
Tretawdy farm	375,957	-	-	-	375,957
Welcome to our future	5,523	-	(5,523)	-	-
Wildplay	2,236	-	(462)	-	1,774
	<u>2,981,897</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>(43,414)</u>	<u>231,692</u>	<u>3,260,175</u>
Net Current Assets					
Building Better Opportunities	(5,730)	15,749	(17,667)	-	(7,648)
Carbon Reduction Fund	-	10,000	(6,425)	-	3,575
Children in Need	5,332	3,847	(12,539)	-	(3,360)
Delivering the Nutrient Management Plan	(110,226)	49,600	(90,609)	7,749	(143,486)
Gillian Bulmer	(113)	-	-	113	-
HCDT - Dist of funds	14,292	15,510	(3,403)	(15,300)	11,099
HWT Emergency Fund	-	147,400	(176,071)	28,622	(49)
Ice Age Ponds	(7,313)	59,334	(84,632)	-	(32,611)
LEMUR Bursary Scheme	1,915	-	-	-	1,915
Lower House Farm (a)	58,706	-	(10,712)	-	47,994
Lugg Living Landscapes Projects (d)	38,726	24,512	(28,933)	-	34,305
Mgmt and Upkeep of Nature Reserves	279,966	140,503	(84,823)	(87,443)	248,203
Nature Nurture Nourish	-	154,071	(82,560)	-	71,511
Oak Tree Farm	(977)	196,677	(34,047)	(151,791)	9,862
Project Green Child	190	-	(190)	-	-
Queenswood reserve	(21,580)	274,178	(176,479)	(21,740)	54,379
Queenswood Engagement	500	700	(330)	-	870
Queenswood Heritage Gateway	(29,741)	-	-	29,741	-
QW Pollinators	3,840	(80)	-	27	3,787
The Goggin	-	85,000	-	-	85,000
Thrive - employee wellbeing	2,315	-	(120)	-	2,195
Tretawdy Reserve	82,270	10,818	(21,395)	-	71,693
Wetland Vision / Lugg Wetland Gem (c)	34,744	3,488	(8,757)	(5,719)	23,756
Wildplay Rangers	29,620	2,400	(18,400)	8,320	21,940
Yazor Brook Project	(7,708)	14,913	(15,377)	8,196	24
Yazor Brook Extension	4,257	-	-	-	4,257
30 x 30 - General Fund	-	849	(126)	-	723
	<u>373,285</u>	<u>1,209,469</u>	<u>(873,595)</u>	<u>(199,225)</u>	<u>509,934</u>
Total Restricted Funds	<u>3,355,182</u>	<u>1,299,469</u>	<u>(917,009)</u>	<u>32,467</u>	<u>3,770,109</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

	Opening Balance	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Gains / Losses and Transfers	Closing Balance
Fixed assets	6,247	-	(4,161)	-	2,086
Current assets	<u>301,672</u>	<u>548,093</u>	<u>(420,337)</u>	<u>29,154</u>	<u>458,582</u>
Total Unrestricted Funds	<u>307,919</u>	<u>548,093</u>	<u>(424,498)</u>	<u>29,154</u>	<u>460,668</u>
Designated					
Bird donation	<u>5,000</u>	-	-	-	<u>5,000</u>
	<u>5,000</u>	-	-	-	<u>5,000</u>
Unrestricted and Designated Funds	<u>312,919</u>	<u>548,093</u>	<u>(424,497)</u>	<u>29,154</u>	<u>465,668</u>
Total Funds Charity	<u>3,668,101</u>	<u>1,847,562</u>	<u>(1,341,507)</u>	<u>61,621</u>	<u>4,235,777</u>

(a) The Lower House Farm funds were obtained specifically to purchase and repair the farmhouse for use as a headquarters office and to purchase and manage the adjacent nature reserve land. During 2019/20 the Trust relocated Headquarters and subsequently Lower House Farmhouse was sold, retaining the adjacent reserve. Of the sale proceeds, £170,000 was restricted for the purpose establishing a new headquarters and managing the nature reserve.

(b) The Nature Reserve Fund represents all the Nature Reserves owned by the Trust. If Reserves obtained by means of specific grants were disposed of in the future then it may be necessary to repay the original grant to the donor.

(c) The Wetland Vision Project is the development and creation of wetland habitat in Herefordshire.

(d) The Lugg Living Landscapes projects aim to reduce phosphate and sediment pollution as well as creating connected habitats for wildlife to travel through. Funding has been received from the Environment Agency, Natural England and the Wye and Usk Foundation via DEFRA for river restoration works and soil management advice.

21. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Transfers between funds

During the year a transfer of £231,692 has been made between restricted current asset funds and restricted fixed asset funds to account for the purchase of new reserves in the year. In addition, a transfer from unrestricted funds to restricted current asset fund of £32,468 has been made to accounts for movements in various projects.

22. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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, included within Charitable Expenditure, amounting to £12,390 (2020: £13,050). The Trust also purchased publications and other sundries from the RSWT amounting to £25,020 (2020: £14,287). The trust made sales to RSWT of £3,264 (2020: £2,158) and received grant income of £23,733. At the year end there was a balance of £Nil (2020: £491) due to RSWT.

During the year the charity received a Covid Emergency Support loan of £34,142, at the year end the whole amount of the loan was outstanding.

