



Sussex
Wildlife Trust

Trustees' Report & Annual Accounts

2019-20



Reference and Administrative Details

Charity name: Sussex Wildlife Trust

Charity number: 207005

Company number: 698851

Registered and Principal Office Address:

Woods Mill, Henfield, West Sussex, BN5 9SD

Auditor:

RSM UK Audit LLP, Portland, 25 High Street, Crawley,
West Sussex RH10 1BG

A resolution to appoint auditors to the charitable
company will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

Bank:

Barclays PLC, The Old Bank, High Street,
Lewes, East Sussex, BN7 2JP

Directors and Trustees:

The Directors of the charitable company (the Charity) are
its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and throughout
this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

The elected Trustees serving during the year and since the
year end were as follows:

Dr Sean Ashworth *Chair of Council*

Linda Clark *Honorary Treasurer*

Simon Linington *Honorary Secretary*

Sarah Bonnot-Tijhaar

Mike King *Chair of Public Engagement Committee*

Emma Montlake

Nitin Pasricha (*appointed 7 May 2019*)

Dr Alan Stewart *Chair of Conservation Committee*

President:

Dr Tony Whitbread

Vice Presidents:

Robin Crane CBE

Dr Lisbet Rausing

David Streeter MBE

Senior Management Team:

Tor Lawrence *Chief Executive Officer*

Steve Aldridge *Director – Finance*

Henri Brocklebank *Director – Conservation Policy
and Evidence*

Pete Crawford *Director – Learning and Engagement
(up to 8 March 2020)*

Emma Forward *Director of Operations (from 1 July 2020)*

Caroline Pearce *Director – Fundraising and Communications*

Dan Ross *Director – Land Management*

Chairman's Report

As I write this retrospective review of 2019 to 2020, I, like so many of us, sit at home in lockdown. The Covid-19 pandemic has affected us all and for many it has been a terribly difficult time. One shining light to emerge from this situation has been a growing appreciation of the wildlife around us.

People have reflected and reframed their priorities, and for many that has meant a deeper and more profound appreciation of the natural world. We are proud to have played our part in protecting the wildlife of Sussex for all to enjoy.

Over the past year we have managed our downland, woodland, heathland and coastal reserves so that wildlife thrives on them. We have carried out ecological surveys and meticulously recorded wildlife observations so that our management is the best it can be, and our evidence is second to none.

In the heady days of life before lockdown, we saw thousands of visitors enjoying many of our best-loved nature reserves, taking home with them memories of great wildlife experiences. Our staff and volunteers have engaged with thousands of young people and adults alike, inspiring this generation and the next to understand Sussex's wildlife. We have ushered in the designation of new Sussex Marine Conservation Zones, run beach cleans and led diver surveys of our marine habitats. Our influence has helped shape local developments and national policies alike. And, last but not least, we have seen the near-completion of the Rye Harbour Discovery Centre that will be open for visitors in the coming year.

With all this in mind, I am pleased to present the Annual Report for the year beginning 1 April 2019 and ending 31 March 2020.

Dr Sean Ashworth
Chair

Dr Sean Ashworth © Miles Davies





Swallow feeding young © Alan Price

Objectives and Activities

Sussex Wildlife Trust's (SWT's) objects, as detailed in our Articles of Association (2018), are:

- i) To conserve the Sussex land, seascape, wildlife and habitats for the public benefit
- ii) To survey, monitor, record and study, for the benefit of the public, sites, areas and habitats of botanical, zoological and geological or other scientific interest or of natural beauty or of landscape value, to protect them from ill treatment, degradation or destruction and to improve their quality
- iii) To establish, promote, maintain and manage wildlife sanctuaries or nature reserves or marine conservation areas for the conservation of flora, fauna and features of geological interest and so far as it is compatible with this Object, permit public access to them
- iv) To encourage the breeding of flora and fauna which are interesting or threatened

- v) To promote, study and research for the advancement of knowledge in the natural sciences and biodiversity and to publish the results of that research
- vi) To educate and encourage the public in an understanding of the natural history and wildlife of Sussex
- vii) To promote good practice in furtherance of sustainable development and biodiversity

With regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, the Trustees believe that the provision of such benefit is an integral part of each of the charitable objectives.

These objectives have been incorporated into the SWT mission statement: **to conserve and enhance the Sussex landscape, its wildlife and habitats and to use our knowledge and expertise to encourage people to enjoy, understand and take action to safeguard our natural heritage for future generations.**

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual Trustees' Report together with the consolidated financial statements of the Charity for the year ending 31 March 2020. These are also prepared with the purpose of meeting the legal requirements for a trustees' report and accounts in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006, the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 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).

Structure, Governance and Management

Governing document

The Sussex Wildlife Trust is a company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act and is governed by its Articles of Association adopted on 10 November 2018.

Organisation

The Sussex Wildlife Trust is governed by its Council, which is responsible for setting policies, ensuring legality and good practice in accordance with the Articles of Association of SWT and the Companies Act 2006. The routine management of SWT is undertaken by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) under delegated powers.

Recruitment and appointment of Trustees

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Trustees are elected by the Membership at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). At each AGM one third of the Directors must retire by rotation, with those who have been longest in office since their last appointment retiring first. Directors can offer themselves for re-election but no Director shall serve for a period of more than nine consecutive years. On the expiration of such a period and the retirement of the relevant Director, a further year must lapse before that person shall be eligible for re-election to the Council. Nominations for new Trustees are considered each year prior to the AGM and are put forward for election at the AGM. When considering co-opting Trustees, the SWT Council has regard to the requirement for any specialist skills needed.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees undergo an induction programme, during which they meet the Senior Management Team (SMT) and other employees and gain an understanding of their

legal obligations with regards to charity and company law, the Articles of Association and the structure of the committee system. They are advised of appropriate Trustee training courses and are encouraged to attend.

Trustee review and evaluation

During the year we undertook a review of our governance mechanisms. Following this we have put specialised governance training and a long-term action plan in place.

Remuneration of Senior Management Team

Trustees delegate the management of SWT to the CEO. The CEO heads a Senior Management Team that includes five operational directors. These are considered to be SWT's key management personnel. Remuneration for the SMT is reviewed annually and includes a benchmark review of all 46 Wildlife Trusts and where available other similar sized charities operating in the South East managing similar levels of operational complexity.

The Wildlife Trusts partnership

SWT is a member of The Wildlife Trusts Partnership (registered as the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts, registered charity number 207238) which acts as an umbrella body carrying out lobbying and public relations on behalf of all Wildlife Trusts. SWT has the use of The Wildlife Trusts logo and benefits from the resources, best practice and speciality experience of other member Trusts. Membership gives us a national voice and profile, as well as being known by association for those unfamiliar with our particular work. However, each member of the partnership remains entirely independent in terms of governance and operations.

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

A coherent ecological network

In September the Help Our Kelp campaign was launched, spearheaded by a wonderful film produced by Big Wave Productions and narrated by Sir David Attenborough, championing the restoration of the Sussex kelp forests. This is the start of a thrilling marine journey that will see 304 square kilometres of Sussex inshore seabed protected from the impacts of trawling, and natural regeneration of marine habitats enabled, once the new Sussex byelaw is signed.

Ecological highlights across our reserves include:

- Another 43 species have been recorded within the reserve network, taking the total up to 10,386
- Major restoration works have been carried out at Burton and Chingford Ponds Local Nature Reserve:
 - Restoring Black Hole Bog to improve habitat for dragonflies and create open water for Bog Bean, Bog Pondweed and Cranberry
 - Restoring heath and acid grassland at Welch's Common for the site's important population of Field Cricket as part of the national Species Recovery Programme for species on the brink of extinction
 - Clearing of trees and creation of scrapes at New Piece to restore it to wooded heath, with expansion of Field Cricket habitat
- Nine years after the start of the project to restore Graffham Common to wooded heath, Dartford Warblers have been confirmed breeding on the western side. They join the other three key heathland species: Nightjar, Woodlark and Tree Pipit. Their presence demonstrates the reserve's importance as a link along the Greensand Ridge, almost connecting Ambersham and Lavington Commons
- Dartford Warbler was also recorded from bramble scrub at Butcherlands for the second year running, although further visits are needed to determine whether they are breeding
- At Rye Harbour Nature Reserve, 20 rare Sussex Emerald moths were recorded, indicating that they are now breeding in Sussex; the Common Buzzard was added as the reserve's 100th breeding bird species; and more than 30,000 Stinking Hawksbeard plants were recorded – a species formerly declared extinct in Britain
- At Woods Mill, a Nightingale was heard singing for the first time since 2018, although it didn't establish a territory. Turtle Doves returned to the reserve and there were at least two Cetti's Warbler territories

- Great Crested Newt was confirmed present at Southerham Farm for the first time in the restored dew pond, which provides habitat for five amphibian species
- Surveys at Malling Down recorded the expansion of orchids and the first Musk Orchids for several years
- Hope Gap at Seaford Head Local Nature Reserve was grazed successfully for the first time in many years, helping open up space to maintain open glades and rides
- Large patches of Dyer's Greenweed were present in three of the four meadow compartments at Marline Valley, on which the new-to-Britain Trapezium Shieldbug was recorded
- At Iping and Stedham Commons, we concluded the capital works under the Countryside Stewardship Scheme. The Marsh Club-moss was still thriving and work continued on building the sites' resilience to wildfires

Volunteer support is fundamental to the management of our nature reserves, and an impressive 18,822 volunteer hours helped maintain these sites throughout the year.

