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REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 513615

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020  
FOR  
WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

Luckmans Duckett Parker Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditors  
1110 Elliott Court  
Herald Avenue  
Coventry Business Park  
Coventry  
West Midlands  
CV5 6UB

**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

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for the year ended 31 March 2020**

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## WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY

### CHAIR'S FOREWORD for the year ended 31 March 2020

As I write this, we are about to enter a second phase of National lock down and uncertainty about the future continues. COVID-19 has had a major impact on the whole of society and my thoughts are with those who have been directly affected by the pandemic. I also wish to thank our staff for their dedication and commitment through these challenging times, and our members, volunteers and funders whose ongoing support has been vital.

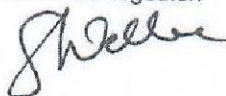
During this pandemic period the role that a connection with the outdoor environment and nature in general plays has really come to the fore. So many people discovered what many of you already knew, that making that connection and immersing oneself in nature has significant mental health and well-being benefits. 2020 also just happens to be the 40th anniversary of the Trust (originally the Urban Wildlife Group), right back then the group worked to raise the profile of wildlife in the city and fought to promote and protect some of those much loved urban parks such as Moseley Bog and Plants Brook Local Nature Reserve that have continued to provide that much valued outdoor space for us to take that 1hr of exercise a day we were allowed.

You will see from the information over the page that during 2019/20 the Trust has continued to play a vital role in ensuring people appreciate the importance of urban nature conservation not only in helping reverse the decline in biodiversity, but also for the health and happiness of the local population. As concern for the environment, biodiversity decline and the climate emergency continues to grow, especially with young people, our schools work has enabled 7271 primary school children to take part in class visits, Forest School activities and after-school clubs. While our traineeships have helped to train the next generation of urban conservationists, and increase the diversity of our sector's workforce. In 2019/20 we delivered biodiversity projects which included meadow creation, woodland enhancement, river restoration and hedgerow planting. The Trust also continued its works with local authorities and Government agencies to support the protection of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINCs), undertaking Local Sites ecological surveys and assessments.

Back in November 2019 we were delighted to welcome Delia Garratt who joined as Chief Executive, who would have imagined that the year would be so full of unforeseen challenges. So while this has been Delia's first year, for me this is my last with the trust as a Trustee and as Chair, although I hope to remain involved for many years to come. The last six years has been a real journey with many challenges, some for the Trust and others of a national scale that put the protection of wildlife and our natural environment we expect in question. Throughout all this being able to work alongside such dedicated staff and fellow trustees has been a privilege.

Finally, I would like to personally thank my fellow trustees, the trust staff, volunteers and you as members for your continued support over the last twelve months.

We hope you enjoy reading about the highlights and look forward to working with you as we continue to stand up for our local wildlife together.



Simon Needle  
Chair of Trustees



## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

Council has pleasure in presenting its report together with the audited accounts for the year ended 31st March 2020. Council has adopted the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to Charities preparing their Accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2019) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives and aims**

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country Limited is required by charity and company law to act within the objects of its Memorandum of Association, which are as follows:

##### **2.1 Objectives**

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country's objectives are:

**1. For the benefit of the public, to advance, promote and further the conservation maintenance study and protection of:**

- i. wildlife and its habitats;
- ii. places of natural beauty;
- iii. places of zoological, botanical, geographical, archaeological or scientific interest;
- iv. features of landscape with geological, physiographical, or amenity value; in particular, but not exclusively, in ways that further biodiversity.

**2. To advance the education of the public in:**

- v. the principles and practice of sustainable development;
- vi. the principles and practice of biodiversity conservation; in particular, but not exclusively, in urban areas.

We launched our five year strategy for 2017 - 2022, A Greener Future, in November 2016.

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

**Our Strategic Goals are:**

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



## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Significant activities**

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country's activities, to meet these objectives are:

##### **Conservation Activities:**

#### **1. To manage our portfolio of land holdings for the benefit of wildlife (Goal 1)**

The Trust owns or leases 5 nature reserves for the benefit of wildlife and people:

1. Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood Local Nature Reserve, long-term lease with Birmingham City Council
2. Turner's Wood in Pelsall, Walsall, owned by the Trust
3. Deer's Leap Wood in Birmingham, owned by the Trust
4. Park Hall in Birmingham, long-term lease with the Environment Agency, currently in possession of HS2 Ltd.
5. Portway Hill (part of the Rowley Hills in Sandwell), owned by the Trust

The Trust also manages 2 additional nature reserves:

1. Peascroft Wood in Bilston, managed through agreement with City of Wolverhampton Council
2. Hill Hook Local Nature Reserve in Four Oaks, managed in partnership with the Friends of Hill Hook and Birmingham City Council

The Trust leases 2 sites which are managed as education centres and, in the case of Centre of the Earth, the Trust's head office.