During the year Trustee M Williams was paid £Nil (2020: £1,174) for initiating and facilitating the Youth Forum in delivery of the Sustainable Development Fund grant from RSWT. No amounts were outstanding at the year-end.

23. ULTIMATE CONTROLLING PARTY

The charity is jointly controlled by the Trustees.

24. SCHEDULE OF NATURE RESERVES

	Hectares
The Birches	24.3
Bodenham Lake	44.5
Brilley Green Dingle	4.7
Canon Tump Common	1.1
Cethins Meadow	2.2
Christopher Cadbury	4.9
Clay Vallet Wood	3.4.
Clifford Common	3.4
Common Hill	1.6
Coughton Marsh	1.2
Court Wood	2.4
Crow Wood & Meadow	9.4
Davies Meadow	8.3
Ernle Gilbert Meadow	1.9
Hampton Meadow	24.5
Hampton Park Road	0.8
Holywell Dingle	3.6
King Arthur's Cave	1.5
Lea & Pagets Wood	8.9
Leeping Stocks	8.1
Little Marises	2.0
Littley Coppice	3.3
Lord's Wood Quarry	1.3
Lower House Farm	16.0
Lugg Meadows	62.8
Merrivale Wood	5.1
Miners Rest	3.1
Motlins Hole	6.0
Nupend Wood	4.9
Oak Tree Farm	12.6
Pages Pasture	3.3
Parish Field	0.9
The Parks	8.3
Parky Meadow	8.8
Pool Ellocks	0.4
Quebb Corner Meadow	1.4
Queenswood Country Park	68.8
Romers Wood	12.2
Rookhill Coppice	0.5
Stockings Meadow	4.0
The Sturts	42.5
Titley Pool	9.9
Tretawdy	11.0
Upper Swingley Wood	0.8
Upper Welson Marsh	0.8
Wern Wood	0.8
Wessington Pasture	11.3
White Rocks	0.9
Woodside	6.2
Wyevale Wood	4.1
	474.7

The Herefordshire Wildlife Trust Ltd

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	31.3.21 £	31.3.20 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	320,150	38,091
Gift aid	58,797	37,852
Legacies	108,148	91,368
Grants	165,854	-
Membership	<u>159,542</u>	<u>152,033</u>
	812,491	319,344
Other trading activities		
Fundraising	1,505	10,820
Shop sales	39,567	105,483
Other sales – incl. consultancy and orchard related income	<u>19,269</u>	<u>16,604</u>
	60,341	132,907
Investment income		
Investment Income	7,809	7,218
Charitable activities		
Project grants and sponsorship	781,155	602,373
Queenswood site income	<u>181,546</u>	<u>168,181</u>
	962,701	770,554
Other income		
Gain on sale of tangible fixed assets	1,500	153,846
Other Income	<u>2,720</u>	<u>1,658</u>
	<u>4,220</u>	<u>155,504</u>
Total incoming resources	1,847,562	1,385,527
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Wages	38,524	56,363
Social security	1,984	4,938
Pensions	1,708	4,050
Travel and volunteer expenses	-	717
Fundraising, marketing and appeal costs	<u>51,608</u>	<u>48,702</u>
	93,824	114,770
Other trading activities		
Shop purchases	14,263	40,565
Orchard Origins costs	363	5,147
Wages	21,670	44,110
Carried forward	36,296	89,822

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

The Herefordshire Wildlife Trust Ltd

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Other trading activities		
Brought forward	36,296	89,822
Social security	1,009	2,799
Pensions	782	1,965
Ledbury shop expenses	21,007	26,070
Queenswood shop expenses	<u>2,915</u>	<u>3,161</u>
	62,009	123,817
Investment management costs		
Investment management costs	947	1,306
Charitable activities		
Wages	375,357	333,748
Social security	25,167	22,885
Pensions	17,428	14,363
Travel	5,540	10,153
Office costs	111,789	93,034
Training and Education	4,428	8,635
Repairs, maintenance and hire	17,635	55,824
Sundry	55,616	43,556
Legal and professional fees	16,092	5,349
Queenswoods land management	35,710	28,541
Reserves land management costs	181,945	174,308
Project Based Consultancy	61,115	76,468
New Leaf Consultancy	9,364	16,808
Long leasehold	17,040	17,040
Plant and machinery	6,909	7,349
Fixtures and fittings	11,802	11,802
Computer equipment	<u>159</u>	<u>159</u>
	953,096	920,022
Support costs		
Management		
Wages	109,523	128,350
Social security	12,487	10,167
Pensions	6,450	6,498
Office costs	76,207	86,438
Training and Education	321	2,884
Repairs, maintenance and hire	11,603	892
Travel	132	15,056
Legal and professional	3,242	9,700
Plant and machinery	353	1,181
Motor vehicles	11,154	7,870
Computer equipment	<u>159</u>	<u>2,531</u>
	<u>231,631</u>	<u>271,567</u>
Total resources expended	<u>1,341,507</u>	<u>1,431,482</u>
Net income/(expenditure) before gains and losses	506,055	(45,955)

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The Herefordshire Wildlife Trust Ltd

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

	31.3.21	31.3.20
	£	£
Realised recognised gains and losses		
Realised gains/(losses) on fixed asset investments	<u>5,614</u>	<u>7,163</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	<u><u>511,669</u></u>	<u><u>(38,792)</u></u>

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