However, work on our nature reserves also faced several significant challenges, including the national spread of Ash Dieback. This has had a big impact in Sussex and tree safety was addressed as a priority, most noticeably in felling the secondary Ash-woodland on the Ditchling Beacon scarp. This required a temporary road closure and resulted in dramatic landscape change. Critical Ash work will continue in coming years.

Meanwhile, as we prepared for lambing at Southerham Farm, the barn and offices were severely flooded in early spring. Despite these challenges, the management and surveying of reserves continued through the year, culminating in the unprecedented situation caused by Covid-19. Despite the pandemic, essential work continued on our reserves, including tending our grazing livestock.

Beyond our nature reserves, the focus has been on policy change and influence, both on the ground and at a strategic level.

We continued our focus on securing systems for the protection of more than 600 Local Wildlife Sites, also working with Local Authorities to ensure their local plans contribute to nature's recovery. We led a number of high profile campaigns including fighting the destructive proposals for an Arundel A27 bypass through ancient woodland and lobbying Brighton and Hove City Council for better consideration of biodiversity on their public downland estate.



School Outreach © Miles Davies

We provided land management advice on more than 20,000 acres, with a focus on the role of natural solutions to flooding and drought. We worked closely with the Knepp Estate and were delighted when a licence to reintroduce Eurasian Beaver was agreed by Defra.

At a strategic level, we developed Sussex plans for investment in nature and a new Nature Recovery Network through the Sussex Local Nature Partnership. This work has embedded the role of the natural world in the plans of our Local Enterprise Partnerships.

People inspired by, connected to and valuing nature

We have responded to the desire for a connection with nature in a number of ways. Our education centres at Rye Harbour Nature Reserve, Seven Sisters and Woods Mill hosted memorable field trips that enabled learners, from the youngest primary children to undergraduates, to access our varied and rich habitats.

The popularity of our outreach approach to schools engagement continues to increase as SWT officers work

closely with schools, helping their children discover the wildlife around them in school grounds, local nature reserves or at the beach. Our training offer has helped extend SWT's reach into whole school communities, with Forest School, Wild Beach and school grounds INSET training giving school staff the tools to facilitate a process of repeat engagement, outside in nature. This helps develop a deep and meaningful connection with wildlife and love of the outdoors, with all its potential for improved wellbeing.

The Seaford Community Wildlife project, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, demonstrated how a mixture of training, repeat engagement with schools, courses, walks, talks and volunteer support brought people together across a community to really appreciate their local nature reserve, the coastline and wonderful public spaces like school grounds and parks. Success with the Wild Coast Sussex bid (also supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund) demonstrates our position as the lead conservation body in Sussex and our ability to pull together innovative approaches to engagement that will inspire a varied and often hard-to-reach audience.

Our Adult Education programme remained very popular with 831 people gaining a deeper knowledge of topics ranging from butterflies, badgers and birds to making dyes from plants and hedge-laying. Throughout the year, we led a busy programme of public wildlife walks at SWT reserves across the county. All wildlife walks, talks and events were well attended and in many cases additional events had to be organised to satisfy demand.

The Gatwick Greenspace Partnership has created a pioneering system for two local schools to use Gatwick Airport land to teach their own Forest School programmes, with SWT support. The Wild Side of the Track project, supported by the ScottishPower Foundation, has worked with urban local community groups and schools in Brighton totalling more than 3,500 individuals over the year. The project has allowed access and supported improvements to the Deneway Nature Reserve for outdoor learning as well as wildlife habitat improvement. School and community projects will continue to use the site independently after the project comes to an end.

A leading wildlife organisation in Sussex

We continue to develop our relationship with businesses in Sussex through our partnership schemes and corporate volunteering days, helping organisations to demonstrate their support for the natural environment. Our business membership saw an 11.5% increase in members and a 7.3% increase in income during the year.

The Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre now has over seven million records, providing an excellent evidence base for local planning authorities, land managers,



Volunteers © Alia Halstead

consultants, local recording groups and individuals interested in the wildlife in their local area.

We lead on a number of partnerships delivering projects throughout the county, including the Gatwick Greenspace Partnership, the Sussex Flow Initiative, Wild Coast Sussex and the Help our Kelp partnership. We are also members of the Local Nature Partnership, the Heritage Coast Partnership and the Cuckmere Estuary Partnership. We held a Landscape Innovation Conference in Brighton in partnership with University of Sussex, attended by over 300 delegates. We hosted two partnership events on the theme of 'A Wilder Sussex', one in Shoreham and one in Lewes, with over 100 representatives from a wide variety of stakeholder organisations attending.

Internally, we continue to make organisational improvements and modernise our systems, including the introduction of a new online HR system, Health and Safety procedures and project management systems.

Volunteers

Volunteers are key to all aspects of our work, from practical conservation, habitat creation, education and engagement to events, data entry and advice. We now have more than 500 active volunteers across the county who collectively contributed more than 30,000 hours of volunteering.

During 2019 we recruited volunteers to new flexible roles in ecological surveying, supporting art fairs and expanded our team of livestock looker volunteers. During early 2020, we have improved the walk leader training for our three volunteer-led walking groups at Rye Harbour, Crawley and Brighton and supported our regional groups in Eastbourne and Chichester with talks and guided walks. We have also provided our education and event volunteers with ambassador training to increase their knowledge of SWT's work and customer service principles. This, alongside wildlife identification and firstaid training, has increased the skills of our volunteers, in turn helping the groups that they support.

We have also created more flexible and one-off volunteering roles to diversify our volunteer team and support a wider range of our work. This includes recruitment to existing roles in both Membership and Conservation "Hit Squads" as well as new roles in evaluation for the education team, café volunteers for Woods Mill's pop-up café and expanding the Volunteer Reserve Manager team to include Graffham Common and Gatwick Airport land.

Donated services

We were also pleased to receive generous pro bono support from GWiz Learning Partnership. A record of time has not been retained as such and no value has been reflected within the accounts or Trustees' Report. SWT did not receive any other donated services during the year (2019/20: £0).



Kelp bed © Andy Jackson

Financial Review

Buoyed by a significant increase in restricted charitable activity grant income for the Rye Harbour Discovery Centre project, together with the significant public response to the Rye Harbour Discovery Centre public appeal, SWT had another year of positive financial performance which resulted in net income of £906k for the year.

The year saw another growth in total number of members, driven by our strategic membership target to recruit 3% of the Sussex population. This was also the year where a significant portion of the expenditure on the Rye Harbour Discovery Centre (£2.4m) was made. Despite the investment in this major and important asset for SWT we end the year with in excess of £3m cash.

During the past year, we have benefited from the generosity of our members and Wildlife Guardians who

continue to demonstrate their love of nature and support for SWT with their donations. Special thanks go to all the Charitable Trusts that have supported our work. We are particularly grateful for the legacies left to SWT this year.

Special thanks to the funders of the Rye Harbour Discovery Centre project in this financial year, specifically, but not exclusively, Garfield Weston Foundation, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) via the Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE), and the Friends of Rye Harbour Nature Reserve.

The Trustees feel that SWT is currently in sound financial health.

The impact of the global Covid-19 pandemic on the financial position of the Charity has been considered and no material uncertainties have been noted (page 19).

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have taken a proactive approach to risk during the year. We reviewed and improved our organisational risk register and introduced regular reporting by the CEO to Trustees. We have also ensured a detailed focus on any area which is regarded as high risk.

The Covid-19 situation arose during March 2020 and the Trust mobilised effectively to manage a rapid transition for staff to homeworking. A series of rapid decisions were made by the Covid-19 task group, led by the CEO, to cancel events, consultant contracts and volunteering. Clarification on working practices was updated and provided in line with government guidance. Arrangements were put in place for outdoor working, which prioritised grazing and clarified essential ecological surveying and reserve checks, as well as land management activities required to comply with funding arrangements and any emergency call-outs. Premises were checked regularly. The government's job retention scheme was utilised and a review system set in place for the furloughing and unfurloughing of staff, with support provided by SWT's external HR advisors. A review of the financial impact took place immediately and Trustees were fully briefed throughout.



Surveying © Sam Roberts

We are particularly grateful to our new and existing members who are able to support us at this time. Members provide vital funding that enables our work as well as represent the collective voice of people in Sussex who care about the county's wildlife. This is critically important in helping us stand up for nature and get our message across to key decision-makers.