1. Centre of the Earth, land on long-term lease with Birmingham City Council, building owned by the Trust
2. EcoPark, long-term lease with Birmingham City Council

#### **2. To deliver a Living Landscape that is connected and resilient where nature thrives (Goal 1)**

The Trust is the lead partner of the Birmingham and Black Country Nature Improvement Area, and for the past eight years has lead development of the Ecological Strategy and delivery of nature improvement works across the area to achieve the strategy. The Trust works with and advises landowners, public and private, to identify changes to management that will improve biodiversity and provide habitat for wildlife.

#### **3. To advocate on behalf of the natural environment protecting green and blue spaces and the resilience of the ecological network through planning, policy and across all developments (Goal 3)**

Working with local authority partners and through well-established networks including (but not limited to) the Local Nature Partnership, Natural Capital Roundtable, Catchment Partnerships and Local Sites Partnership, the Trust works to influence planning and policy to benefit the natural world.

EcoRecord, The Local Environmental Records Centre for Birmingham and the Black Country, collates, analyses and communicates data and information about species and habitats across the Birmingham and Black Country area. EcoRecord provides the scientific evidence behind the ecological strategy and informs how the Trust's resources are used to achieve the greatest impact. EcoRecord has service level agreements with Birmingham City Council, Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council, City of Wolverhampton Council, HS2 and the Environment Agency, and is supported by a large network of volunteer recording groups and individual recorders.

## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **People & Wildlife Activities**

#### **4. To engage with the population of Birmingham and the Black Country, enabling them to connect with, value and choose to protect their local natural environment (Goal 2)**

The Trust's education, community events and training programmes provide opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to connect with their local wildlife sites, become inspired to take action to protect nature, empowers communities with the skills and knowledge to manage space for nature. The Trust believes our health and well-being depends on nature and that it is important for everyone to spend regular time outside in natural spaces.

#### **5. To achieve greater impacts by increasing our unrestricted income to spend on charitable purposes through membership, legacies and fundraising (Goal 4)**

Our members are the life-blood of the Trust. They are the voice for nature in their communities, they are the Trust's volunteers, campaigners and ambassadors. The membership income provides vital unrestricted income to deliver our charitable objectives.

Our corporate, legacies and fundraising programmes are emerging to increase our unrestricted income and achieve greater impacts.

#### **6. To ensure we are financially sustainable, focused and effective, making the best use of all our assets (Goal 4)**

We seek value for money in everything we do, and work hard to diversify our income streams to achieve a sustainable financial base for the Trust.

#### **7. To support all our people to achieve great outcomes for wildlife (staff, volunteers, partners, members)**

We invest time and resources into our staff, volunteers and the communities we work with to increase their skills, ensure they feel valued, and are able to achieve their full potential to have a positive impact for wildlife.



## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Public benefit**

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

Firstly, our nature reserves are used by the public. At most sites information and interpretation is provided to visitors.

Secondly, our education programmes are aimed at schools, colleges, adult groups and the wider public.

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

Fourthly the involvement of many volunteers in our work provides an outlet for altruistic endeavour, which is of special benefit to those involved as well as delivering benefits to the wider public.

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

In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including the guidance 'public benefit: running a charity' (PB2)

##### **Volunteers**

To achieve our goals we depend on the hard work and dedication of a large team of volunteers who work with us at our nature reserves, respond to planning applications, attend events, manage our website and so much more. Over the past 12 months the Trust has worked with 655 volunteers who between them have contributed an amazing 11,368 hours. We couldn't do our work without these amazing people, thank you.



## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **STRATEGIC REPORT**

##### **Achievement and performance**

##### **Charitable activities**

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

#### **Wildlife Trust Nature Reserves**

The Wildlife Trust's own nature reserves continue to be one of the main focuses of our work and allow us not only to create important sites for wildlife and people, but also enable us to demonstrate best practice in urban nature conservation. We continue to bring new investment into our nature reserves through securing grants for habitat enhancements, access improvements, and the support and training of our volunteers.