Examples of areas of risk we work within are:

- Strategic - nature conservation as a reduced priority (for government and funding partners)
- Financial - poor investment returns; insufficient financial reserves; a reduction in membership numbers; failure of funding partners
- Reputational - criticism of SWT management; adverse press comment
- Regulatory - failure to meet legislative and expected standards

Examples of mitigatory work undertaken are:

- Any major construction project has risks attached and we have ensured regular, detailed review of the financial and construction aspects of the Rye Harbour Discovery Centre build
- We have instigated a complete external review of our liabilities relating to SWT's portfolio of land and property, both leased and owned
- We are broadening our approach to tree risk management, building on existing processes to take into account the increasing risk from Ash Dieback to expand our survey effort, establish prioritised action plans, and deliver significant tree safety works on the ground throughout SWT's portfolio
- We appointed a Monitoring and Compliance Officer to ensure compliance with grants
- We have instigated a complete external review of the farm payments SWT receives
- We have reviewed our approach to project management and initiated new systems of oversight
- We have carried out a review with our insurers, to ensure the company asset list is complete
- We have progressed the overhaul of our HR policies and procedures, replacing the Occupational Health provision and Employee Assistance Programme
- We continue to review our approach to conservation grazing and have made further improvements to ensure our operational practices and ambitions are fully aligned.

Financial Performance Highlights

Total income £5.53m (2018/19: £5.68m)

Unrestricted income £2.74m (2018/19: £2.86m)

- Donations and legacies £1.76m (2018/19: £2.01m)
- Legacy income of £296k received during the year
- Charitable activities £876k (2018/19: £748k)

Restricted income £2.49m (2018/19: £2.82m)

- Charitable activities - £1.45m (2018/19: £657k)
- Included in above was £218k (2018/19: £1.11m) of restricted legacy income

Total expenditure £4.63m (2018/19: £3.98m)

Raising funds £1.35m (2018/19: £1.22m)

- Increases in fundraising costs together with interpretation and website development

Charitable activities £3.27m (2018/19: £2.76m)

Membership

We enjoyed another year of membership growth in 2019/20, ending the year with 35,163 individuals in 19,783 households. This represents 2.4% of the population of Sussex, towards our target of 3%. We also put in place new procedures to reduce lapse rates, which are having a positive effect on membership retention.

- Income from membership £1.67m (2018/19: £1.53m)
- Number of members as at 31st March 2020: 35,163 (2018/19: 34,015)
- Membership numbers have increased by 3.4% this year, compared to an 8.2% increase in the previous year.

Designated funds allocation

There has been an increase of £68k, leaving a balance of £757k. Expenditure during the year was primarily on investment in membership promotion, fundraising costs, nature reserves management, and conservation work. Additional fund designations during the year for the Rye Harbour Discovery Centre were £296k.

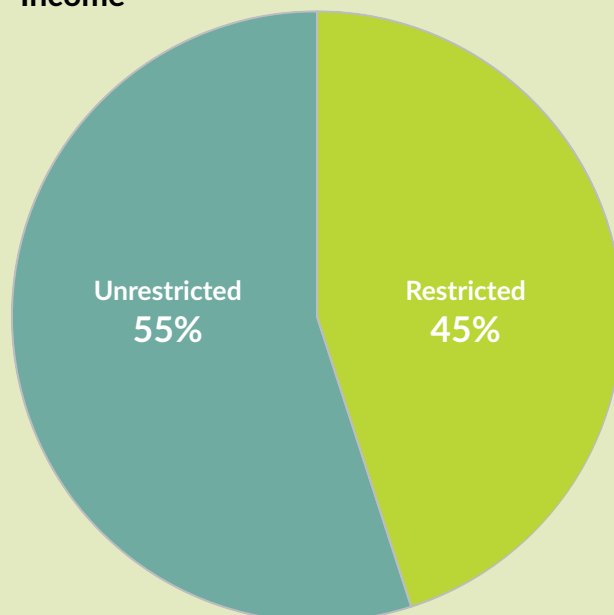
Capital projects

The building of the new Discovery Centre at Rye Harbour Nature Reserve has seen significant progress over the year. A big boost came in October 2019 with the announcement from the National Lottery Heritage Fund that the Trust's application for funding had been successful and that a grant of over £500,000 was awarded. This grant is to deliver the Discover Rye Harbour project and supports various elements including interpretation, evaluation, learning and engagement activities and key staff roles. The Centre Manager was appointed in January 2020 and the main build largely completed in February 2020. Opening is planned for later in 2020.

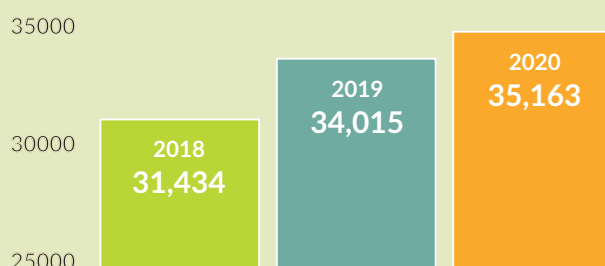
Retained funds £11.36m (2018/19: £10.46m)

Details of all our income can be found on page 16 of the Annual Accounts.

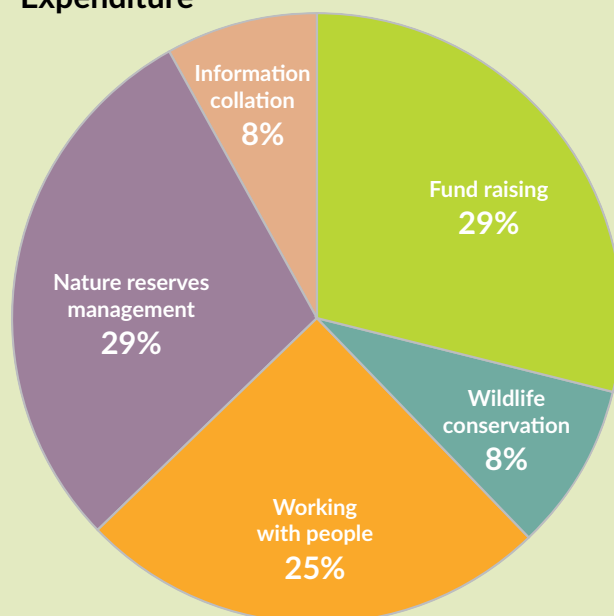
Income



Member numbers



Expenditure



Plans for the future

- We will increase our support to enable individuals, community groups, schools and organisations to champion wildlife and wild places across Sussex
- We will continue to deliver the ecological monitoring strategy throughout SWT's reserves, including vegetation surveys at Filsham Reedbed, breeding bird surveys at both Butcherlands and Woods Mill, and wader surveys at both Pevensy Marshes and Waltham Brooks
- The Rye Harbour Discovery Centre will open in late 2020, subject to Covid-19 restrictions, and we will continue to lead on the Discover Rye Harbour project, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund
- We will continue to advise landowners and practitioners in the creation of resilient landscapes and natural climate solutions
- We will continue to deliver a broad and dynamic programme of habitat and infrastructure management work throughout our nature reserves, helping to ensure that they remain some of the best places for wildlife and for people to engage with nature in Sussex
- We will be reviewing and updating our Vision and Strategy
- We will build on the organisational learning and changes that have come about from the Covid-19 pandemic
- We will lead a range of marine and coastal partners in the Wild Coast Sussex project, funded by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, to bring together communities, local schools and marine specialists to help the Sussex seas
- We will be leading the Wilder Horsham District project
- We will be championing investment in natural capital across all sectors in Sussex. We will be doing this alongside our partners in the Sussex Local Nature Partnership to bring to fruition our ambitious aims for the future
- We will continue to champion the restoration of the Sussex kelp forest
- We will continue to champion natural solutions to climate change, from carbon sequestration to flood mitigation
- We will continue to respond to and influence key processes that impact the Sussex landscape, from development to infrastructure
- We will continue to inspire people through our creative approach to communications, supporting them to develop their connection with nature through events, activities, and both written and digital media. The latter will build upon the new techniques we have developed to reach a wider and more diverse audience through the Covid-19 pandemic

Financial reserves policy

SWT has a financial reserves policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested should be equal to at least four months of resources expended. This is set at £1m. At this level, the Trustees feel that SWT would be able to continue its current activities in the event of a significant drop in funding. At the balance sheet date SWT had total funds of £11.36m of which £4.2m were held as restricted funds. The remaining unrestricted funds of £7.1m include £757k of designated funds and amounts tied up as tangible and heritage assets.

Investment powers and policy

Under the Articles of Association, the Charity has the power to deposit or invest funds. The investment policy is:

- To invest those surplus funds not required for immediate use
- To obtain a reasonable income from those funds, given prevailing market returns
- To invest only as permitted by the investment powers of SWT as set out in the Articles of Association

During the year, SWT has continued to retain the majority of its funds on deposit and the Trustees are of the opinion that this policy has been a prudent one. The Trustees review the investment policy from time to time but, given our ongoing obligations, it has not been felt appropriate to change this approach in the past year.