##### **- Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood**

Moseley Bog & Joy's Wood is our most visited nature reserve and visitor numbers continue to grow. The Friends group and the volunteers provide critical support and together we have continued to manage the rare fen habitat by an annual cutting of the reeds, maintained the orchid-rich meadows, repaired boardwalks and held many engagement events.

##### **- Deer's Leap Wood**

In 2019-20 the Trust secured funding to undertake restoration of the main pond and further restoration of the Shireland Brook. Tree works and clearance of historic tipping was also undertaken. The Deer's Leap Wood volunteers continue to work with the Friends of Deer's Leap Wood and the Deer's Leap Residents Association to carry out important work such as maintaining paths, weeding the newly planted hedgerows, cutting the meadows and clearing rubbish from the brook.

##### **- Portway Hill**

Volunteer numbers continue to grow helping us manage the area of the hill we own to retain the flower-rich grassland on which so many species of butterfly depend. Portway Hill is also an important geological site and we maintain the exposures of 'Rowley Rag' for the purposes of geological education.

##### **- Peascroft Wood**

Working with the volunteer group we continue to manage the site's woodland, hedgerows and meadows to maintain the biodiversity enhancements achieved in recent years. The reserve continues to attract new visitors and has become an important asset to the local community since we began our work here in 2014.

##### **- Turner's Wood**

St. Michaels Primary School continue to regularly use the reserve for forest school activities to introduce a new generation of children to nature and wild spaces. A number of events and volunteer days were also held though the year.

#### **Landscape-scale nature conservation**

The Wildlife Trust works at a landscape-scale to maximise our impact. In 2018, The Wildlife Trusts movement launched proposals for a Nature Recovery Network to put space for nature at the heart of our farming and planning systems, and to bring nature into the places where most people spend their daily lives. The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country are working towards the creation of a local Nature Recovery Map and Strategy which will enable us and our partners to increase the extent and quality of natural habitats.



## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **- Esmée Fairbairn Foundation-funded work to deliver new and enhanced wildlife-rich habitats in areas of accessible greenspace**

The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation supports the Trust to deliver biodiversity improvement projects in areas of public open space across Birmingham and the Black Country. In 2019/20 we delivered 45 biodiversity projects which included meadow creation, woodland enhancement, river restoration and hedgerow planting. A total of 264 individual volunteers donated 6,732 hours over 273 workdays to make these projects happen.

#### **- Natural Rivers & Green Corridors**

Natural Rivers and Green Corridors is a three-year project to deliver a landscape-scale approach to green and blue infrastructure improvements in Birmingham. It involves activities to restore and enhance habitats and improve ecological connectivity within public open space corridors of the upper River Rea sub-catchment in south-west Birmingham and along the River Tame corridor in west Birmingham. The project is a partnership involving Birmingham City Council, the Environment Agency and the Wildlife Trust. The Trust's role is to undertake woodland and watercourse enhancements through the planting of locally native wildflowers, to undertake woodland thinning works and to plant wetland vegetation. During 2019-20 the Trust's ability to produce woodland plants was greatly increased by the expansion of the Growing Local Flora project at Centre of the Earth.

#### **- Salmon in the Stour**

In 2019-20 we continued our Salmon in the Stour project with partners the Environment Agency, Worcestershire Wildlife Trust and Severn Rivers Trust. The project is working to improve the River Stour and its tributaries for wildlife and people by removing barriers to fish, naturalising modified channels, addressing pollution and enhancing bankside habitats. Projects undertaken include the removal of a weir in the Stour near Lye, the delivery of River Rangers sessions with 10 young people and school groups, where participants learnt about the value of their local watercourse and what they could do to help, the setting up of an angler engagement scheme and eDNA surveying of the fauna of the river. Funding was also secured to undertake a number of river restoration projects in 2020-21.

#### **Providing advice to others**

In 2019-20 the Trust advised 93 land managers on an area of land covering a total of 1,010 hectares and an additional 20 kilometres of watercourse. Over 750 hectares of this land and all of the watercourse length are designated as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) or Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINCs).