Professional fundraising practices

SWT uses third party agencies to fundraise on its behalf for specific campaigns. In this financial year this included a third party for recruiting new members to the organisation through private site face-to-face fundraising, and a third party for recruiting new members through telephone fundraising. The charity has agreements in place with its partners to ensure that the legal requirements regulating fundraising practices are adhered to.

Fundraising regulation compliance is regularly reviewed by Council. SWT is an organisational member of the Institute of Fundraising and is registered with the Fundraising Regulator. SWT and its third party agencies comply with the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice and are signed up to its Fundraising Promise. SWT and its third party agencies follow the sector's guidance on protecting vulnerable people. Our Complaints Procedure complies with the requirements of the Fundraising Regulator, and during the financial year we received eight complaints about fundraising activity.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The Trustees (who are also Directors of Sussex Wildlife Trust Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report 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 these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- 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 that disclose, with reasonable accuracy, at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the 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 auditor is unaware
- 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 auditor is aware of that information

The Trustees' Annual Report is approved by order of the Council of Trustees and the Strategic Report included therein is approved by the Council of Trustees in their capacity as Directors at a meeting on 29 July 2020 and signed on their behalf by:

On behalf of the Trustees



Dr Sean Ashworth
Chair
Woods Mill
Henfield
West Sussex
BN5 9SD

Independent Auditor's Report

to the Members of Sussex Wildlife Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Sussex Wildlife Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Cashflow 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, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (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 2020 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 Auditor's 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 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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or

- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report* other than the financial statements and our auditor's report 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report, which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report or the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- 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 set out on page 13 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.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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 an auditor's report 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.

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 auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Zoe Longstaff-Tyrrell (*Senior Statutory Auditor*)

For and on behalf of RSM UK AUDIT LLP,
Statutory Auditor

Portland
25 High Street
Crawley
West Sussex
RH10 1BG

9 September 2020

Statement of Financial Activities

Company Number: 698851

for the Year ended 31 March 2020 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	2020 Total Funds £	2019 Total Funds £
Income from:						
Donations and legacies	2	1,762,039	1,045,368	295,617	3,103,024	4,174,816
Other trading activities	3	89,422	-	-	89,422	84,276
Investments	4	13,294	-	-	13,294	11,408
Charitable activities	5	875,936	1,448,782	-	2,324,718	1,405,343
Other		3,000	-	-	3,000	3,000
Total income		2,743,691	2,494,150	295,617	5,533,458	5,678,843
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	997,525	58,320	297,372	1,353,217	1,218,339
Charitable activities	7	2,340,302	863,560	70,123	3,273,985	2,762,464
Total expenditure		3,337,827	921,880	367,495	4,627,202	3,980,803
Net income/(expenditure)		(594,136)	1,572,270	(71,878)	906,256	1,698,040
Transfers between funds	17	3,200,135	(3,340,135)	140,000	-	-
Net movement in funds		2,605,999	(1,767,865)	68,122	906,256	1,698,040
Reconciliation of funds						
Balances brought forward at 1 April 2019		3,769,342	5,999,456	689,247	10,458,045	8,760,005
Balances carried forward at 31 March 2020		6,375,341	4,231,591	757,369	11,364,301	10,458,045

The notes on pages 19 to 34 form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet

at 31 March 2020

Company Number: 698851

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	3,873,528	1,447,688
Heritage assets	12	3,327,495	3,327,495
Investments	13	100	100
Total fixed assets		7,201,123	4,775,283
Current assets			
Stock		1,503	1,437
Biological assets	14	93,383	75,717
Debtors	15	1,322,977	2,474,822
Cash at bank and in hand		3,149,965	3,532,074
Total current assets		4,567,828	6,084,050
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	404,650	401,288
Net current assets		4,163,178	5,682,762
Total net assets		11,364,301	10,458,045
Funds			
Unrestricted		6,375,341	3,769,342
Restricted		4,231,591	5,999,456
Designated		757,369	689,247
Total funds	19	11,364,301	10,458,045

The financial statements were approved by the Council of Trustees and authorised for issue on 29 July 2020 and signed on their behalf by:



Dr Sean Ashworth
Chair



Linda Clark
Honorary Treasurer

The notes on pages 19 to 34 form part of these financial statements

Cashflow Statement

Year ended 31 March 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
Net cash inflow from operating activities			
Operating activities	a)	2,124,773	75,235
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		13,294	11,408
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(2,520,176)	(466,848)
Net cash used in investing activities		(2,506,882)	(455,440)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	b)	(382,109)	(380,205)

Notes to the cashflow statement

a) Reconciliation of net incoming resources to net cash flow from operating activities	2020 £	2019 £
Net income for the reporting period	906,256	1,698,040
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(13,294)	(11,408)
Depreciation	94,336	99,986
(Increase)/Decrease in stock	(66)	2,265
(Increase)/Decrease in biological assets	(17,666)	7,429
Decrease/(Increase) in trade and other debtors	1,151,845	(1,742,679)
Increase/(Decrease) in trade and other creditors	3,362	21,602
Net cash provided by operating activities	2,124,773	75,235
b) Analysis of changes in cash and cash equivalents	2020 £	2019 £
Balance at 1st April 2019	3,532,074	3,912,279
Net cash (outflow)/inflow in year	(382,109)	(380,205)
Balance at 31st March 2020	3,149,965	3,532,074

The notes on pages 19 to 34 form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Accounts

31 March 2020

1. Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

a) Accounting Convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Sussex Wildlife Trust (SWT) is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Charity.

Sussex Wildlife Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going Concern: As at 31 March 2020 the Sussex Wildlife Trust has £11.4m in Total Net Assets including £3.1m Cash at Bank of which £1.9m is restricted funding for future years' project activity. On this basis the Trustees consider the Charity to be a going concern.

Covid-19: The Charity has considered the impact of the virus on the finances of the Charity, and has revised its forecasts for the next twelve months to take into account the impact on its activities. The Charity believes it can continue with no material uncertainties.

b) Income

Income is recognised in the period in which the Charity is entitled to receive it, and that the receipt of said income is measurable, and probable. Income is deferred only when the Charity has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or is subject to unmet conditions wholly outside its control.

Grants from local authorities and other agencies have been included as income from activities in furtherance of the Charity's objects where these amount to a contract for services, but as donations where the money is given in response to an appeal or with greater freedom of use.

Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only recognised when its receipt is considered probable, when the amount can be measured reliably and the Charity is entitled to the amount. Where legacies have been notified to the Charity or the Charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the

criteria for income recognition have not been met, the legacy is disclosed as a contingent asset.

Subscriptions are dealt with on a cash receipts basis. Subscriptions of life members are included as a liability on the Balance Sheet in accordance with the SORP. One twentieth of this is transferred to income each year.

Corporate Support includes annual subscriptions, sponsorship and donations received, while advertising revenue is generated through SWT's Wildlife magazine produced twice each year.

Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis, where the amount can be measured reliably.

The value of services provided by volunteers is not incorporated into these financial statements. Where services are provided to the Charity as a donation that would normally be purchased from suppliers this contribution is included in the financial statements at an estimate based on the annual contribution to the Charity.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised in the period when the Charity is obliged to pay it, and the payment of said expenditure is measurable, and probable. Where payments are in respect of a future period they are categorised as such.

- Raising funds includes expenditure on the recruitment of new members, the employee costs of the marketing and membership departments, the publication and delivery of SWT's Wildlife magazine twice per year, the costs of the annual appeal and the administration costs of the membership department together with publicity costs and legacy development
- Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the main objects of the Charity – these are wildlife conservation, public awareness, the management of nature reserves and the collation of wildlife information
- Support Costs represent the cost of staff and overheads incurred in providing centralised services for the Charity at its offices at Woods Mill and include the finance, human resources, office services departments and buildings maintenance. Support costs are allocated to departments on the basis of staff numbers

d) Donated services and volunteers

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), general volunteer time is not recognised; refer to the Trustees' annual report for more detail.

e) Tangible fixed assets

SWT's interests in tangible fixed assets other than land designated as nature reserves are stated at cost with an allowance for depreciation as stated below. Individual IT fixed assets costing £500 or more are capitalised at cost, for other asset classes this rises to £1000. Assets under construction are not depreciated until the asset is in use.

f) Heritage assets

SWT's interests in land designated as nature reserves are stated at cost; these have been classified as heritage assets and are held by SWT in pursuit of its conservation objectives. Valuations are made by professional valuers – the Valuation Office Agency – and any gifts of land will be treated as heritage assets and will be included at valuation. No depreciation is charged on nature reserves.

g) Investments

SWT had no equity investments during the year other than its investment in its subsidiary company Sussex Wildlife Enterprises Ltd.

h) Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Land	Nil
Buildings, car park and services	2-10%
Temporary structures, fencing, etc	20%
Motor vehicles	20%
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	20%
Computer software	33%
Bird hides	10%

i) Stock

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

j) Livestock (biological assets)

Livestock is stated at fair value less estimated costs to sell in accordance with the fair value model in FRS 102. Movements in fair value are taken to the SOFA in the year in which they arise. Fair value is based upon the estimation of values from the land management team and is considered by the Trustees to be fair reflection of the estimated value at the year end.

k) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the Charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the Charity which the Trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the Charity's work. The funds held in each of these categories are disclosed in Note 17.

l) Pension schemes

The employees of SWT are eligible to join either the Wildlife Trusts' Pension Scheme or a Group Stakeholder

Pension Scheme. The latter is insured with Standard Life and on joining employees will contract directly with the insurance company. Both are defined contribution schemes. Whichever scheme employees join, their contributions will be enhanced by a contribution from SWT which is at least twice the employee contribution. The Wildlife Trusts scheme is managed by independent Trustees and administered by Capita Hartshead. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Wildlife Trusts in an independently administered fund. Contributions are charged to the SOFA as they become payable in accordance with the scheme rules.

The Wildlife Trust category 5 Scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme administered for the benefit of Wildlife Trusts and is managed in accordance with the Pensions Act 2004 Regulations.

The Trustees are unable to confirm the Charity's share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the Wildlife Trust Pension Scheme and therefore the Scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the Statement of Financial Activities represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

A liability is recognised by SWT, where material, for the Charity's share of the deficit of the scheme as per the agreed schedule of contributions.

m) Operating leases

In categorising leases as finance leases or operating leases, management makes judgements as to whether significant risks and rewards of ownership have transferred to the Company as lessee, or the lessee, where the company is a lessor.

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the life of the lease.

n) Non-recoverable VAT

Where possible non-recoverable VAT is charged against the category of resource expended for which it was incurred. Otherwise it is charged to support costs.

o) Consolidation

The financial statements present information about the company as an individual undertaking and not about its group. The subsidiary undertaking is dormant.

p) Cash at hand

Cash at bank includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with short maturity of three months or less.

q) Financial instruments

SWT only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.



Southerham Farm © Nigel Symington

r) Debtors

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

A provision for impairment of trade debtors is established when there is evidence that the amounts due will not be collected according to the original terms of the contract. Impairment losses are recognised in the SOFA.

s) Creditors/Liabilities

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.

t) Taxation

The Charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 471 to 489 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 and is exempt from corporation tax to the extent that they are applied to its charitable objects.

u) Redundancy and termination payments

Expenditure required to settle an obligation for redundancy and termination benefits is recognised as an expense when the Charity is committed to terminate the employment of an employee, or provide redundancy and termination benefits.

v) Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The Charity makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below:

No material estimates or judgements have been applied.

Income and endowments from:

2 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	2020 TOTAL £	2019 TOTAL £
Income from members	1,676,437	-	-	1,676,437	1,528,219
Donations	85,436	335,128	-	420,564	970,109
Legacies	-	218,000	295,617	513,617	1,508,860
Public appeals	166	492,240	-	492,406	167,628
	1,762,039	1,045,368	295,617	3,103,024	4,174,816

3 Other trading activities

Corporate support	26,870	-	-	26,870	17,370
Other fundraising income	62,552	-	-	62,552	66,906
	89,422	-	-	89,422	84,276

4 Investments

Deposit interest	13,294	-	-	13,294	11,408
	13,294	-	-	13,294	11,408
Other					
Other income	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,000
	3,000	-	-	3,000	3,000

5 Charitable activities

Wildlife conservation

Project grants and income	27,132	39,510	-	66,642	100,771
Other income	5,990	81,683	-	87,673	75,631
	33,122	121,193	-	154,315	176,402

Working with people

Grants and income	5,072	234,911	-	239,983	213,637
Schools, events and courses	235,975	3,274	-	239,249	239,329
Other income	3,424	-	-	3,424	6,145
	241,047	241,609	-	482,656	459,111

Nature reserves management

Rents, grazing income, sales of meat and timber	23,824	-	-	23,824	37,992
Land management grants and stewardship income	540,425	860,005	-	1,400,430	475,883
Other income	37,518	-	-	37,518	39,246
	601,767	860,005	-	1,461,772	553,121

Collating information on wildlife

Contract funding	-	225,975	-	225,975	216,709
	-	225,975	-	225,975	216,709

Total income from charitable activities	875,936	1,448,782	-	2,324,718	1,405,343
TOTAL INCOME	2,743,691	2,494,150	295,617	5,533,458	5,678,843

5 Charitable activities *continued*

Last year's total income of £5,678,843 was made up of £2,858,475 unrestricted and £2,820,368 restricted, split between the following:

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £
Donations and legacies	2,011,600	2,163,216
Other trading	84,155	121
Investments	11,408	-
Charitable activities	748,312	657,031
Other	3,000	-

The Sussex Wildlife Trust has benefited from a small number of government grants and financial contributions during the year that support our conservation activity. The funding received incorporates levels of conditional service and supports the management of our nature reserves.

	2020 £	2019 £
During the year this amounted to:		
Single Farm Payment	155,267	131,672
Higher Level Stewardship grant income	323,265	207,107

Expenditure on:

6 Raising funds	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	2020 TOTAL £	2019 TOTAL £
Staff costs	391,632	2,257	15,000	408,889	376,571
Membership promotion	216,311	-	224,554	440,865	436,133
Magazine publication and delivery	85,781	-	-	85,781	68,370
Appeals and legacies	-	6,147	-	6,147	16,836
Membership administration and publicity	25,629	-	15,882	41,511	26,796
Interpretation and website development	79,935	37,160	9,515	126,610	-
Other fundraising costs	3,573	12,756	29,822	46,151	170,607
Depreciation	-	-	2,599	2,599	1,315
Allocated support costs	194,664	-	-	194,664	121,711
	997,525	58,320	297,372	1,353,217	1,218,339
7 Charitable activities					
Wildlife conservation					
Staff costs	161,932	31,803	-	193,735	178,722
Conservation work	71,702	40,078	4,100	115,880	153,272
Other	8,926	10,328	-	19,254	14,201
Depreciation	83	-	-	83	-
Allocated support costs	97,208	-	-	97,208	81,175
	339,851	82,209	4,100	426,160	427,370
Working with people					
Staff costs	438,063	214,498	-	652,561	511,159
Interpretation, education and other costs	60,344	19,639	-	79,983	62,461
Project overhead costs	25,475	90,161	-	115,636	47,352
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	-
Allocated support costs	305,898	-	-	305,898	223,648
	829,780	324,298	-	1,154,078	844,620
Nature reserves management					
Staff costs	460,165	14,635	17,707	492,507	494,596
Equipment, vehicles and other costs	66,807	152,033	-	218,840	127,718
Land management	219,988	26,890	40,792	287,670	263,252
Legal and professional fees	23,670	5,093	7,524	36,287	20,438
Depreciation	68,447	18,469	-	86,916	78,288
Allocated support costs	220,926	-	-	220,926	188,606
	1,060,003	217,120	66,023	1,343,146	1,172,898
Collating information on wildlife					
Staff costs	-	202,553	-	202,553	194,045
Depreciation	-	508	-	508	949
Data recording	-	25,188	-	25,188	11,731
Other costs	-	11,684	-	11,684	27,952
Allocated support costs	110,668	-	-	110,668	82,899
	110,668	239,933	-	350,601	317,576
Total expenditure on charitable activities	2,340,302	863,560	70,123	3,273,985	2,762,464
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3,337,827	921,880	367,495	4,627,202	3,980,803

7 Charitable activities continued

Last year's total expenditure comprised £2,857,065 unrestricted, £825,564 restricted and £298,174 designated, split between the following:

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Designated £
Raising funds	915,637	13,064	289,638
Charitable activities	1,941,428	812,500	8,536

Trustees' Liability Insurance

SWT pays an annual insurance premium to:

- a) protect the Charity from loss arising from the defaults of its Trustees, employees or agents
- b) indemnify the Trustees or other officers against the consequences of any act or default on their part

8 Allocation of support cost

SWT allocates its support costs as shown in the table below and then further apportions those costs between the four charitable activities undertaken.

Support costs are allocated on the basis of staff numbers per department and where appropriate a percentage of time worked.