#### **Goal 2: Everyone is connected to nature.**

The Trust's education work has expanded significantly this year with the initiation of the Nature Friendly Schools project. As part of a consortium led by RSWT and funded by the Department for Education with support from the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs, this 3-year project works with schools in some of the most disadvantaged areas. 31 primary schools are taking part and work includes the enhancement of wild spaces in school grounds, bespoke training for teachers, resource packs for local wild spaces and curriculum linked sessions to take learning outside.

In total, 7271 primary school children took part in class visits, Forest School activities and after-school clubs.

The Natural Prospects project funded through the Heritage Lottery's Skills for the Future programme saw our first cohort of 6 trainees complete their placements with the Trust and our partners at Birmingham City Council, Walsall Metropolitan City Council and Wolverhampton City Council. The second cohort of 7 trainees have also embarked upon their programme, making good progress towards their City and Guilds Level 2 work-based Diplomas in Environmental Conservation. This project is helping to train the next generation of urban conservationists, increase the diversity of our sector's workforce and enhance the Trust's own capacity to deliver accredited training.

With funding from the National Express Foundation, the Trust has been able to develop its provision of level 1 training through registration as an Open College Network West Midlands Training Centre. These 8 week courses will initially be targeted at 16-25 year olds looking for practical conservation experience



## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

With support from funders including Children in Need, Awards for All and players of People's Postcode Lottery, the Trust's community engagement programmes have continued to reach over 4,500 people across the conurbation. These have included family activities based from EcoPark and Centre of the Earth, as well as the delivery of programmes with community partners - including running John Muir Awards for groups of young people, supported volunteering for people with physical disabilities and learning difficulties and a programme of volunteering and engagement activities in West Smethwick Park. The Centre of the Earth is also now home to the Poly Roger, a recycled plastic boat donated by Hubbub. This has enabled us to take to the waters and launch our programme of wildlife watching and plastic fishing tours along the Soho Loop canal.

The Trust has continued to run Nature Tots programmes enabling pre-school age children and their parents to explore the wilder sides of sites including Cannon Hill Park and Woodgate Valley.

The Trust was commissioned by Making Connections Walsall and the Parkview Clinic in South Birmingham to run Health and Well-being programmes for people who are older, isolated or overweight and for young residents of a secure mental health facility. These courses, based on the 5 Ways to Well-being, help participants to explore and enjoy the wild spaces on their doorstep, enabling them to connect with their natural environment and each other. Evaluated using the Warwick Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale, these courses help us to build an evidence base to ensure the health impacts of connecting with nature are fully appreciated by policy makers.

As part of the Greener Birmingham Coalition, the Trust helped to run the Big Green Conversation, reaching over 750 residents to establish their environmental concerns and priorities. Supported by Awards for All, this research project identified key ways in which individuals, businesses and the Council can contribute towards a greener Birmingham.

### **Goal 3: The natural environment is at the heart of planning, policy and decision making.**

#### **Ecological Evaluation of the Black Country Green Belt**

In October 2019 The Wildlife Trust and EcoRecord's Ecological Evaluation of the Black Country Green Belt was published as part of the evidence informing the ongoing review of the Black Country Plan (the strategic development plan for the four Black Country boroughs). This comprehensive study analysed a wide range of datasets and assigned a relative ecological value to individual parcels of land. The evaluation will be used by the local authorities to inform their proposed allocations of new housing and employment land in the Green Belt.

#### **Natural Capital Investment Strategy**

The Wildlife Trust have been working with our partners on building the case for the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA) to produce a Natural Capital Investment Strategy (NCIS). The NCIS proposal seeks to create a tool-kit approach to ensure investment across the WMCA has the environment integrated within all decision-making. In 2019-20 EcoRecord and partners Habitat Biodiversity Audit-Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and Spottitt Ltd. were commissioned to undertake a Satellite-derived Natural Capital and Nature Recovery Network baseline data generation and validation exercise. The final report of this study was completed in March 2020 and represents the first stage in the formulation of the NCIS.

#### **Local Wildlife and Geological Sites**

The Wildlife Trust works with local authorities and Government agencies to support the continued protection of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and Sites of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (SLINCs). We are a key member of the Local Sites Partnership and during 2019-20 were commissioned by Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton councils to undertake Local Sites ecological surveys and assessments of 34 existing and potential SINCs and SLINCs.



## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **Planning applications**

We continue to monitor and comment on planning applications which may impact upon wildlife. In 2019-20 we responded to 51 planning applications, with 21 of these refused or improved for wildlife in line with our advice and comments

#### **Goal 4: We are an effective organisation**

Membership continues to be a vital source of unrestricted income. In 2019-20 improvements were made to enable more new members to join via the website. Our approach to membership recruitment also diversified in the year through the implementation of Door to Door recruitment.

Legacies are a vital source of income and we are profoundly grateful to have been the recipient of a significant donation this year of £180,579.

The Trust has developed a range of individual giving initiatives as part of its approach to the diversification and growth of unrestricted income. This has included the development of Wild Wellbeing Days for businesses and increased community fundraising. The Trust explored a range of community fundraising opportunities during the year including community events, donation boxes hosted in shops and pubs and donation bucket collections at train stations and supermarkets. The Trust ran a series of 6 'My wild Day of Action' events in each area of Birmingham and the Black Country attracting over 230 attendees, who took part in practical activities such as pond dipping; 5% of attendees subsequently joined as a member.

The Trust was chosen as one of two charities by the Mayor of Dudley with invitations to unique mayoral fundraising events. Relationships and opportunities with businesses were also developed during the year as the Trust saw an increase in Wild Work Days and secured a new partnership. Almost 300 individuals from a range of businesses attended Wild Work Days, paid for by the employer, these days are an opportunity for employees to experience volunteering with the Trust and to learn about valuable local habitats. The Trust also developed its network with businesses through a breakfast meeting and regular newsletters. A global legal firm chose the Wildlife Trusts as its UK charity partner for a 3-year term during the year which includes pro bono legal support and unique fundraising opportunities.

#### **Financial review**

##### **Financial position**

Trust income is split between unrestricted and restricted funds. Unrestricted income represents money raised or given to support the Trust's achievement of core charitable aims. Membership, donations, general fundraising and some charitable trust donations were given as unrestricted income.

Restricted income is given for a specific purpose with clear outputs to be achieved. Restricted income for this period includes National Prospects funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, EcoRecord Service Level Agreements with local authorities and several Environmental Undertakings. Restricted income has increased against 2018/19 financial year due to those Environmental Undertakings which will be delivered in 2020/21.

Total income has increased from £978,061 in 2018/19 to £1,499,483 in 2019/20. The Trust has invested in membership as an essential income stream that enables us to deliver core charitable aims that are not always possible to fund through restricted income such as our work to protect nature through the planning system.

Membership accounts for 16% of the Trust's income and the Business Plan sets out how this will grow over three years. Unrestricted income (including membership) is 56% of total income. The Trust aims for this to be 70% to represent a sustainable financial position.



## WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020

#### STRATEGIC REPORT

##### Financial review

##### Principal funding sources

##### Income comprises of the following:-

**Membership, donations, legacies** - Contains income from our members, donations given at events and through our presence in the community and legacies (we have had one legacy in 2019/20)

**Charitable activities** - Projects and services delivered in Birmingham & Black Country in line with the Trusts aims and objectives.

**Trading & Other income** - Includes Royalties received, interest income, hire income and rental income.

One of the biggest challenges for the Trust over the next few years will be to diversify our unrestricted income sources to provide resilience to the organisation. The other main focus will be to increase the donations and legacies received by the Trust. Compared to other Wildlife Trusts nationally we achieve similar levels of funding through grants but are not performing as well in encouraging corporate partners and legacy donations. We will learn from our sister Trusts to improve our performance in these areas. We know we need to do more to secure our membership which is explained below.

##### Expenditure

The Trust's expenditure increased from £878,519 to £1,025,600 in 2019/20, which is broken down below.

Every penny we receive is spent on achieving our charitable aims. Overheads include rents for our sites, running our office and insurance to ensure we are a responsible and sustainable organisation.

**Charitable Activity** - This covers our staffing costs and direct project costs to deliver projects and services so as to meet our charitable aims and objectives.

**Fundraising costs** - Fees are paid to Wildlife Fundraising Central (WFC) for the recruitment of new members as part of our Face to Face membership recruitment agreement. WFC are owned by the Wildlife Trusts and work with six Trusts across the UK. The agreement with WFC came to an end in March 2020 with the loan repaid. Other costs include recruitment through the Join Anywhere scheme via other Wildlife Trusts, online membership recruitment as well as production of membership magazines throughout the year. The trust uses a part-time Door to Door membership recruiter to help diversify membership recruitment methods

**Overheads** - These are the running costs to maintain our sites and head-quarters covering areas such as rent, rates, gas, electric, telephones and insurance.