	Charitable Activities					Raising Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
	Wildlife Conservation £	Working with People £	Nature Reserves Manage- ment £	Collating Wildlife Inform- ation £	Charitable Activities Total £			
Management and central overheads	48,785	153,520	110,876	55,540	368,721	97,672	466,393	369,721
Finance department	12,601	39,656	28,640	14,347	95,244	25,242	120,486	104,656
Information technology	10,624	33,432	24,145	12,095	80,296	21,280	101,576	90,886
Human resources	9,327	29,350	21,197	10,618	70,492	18,682	89,174	25,386
General administration	1,635	5,144	3,715	1,861	12,355	3,275	15,630	29,653
Health and Safety/Buildings maintenance	10,827	34,070	24,606	12,326	81,829	21,686	103,515	95,663
Governance	3,409	10,726	7,747	3,881	25,763	6,827	32,590	25,763
	97,208	305,898	220,926	110,668	734,700	194,664	929,364	698,039

9 Staff costs

Analysis of staff costs:	2020 £	2019 £
Salaries and wages	2,022,803	1,795,504
Social security costs	182,114	163,339
Pension costs	118,669	107,383
Redundancy and termination costs	-	-
	2,323,586	2,066,226

One employee, in the £60-£70k band, earned more than £60,000 p.a. Key management personnel are considered to be: the Trustees, the Chief Executive Officer, and the further members of staff that make up the Senior Management Team. In total they received £343,623 (2019: £277,705) in employee benefits, including pension contributions. Employer's National Insurance paid £35,197 (2019: £29,712)

Staff numbers

The average number of employees was 84 (2019: 76) with an average FTE of 71 (2019: 63)

	2020	2019
Management	5	5
Other	66	58

Other costs

During the year travel expenses and training costs of £1,299 (2019: £1,173) were reimbursed to 2 Trustees (2019: 4 Trustees). Subsistence expenses of £0 were reimbursed (2019: £0). The Trustees have not received any remuneration in the year (2019: £0).

10 Pension costs

SWT operates two pensions schemes for its current staff, only one of which is open to new entrants. SWT has liabilities associated with a former, closed, defined benefit scheme.

The pensions schemes are listed below:

- 1) Royal London - Group pension scheme, open to new members.
- 2) Standard Life - Stakeholder pension scheme, closed to new members 31 March 2014, but with active employees.
- 3) Wildlife Trust - Defined Benefit pension scheme, closed to new entrants 31 March 2005, no active employees.

Life assurance is now provided under separate cover.

None of the current employees of the Sussex Wildlife Trust are members of the Defined Benefit scheme. This scheme is a multi-employer scheme and the Trust is unable to identify its share of the assets and liabilities of the scheme. Contributions to the scheme are therefore treated as if it were a Defined Contribution scheme.

As a result of a triennial valuation of the assets of the Defined Benefits scheme in April 2013 the scheme actuary agreed a past service shortfall of £7,752,000. In April 2018 the actuarial assessment has been valued at a deficit of £5,200,000 (2017:£5,900,000) The total shortfall attributable to the Trust has not been reflected in these financial statements.

SWT has been advised by the pension scheme Trustees that its share of this shortfall would amount to £3,480 per year exclusive of expenses from 1 August 2020.

In addition, SWT continues to pay contributions in respect of the shortfall of the Scheme.

The liability for the Defined Benefit scheme is calculated at the net total of the present value at the reporting date of our obligation to the scheme (as per the actuarial valuation) and the fair value, at the reporting date, of any plan assets out of which the obligation is to be settled directly.

Due to the inability to identify SWT's exact share of assets and liabilities of the Defined Benefit scheme, and its immateriality (calculated at approx £24k at 31 March 2020), that liability has not been included in this set of financial accounts.

Pension contributions

The pension charge shown in the accounts is the amount payable by the Trust during the financial year. It is analysed as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Category 1 - Life assurance only	-	2,795
Category 3 - Defined Contribution scheme	-	64,938
Category 5 - Defined Benefit scheme	3,498	3,827
Total contributions to The Wildlife Trusts' Pension Scheme	3,498	71,560
Category 1 - Life assurance only (Standard Life)	-	1,938
Standard Life Stakeholder Pension scheme	41,342	42,445
Royal London Group Pension scheme	77,310	-
Life Assurance Costs	4,242	-
	126,392	115,943

Pension contribution liabilities:

The following pension contributions were payable at the year-end and are included within creditors:

	2020 £	2019 £
Royal London Group Pension scheme	10366	-
Standard Life Stakeholder Pension scheme	5354	5,982
	15,720	5,982

11 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

	2020 £	2019 £
This is stated after charging/(crediting)		
Operating lease rentals	(3,455)	3,013
Depreciation	94,336	99,986
Auditors remuneration	16,250	15,750

12 Tangible and heritage fixed assets

	Land & Buildings £	Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment £	Plant & Machinery £	Motor Vehicles £	Assets Under Construction £	Total Tangible Assets £	Heritage Assets £	TOTAL
Cost								
At 1 April 2019	1,098,771	422,748	-	189,400	896,414	2,607,333	3,327,495	5,934,828
Additions	1,200	3,215	36,953	24,850	2,453,958	2,520,176	-	2,520,176
Disposals	(4,440)	(11,750)	-	-	-	(16,190)	-	(16,190)
At 31 March 2020	1,095,531	414,213	36,953	214,250	3,350,372	5,111,319	3,327,495	8,438,814
Depreciation								
At 1 April 2019	626,342	372,924	-	160,379	-	1,159,645	-	1,159,645
Charge for year	53,650	19,271	5,543	15,872	-	94,336	-	94,336
Disposals	(4,440)	(11,750)	-	-	-	(16,190)	-	(16,190)
At 31 March 2020	675,552	380,445	5,543	176,251	-	1,237,791	-	1,237,791
Net book value 31 March 2020	419,979	33,768	31,410	37,999	3,350,372	3,873,528	3,327,495	7,201,023
Net book value 31 March 2019	472,429	49,824	-	29,021	896,414	1,447,688	3,327,495	4,775,183

Gift of land

SWT has received no gifts of land during the year (2019: £75k).

Heritage assets

Heritage assets consist of land designated as nature reserves by SWT and acquired either by purchase, gift or lease.

SWT currently owns, leases or manages 32 nature reserves, all classified as heritage assets, which have been acquired since the early 1960s and cover a total 1,932 hectares of Sussex downland, woodland, wetland, heath, meadow, and farmland. Many are Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

Included are five sites designated as nature reserves that were given to SWT between 1964 and 1981 for which no cost or conventional valuation is currently available.

A nature reserve will be considered for acquisition if:

- its ownership will enhance the viability or conservation value of an existing SWT reserve or simplify its management
- the land is required: 1) to demonstrate best conservation practice, 2) for education, 3) for the local community or, 4) to achieve a joint conservation project with other agencies
- ownership of the land will help to achieve one or more targets as set out in SWT's Nature Reserves Acquisition Strategy

SWT maintains a register of title deeds for all nature reserves in its ownership and land management is carried out to pre-agreed management plans.

Disposal of any nature reserve will only be considered if the original objectives for ownership have been met or the site no longer meets SWT's Nature Reserves Acquisitions and Disposals Policy. SWT has a policy of allowing open access to all its nature reserves unless this is impossible to achieve due to physical location or will compromise SWT's conservation objectives.

Five year financial summary of heritage asset transactions

	2020 £	2019 £	2018 £	2017 £	2016 £
Purchases at cost or valuation					
Donations	-	-	-	-	-
The Mens	-	-	-	10,750	-
Rye Harbour	-	75,000	-	-	-
Total additions	-	75,000	-	10,750	-

There have been no disposals of heritage assets in any of the last five years and no impairment is considered necessary.

The additions in 2017 and 2019 were donated amounts.

13 Fixed asset investments

	2020 £	2019 £
Subsidiary Company - Sussex Wildlife Enterprises Ltd.		
Cost		
At 31 March 2019 and at 31 March 2020	100	100
Net book value at 31 March 2019 and at 31 March 2020	100	100

SWT owns 100% of the ordinary share capital of Sussex Wildlife Enterprises Ltd, a company incorporated in the UK. The company has not traded since its incorporation.

14 Biological assets

Livestock were valued during the year to 31 March 2020 at £800 per head of cattle (2019: £454.55) and at £120 per head of sheep (2019: £35) and £60 per head of lamb

	2020 £
Fair value at 1 April 2019	75,717
Additions at cost	-
Disposals	(217)
Revaluation	17,883
Fair value at 31 March 2020	93,383

15 Debtors

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade debtors	66,816	93,459
Other debtors	1,177,495	2,312,796
Prepayments	78,666	68,567
	1,322,977	2,474,822

16 Liabilities: amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £	2019 £
Trade creditors	253,780	198,680
Other taxes and social security costs	64,548	50,355
Other creditors and accruals	24,435	77,749
Deferred income	38,177	49,546
Life membership subscriptions	23,710	24,958
	404,650	401,288
Deferred income:		
Balance as at 1 April 2019	49,546	63,608
Amount released to income	(49,546)	(63,608)
Amount deferred in year	38,177	49,546
Balance as at 31 March 2020	38,177	49,546

Deferred income comprises memberships and charitable income received for use in future financial years.

17 Funds

	Balance 1 Apr 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 Mar 2020 £
Restricted					
Nature reserves	2,324,238	-	-	-	2,324,238
Projects	3,675,218	2,494,150	921,880	(3,340,135)	1,907,353
	5,999,456	2,494,150	921,880	(3,340,135)	4,231,591
Designated	689,247	295,617	367,495	140,000	757,369
Unrestricted	3,769,342	2,743,691	3,337,827	3,200,135	6,375,341
Total all funds	10,458,045	5,533,458	4,627,202	-	11,364,301

The transfer of £3.3m for projects is made up of £2.453m of capital construction in the year for the Rye Harbour Discovery Centre, and £886,000 for assets held under construction for the project for previous years.

The transfer of £140,000 to designated is made up of a transfer of £65,000 for the membership recruitment fund, and £75,000 for Ash Dieback fund.

	Balance 1 Apr 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 Mar 2020 £
Analysis of restricted projects funds movements					
Badger appeal	12,328	80	6,700	-	5,708
Rapid Response fund	21,218	500	-	-	21,718
Sussex Downland appeal	27,370	-	5,745	-	21,625
Summer appeal	32,877	30	20,000	-	12,907
Winter appeal	14,745	5	14,750	-	-
Lost Words appeal	4,000	42	2,746	-	1,296
Sussex by the Sea appeal	-	29,910	-	-	29,910
People and Wildlife	21,185	6,990	11,341	-	16,834
Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre	175,352	225,975	222,525	-	178,802
Sussex Local Wildlife Sites Initiative	86,752	8,610	17,407	-	77,955
Sussex Wetlands	109,355	76,683	70,179	-	115,859
ScottishPower Foundation Deneway	-	43,300	26,418	-	16,882
West Weald landscape	48,101	-	-	-	48,101
Gatwick Greenspace Partnership	40,237	98,462	110,405	-	28,294
Rye Harbour	24,050	-	5,064	-	18,986
Rye Harbour Discovery Centre appeal	18,830	476,101	18,955	(475,976)	-
Rye Harbour Discovery Centre	1,909,523	1,130,530	175,894	(2,864,159)	-
Rye Harbour Discovery Centre Operational	-	17,117	17,117	-	-
Ebernoe fencing	700	-	700	-	-
Natural Capital	10,640	13,900	12,030	-	12,510
Gateway to Nature	4,763	-	-	-	4,763
National Lottery Heritage Fund (Seaford Community Wildlife Project)	-	40,971	40,971	-	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund (Sussex by the Sea)	26,811	34,500	55,288	-	6,023
Nature reserves projects	996	-	996	-	-
Southerham Barn development	85,112	-	11,350	-	73,762
The Leysdown Conservation Trust	14,442	30,000	10,896	-	33,546
Trailer fund (Formerly the Chalk Cliff Trust)	3,874	-	1,186	-	2,688
Chalk Downland fund	975,000	-	-	-	975,000
Kelp	-	17,175	-	-	17,175
Southern Water	-	25,000	-	-	25,000
Legacies	-	218,000	59,752	-	158,248
Deneway	6,956	269	3,465	-	3,760
	3,675,218	2,494,150	921,880	(3,340,135)	1,907,353

17 Funds continued

Restricted projects:

Badger appeal: a grazing and vaccination programme against bovine TB

Rapid response fund: land acquisition/response to immediate need

Sussex Downland appeal: for downland management and maintenance

Summer/Winter/Downland appeal: conservation campaigning, educating children and managing our nature reserves

Rye Harbour Discovery Centre appeal: for the Rye Harbour Discovery Centre project

Lost Words appeal: issuing a nature book about declining use of nature words to all primary schools in Sussex

Sussex by the Sea appeal: for the Wild Coast Sussex project

People and Wildlife: conservation education for schools in Sussex

Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre: the provision of biodiversity information for Sussex

Sussex Local Wildlife Sites initiative: establishing a coherent and resilient ecological network across Sussex

Sussex Wetlands: enhancing the awareness of wetland habitats in Sussex

ScottishPower Foundation: Wild Side of the Track project at Deneway nature reserve. Community events, schools visits and habitat improvements.

West Weald landscape: enhancing the wooded landscape of an area of West Sussex

Gatwick Greenspace Partnership: enhancing green spaces in the Gatwick, Crawley and Horsham areas and to increase community involvement

Rye Harbour: Rye Harbour Nature Reserve

Rye Harbour Discovery Centre: the development of a Discovery Centre at Rye Harbour

Ebernoe fencing: depreciation of fencing: previously part of nature reserves

Stedham and Iping fencing: depreciation of fencing on a nature reserve

Natural Capital project: the work of public engagement and reconnection to nature

Gateway to Nature: to develop further Youth Ranger work and community involvement

National Lottery Heritage Fund (Seaford Community Wildlife Project): a community project in Seaford

National Lottery Heritage Fund National Lottery Heritage Fund (Sussex by the Sea): to develop a round 2 submission, which became the Wild Coast Sussex project.

Nature Reserves projects: the management of specific nature reserves or to support particular aspects of nature reserve management

Southerham Barn: the development of Southerham Barn

Graffham fencing: fund for depreciation costs

The Leysdown Conservation Trust: training and development of trainees

Trailer fund (formerly The Chalk Cliff Trust): depreciation of trailer

Chalk Downland fund: to maintain, restore or purchase Sussex chalk downland.

Kelp: Funds donated specifically to further the regeneration of Sussex Kelp Forests, as part of the Help Our Kelp Partnership

Southern Water: Funds from fines received by Southern Water for specific aspects of SWT work

Legacies: Various bequests for specific projects

Other projects: various small charitable trusts funds

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use in accordance with the Trust's charitable objectives.

	Balance 1 Apr 2019	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 2020
Analysis of designated funds movements	£	£	£	£	£
Southerham Reserve fund	100,000	-	5,792	-	94,208
Business Plan strategic development capacity	82,059	-	50,971	-	31,088
Membership recruitment	237,101	-	224,554	65,000	77,547
Integrated software project	51,223	-	24,632	-	26,591
Ecological mapping	7,893	-	4,100	-	(3,793)
IIP staff development	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Strategy development	9,377	-	5,231	-	4,146
Pensions liability (sinking fund)	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Vehicles (sinking fund)	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Building maintenance (sinking fund)	9,474	-	-	-	9,474
Land management equipment (sinking fund)	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Rye Harbour Discovery Centre	-	295,617	-	-	295,617
Conservation - departure from the EU	19,800	-	-	-	19,800
Match funding fund	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
Interpretation	34,671	-	7,980	-	26,691
HR system upgrade	7,925	-	-	-	7,925
Remote access	14,334	-	6,860	-	7,474
Bid writing	12,000	-	840	-	11,160
Business systems development	4,390	-	-	-	4,390
Filming	4,000	-	1,535	-	2,465
Ash Dieback crisis	-	-	35,000	75,000	40,000
	689,247	295,617	367,495	140,000	757,369

The Trustees have designated funds from unrestricted funds for various planned future projects, as well as contingency funds for future eventualities.

17 Funds continued

Designated funds:

Southerham Reserve fund: development of our nature reserve at Southerham

Business Plan strategic development capacity: to allow extra capacity to meet the changing organisational demands

Membership recruitment: future investment in increasing and developing our membership

Integrated software project: development of an integrated IT solution

Ecological mapping: development of ecological mapping in Sussex

IIP staff development: project to develop staff performance through the IIP accreditation framework

Strategy development: investment in the development and implementation of SWT's next five year strategy

Pensions liability (sinking fund): potential future costs

Vehicles (sinking fund): vehicle purchases

Building maintenance (sinking fund): maintenance of Woods Mill Land management equipment (sinking fund): equipment purchases

Rye Harbour Discovery Centre: the development of the new Discovery Centre at Rye Harbour Nature Reserve

Conservation - departure from the EU: research and development on financial impact of leaving the EU

Match funding fund: project bid match funding

Interpretation: upgrading interpretation on reserves

HR system upgrade: upgrade of HR system

Remote access: developing remote working

Bid writing: extra capacity for bid opportunities

Business systems development: improving organisational efficiencies

Filming: equipment to bring film-making in-house

Ash Dieback crisis

18 Funds - previous year

	Balance 1 Apr 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 Mar 2019 £
Restricted					
Nature reserves	2,324,238	-	-	-	2,324,238
Projects	1,605,414	2,820,368	825,564	75,000	3,675,218
	3,929,652	2,820,368	825,564	-	5,999,456
Designated	912,421	-	131,986	606,000	689,247
Unrestricted	3,917,932	2,722,979	2,677,689	(606,000)	3,769,342
Total all funds	8,760,005	5,543,347	3,635,239	-	10,458,045

Analysis of restricted projects funds movements - previous year

Badger appeal	27,208	120	15,000	-	12,328
Rapid Response fund	21,218	-	-	-	21,218
Sussex Downland appeal	28,443	-	1,073	-	27,370
Summer appeal	41,259	18,133	26,515	-	32,877
Winter appeal	33,607	7,653	26,515	-	14,745
Rye Harbour Discovery Centre appeal	-	18,830	-	-	18,830
Lost Words appeal	-	13,934	9,934	4,000	-
People and Wildlife	22,454	29,254	30,523	-	21,185
Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre	202,287	221,709	248,644	-	175,352
Sussex Local Wildlife Sites Initiative	22,000	50,785	(13,967)	-	86,752
Sussex Wetlands	140,511	68,381	99,537	-	109,355
ScottishPower Foundation	-	95,220	95,220	-	-
West Weald landscape	56,601	-	8,500	-	48,101
Gatwick Greenspace Partnership	55,456	91,617	106,836	-	40,237
Rye Harbour	34,536	-	10,486	-	24,050
Rye Harbour Discovery Centre	724,955	1,148,175	38,607	75,000	1,909,523
Ebernoe fencing	1,741	-	1,041	-	700
Stedham and Iping fencing	7,393	-	7,393	-	-
Natural Capital	-	15,100	4,460	-	10,640
Gateway to Nature	4,763	-	-	-	4,763
National Lottery Heritage Fund (Seaford Community Wildlife Project)	32,351	-	32,351	-	-
National Lottery Heritage Fund (Sussex by the Sea)	-	29,500	2,689	26,811	-
Nature reserves projects	41,619	-	40,623	-	996
Southerham Barn development	96,462	-	11,350	-	85,112
Graffham fencing	3,710	-	3,710	-	-
The Leysdown Conservation Trust	1,780	30,000	17,338	-	14,442
Trailer fund (Formerly the Chalk Cliff Trust)	5,060	-	1,186	-	3,874
Chalk Downland fund	975,000	975,000	-	-	-
Other projects	-	6,956	-	6,956	-
	1,605,414	2,820,368	825,564	75,000	3,675,218

18 Funds - previous year continued

Restricted projects:

Badger appeal: a grazing and vaccination programme against bovine TB

Rapid response fund: land acquisition/response to immediate need

Sussex Downland appeal: for downland management and maintenance

Summer/Winter/Downland appeal: conservation campaigning, educating children and managing our nature reserves

Rye Harbour Discovery Centre appeal: for the Rye Harbour Discovery Centre project

Lost Words appeal: issuing a nature book about declining use of nature words to all primary schools in Sussex

People and Wildlife: conservation education for schools in Sussex

Sussex Biodiversity Record Centre: the provision of biodiversity information for Sussex

Sussex Local Wildlife Sites Initiative: establishing a coherent and resilient ecological network across Sussex

Sussex Wetlands: enhancing the awareness of wetland habitats in Sussex

ScotishPower Foundation: celebrating 50 years of Woods Mill

West Weald landscape: enhancing the wooded landscape of an area of West Sussex

Gatwick Greenspace Partnership: enhancing green spaces in the Gatwick, Crawley and Horsham areas and to increase community involvement

Rye Harbour: Rye Harbour Nature Reserve

Rye Harbour Discovery Centre: the development of a Discovery Centre at Rye Harbour

Ebernoe fencing: depreciation of fencing: previously part of nature reserves

Stedham and Iping fencing: depreciation of fencing on a nature reserve

Natural Capital project: the work of public engagement and reconnection to nature

Gateway to Nature: to develop further Youth Ranger work and community involvement

National Lottery Heritage Fund (Seaford Community Wildlife Project): a community project in Seaford

National Lottery Heritage Fund (Sussex by the Sea): to develop a round 2 submission, which became the Wild Coast Sussex project.

Nature Reserves projects: the management of specific nature reserves or to support particular aspects of nature reserve management

Southerham Barn: the development of Southerham Barn

Graffham fencing: fund for depreciation costs

The Leysdown Conservation Trust: training and development of trainees

Trailer fund (formerly The Chalk Cliff Trust): depreciation of trailer

Chalk Downland fund: to maintain, restore or purchase Sussex chalk downland.

Other projects: various small charitable trusts funds

Unrestricted funds comprise those funds which the Trustees are free to use in accordance with SWT's charitable objectives.

Analysis of designated funds movements - previous year

	Balance 1 Apr 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Balance 31 Mar 2019 £
Southerham Reserve fund	100,000	-	-	-	100,000
Business Plan strategic development capacity	-	-	17,941	100,000	82,059
Membership recruitment	441,949	-	204,848	-	237,101
Integrated software project	95,555	-	44,332	-	51,223
Ecological mapping	13,500	-	5,607	-	7,893
IIP staff development	5,000	-	-	-	5,000
Strategy development	15,417	-	6,040	-	9,377
Pensions liability (sinking fund)	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Vehicles (sinking fund)	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Building maintenance (sinking fund)	10,000	-	526	-	9,474
Land management equipment (sinking fund)	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Rye Harbour Discovery Centre	25,000	-	-	(25,000)	-
Conservation - departure from the EU	20,000	-	200	-	19,800
Match funding fund	40,000	-	-	-	40,000
Interpretation	35,000	-	329	-	34,671
HR system upgrade	20,000	-	12,075	-	7,925
Remote access	15,000	-	666	-	14,334
Bid writing	12,000	-	-	-	12,000
Business systems development	10,000	-	5,610	-	4,390
Filming	4,000	-	-	-	4,000
	912,421	-	298,174	75,000	689,247

The Trustees have designated funds from unrestricted funds for various planned future projects, as well as contingency funds for future eventualities.

18 Funds - Previous Year continued

Designated funds:

Southerham Reserve fund: *development of our nature reserve at Southerham*

Business Plan strategic development capacity: *to allow extra capacity to meet the changing organisational demands*

Membership recruitment: *future investment in increasing and developing our membership*

Integrated software project: *development of an integrated IT solution*

Ecological mapping: *development of ecological mapping in Sussex*

IIP staff development: *project to develop staff performance through the IIP accreditation framework*

Strategy development: *investment in the development and implementation of add after of SWT's next five year strategy*

Pensions liability (sinking fund): *potential future costs*

Vehicles (sinking fund): *vehicle purchases*

Building maintenance (sinking fund): *maintenance of Woods Mill*
Land management equipment (sinking fund): *equipment purchases*

Rye Harbour Discovery Centre: *the development of the new Discovery Centre at Rye Harbour Nature Reserve*

Conservation - departure from the EU: *research and development on financial impact of leaving the EU*

Match funding fund: *project bid match funding*

Interpretation: *upgrading interpretation on reserves*

HR system upgrade: *upgrade of HR system*

Remote access: *developing remote working*

Bid writing: *extra capacity for bid opportunities*

Business systems development: *improving organisational efficiencies*

Filming: *equipment to bring film-making in-house*

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible and Heritage Fixed Assets £	Investments £	Net Current Assets £	Total £
Restricted				
Nature reserves	2,324,238	-	-	2,324,238
Projects	-	-	1,907,353	1,907,353
Unrestricted	4,876,785	100	1,498,456	6,375,341
Designated	-	-	757,369	757,369
	7,201,023	100	4,163,178	11,364,301

Analysis of net assets between funds 2019

	Tangible and Heritage Fixed Assets £	Investments £	Net Current Assets £	Total £
Restricted				
Nature reserves	2,324,238	-	-	2,324,238
Projects	-	-	3,675,218	3,675,218
Unrestricted	2,450,945	100	1,318,297	3,769,342
Designated	-	-	689,247	689,247
	4,775,183	100	5,682,762	10,458,045

20 Contingent liabilities

There are no contingent liabilities for the repayment of grants and gifts (2019: £0).

SWT owns Castle Water, part of the Rye Harbour Nature Reserve. As previously reported, SWT carried out an investigation to establish the nature and extent of the contamination based on existing data. This confirmed a source of contamination under part of the nature reserve. Since then discussions have been held with the relevant officers from the Environment Agency at a local level and the work done so far comprises a series of studies on the extent of contamination in other areas of Rye Harbour. Monitoring has continued throughout the 2019/20 financial year.

The costs of remediation at Castle Water remain unquantifiable. It is unclear to what extent, if at all, SWT will be liable.

21 (a) Operating lease commitments:

SWT has commitments in the year to 31 March 2020 to pay minimum rentals on buildings and equipment under non-cancellable operating leases.

	2020 Buildings £	2019 Buildings £	2020 Equipment £	2019 Equipment £
Operating leases which expire:				
Within one year:	3,000	3,000	6,049	10,111
Within two to five years:	-	-	12,504	10,098

b) Capital commitments

Capital expenditure contracted for but not paid:

£28k – Vehicle Purchase (2019: £0)

£1.2m – Rye Harbour Discovery Centre construction (2019: £2.9m)

22 Related party transactions:

During the year to 31 March 2020 related party transactions were £0 (2019: £0).

Provision for related party transactions payments are made in the governing document of SWT.



Sussex
Wildlife Trust

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