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

## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **STRATEGIC REPORT**

##### **Financial review**

##### **Reserves policy**

Trustees keep the reserves of the Trust under regular review. In previous years, these have been limited by the Charity's funds available. Having regard to the increasing scale of the Trust's operations and Covid uncertainties, the Trustees have this year set a reserves policy to aim at reserves equivalent to nine month's core operating costs equating to approximately £500,000. Such reserves would be held in case of any sudden decline in income or unexpected cost or risk exposure, and to ensure that the commitments to meet contractual obligations to staff, premises and funding partners can be met.

After designated funds of £323,550 and the revaluation reserve of £59,239, the Trustees have met this aim with current unrestricted reserves standing at £498,461 at 31 March 2020. The Trustees continue to be mindful of the requirement to operate within tight financial constraints.

Whilst there can be uncertainty in relation to the timing and amount of charitable grants and receipts, the Trustee Directors believe that the Trust's record of obtaining further funding will continue, albeit, with uncertainties as to when cash actually becomes available.

The amount of restricted reserves at 31 March 2020 is £255,851.

##### **Principal risks and uncertainties**

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

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

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

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



## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **STRATEGIC REPORT**

##### **Future plans**

Future plans are set out in the Trust's strategy until 2022 and the delivery is detailed in the Business Plan. The Trust has a big ambition to protect wildlife, restore wild spaces and inspire people to take action to support nature's recovery across our region. We are in an exciting period for the Trust where we have the opportunity to make a real difference to the natural environment of Birmingham and the Black Country, despite the challenging times. Nationally and locally there have been calls on decision makers to consider the natural world in recovery plans in the wake of the pandemic. The ability to access nature close to home has been seen by many as vital during these difficult times, and we want to be able to continue to play a critical role in protecting and providing access to wildlife and wild spaces in our region while advocating for a greener recovery. To do this we need to encourage more people to engage with and support us, we need to grow our resources, and we need to develop and maintain effective partnerships.

In 2020/21 we will continue to work with conservation and friend's groups, as well as our volunteers to protect our local wildlife sites. Working with key partners we will drive forward the creation of a local Nature Recovery Map and Strategy which will enable us to increase the extent and quality of natural habitats across the region. We will develop the next phase of the Salmon in the Stour project to ensure the River Stour and its tributaries, once an important industrial watercourse but now a key ecological corridor, is restored for both wildlife and people.

We will continue to provide opportunities for people of all ages to connect with and be inspired by nature through our education, engagement and community outreach activities. To do this we will ensure that we develop programmes that are relevant to those we wish to connect with. With funding secured from Reaching Communities, Veolia, The Joyce Farley Fion and the Community and Environment Fund of High Speed 2, we will proceed with the construction of our new Eco-classroom, enabling us to further develop our work in the east of Birmingham among communities that could benefit significantly from increased access to green and wild spaces. We will also drive forward the Nature Friendly Schools programme which will allow us to grow our school improvement services. At Centre of the Earth in Winson Green, we will deliver a project to enable urban residents to learn about the health and well-being benefits of being in nature, while participating in supported volunteering or working towards an Open College Network Level 1 qualification in Environmental Conservation.

As per the Trust's business plan there are plans to diversify and grow unrestricted income through services, membership and fundraising initiatives. We will continue to test and learn from digital fundraising initiatives. We will build our relationships with individual supporters and also with our corporate partners. Growing our membership will remain a priority, along with encouraging legacy giving as a powerful way for people to make a significant difference for local wildlife.

To ensure we are an effective organisation the Trust is committed to developing a highly skilled and motivated team of employees and volunteers. We want to ensure our people have the opportunity to learn and develop their skills. We will be investing in our approach to managing and developing our people, in particular through the development of a people strategy as well as a volunteer recognition strategy.

We will be investing in our headquarters at the Centre of the Earth, improving the facilities for both our staff and volunteers, and the people we welcome to our nature outdoor learning spaces.

The effects of the coronavirus pandemic are just beginning to be felt and we anticipate it will have a significant impact on the Trust. Next year we will need to consider the long term implications for our operations and our financial models.



## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **STRATEGIC REPORT**

##### **Covid 19**

The unprecedented challenge presented by the global pandemic this year has meant that the Trust, along with many other charities, has had to adapt its plans to respond to the immediate impact of the crisis and to shift its focus onto survival in the short term. At the beginning of lockdown, we had no choice but to furlough the majority of our staff and pause much of our day to day and development activity in order to focus efforts on securing emergency funds and contract work. All face to face activity was suspended. Thankfully, we have been able to secure significant emergency funds from Esmée Fairbairn and the National Lottery Heritage Fund, as well as make use of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme. The pandemic has meant that the Trust has had to re-evaluate its plans for development in the short to medium term. We have inevitably questioned the current plans to grow our unrestricted income streams through visitor facing facilities and direct membership recruitment activity; this kind of income has proven to be very vulnerable during the pandemic. We have focussed our efforts on building organisational resilience and effectiveness so that we are best placed to face the ongoing uncertainty that Covid 19 brings, as well as improve our reputation and profile for impact for delivery and impact.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Governing document**

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country is one of 46 independent charities, which form a national partnership - The Wildlife Trusts through the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts. Collectively we manage 2,300 nature reserves covering 102,500 hectares of land for wildlife and for people, inspiring 13 million visits to wildlife sites. Together we have **849,584** members. The Trust's family membership is also part of the national environment club, Wildlife Watch, which provides projects for members and affiliated schools, involving them directly with environmental issues.

The Trust is a registered charity (No. 513615) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 1650938).

The Trust was established in 1980 to protect our local natural heritage and encourage people to engage, enjoy and get involved with the natural environment. We are a membership organisation, governed by a Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Work is carried out by a staff team total of 35 individuals (at 31 March 2020) 24.79 full time equivalent posts. During the year the Trust had 7 trainees funded through Heritage Lottery Fund's Natural Prospects programme who will complete their traineeship in August 2020.. The Trust could not achieve the impacts we do without the commitment and hard work of a large number of volunteers.

In the event of the company being wound up members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding 50p.

##### **Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

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



## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Organisational structure**

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

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

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

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

##### **Induction and training of new trustees**

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

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

Developments in Charity Law and Practice are monitored and important developments are brought to the notice of Trustees by the Executive.

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

##### **Key management remuneration**

None of the Trustees receive remuneration or benefit for their work with the group and charity. Any connection between Trustees and any company the Trust works with is disclosed to the board. Financial details of which are disclosed in note 3 to the accounts.

##### **Wider network**

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.

##### **Related parties**

Wildlife Fundraising Central Limited is a company which was set up with 8 Wildlife Trusts. Part of the setting up arrangement a loan of £10,000 was repaid in the year.

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.

## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Risk management**

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

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

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

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

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **Registered Company number**

01650938 (England and Wales)

##### **Registered Charity number**

513615

##### **Registered office**

Centre Of The Earth  
42 Norman Street  
Winson Green  
Birmingham  
West Midlands  
B18 7EP

##### **Trustees**

N Crombie Vice Chair  
Ms M Knight  
S J Needle Chair  
M C G Smith Treasurer  
A Taylor  
I C Trueman  
A J Wood (resigned 22.9.19)  
P W Beardmore  
Ms A Bright  
Mrs C M Spencer (resigned 23.1.20)  
Ms L C Pinney (appointed 21.7.20)

##### **Auditors**

Luckmans Duckett Parker Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditors  
1110 Elliott Court  
Herald Avenue  
Coventry Business Park  
Coventry  
West Midlands  
CV5 6UB



## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

##### **BANKERS**

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

##### **Key management personnel**

##### **Chief Executive**

Delia Garratt

Simon Atkinson - Head of Conservation  
Gareth Morgan - Head of Education and Engagement  
Emma Thompson - Head of Fundraising and Communication  
Atul Thaker - Head of Finance and Resources

##### **AND FINALLY....**

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country is your organisation. Together we protect and improve local wildlife and natural spaces. The Trust is the natural home for people with a passion for the environment, nature conservation, wild places, Birmingham and the Black Country. Our work is more important than ever as the space for nature decreases with mounting pressures for housing, transportation, food and economic regeneration.

At the Trust we work hard for local wildlife and for local people. We know that the health of our natural environment and our own health, well-being and even prosperity are closely linked. We couldn't do this work without the support and commitment of you, our members or the dedication of our staff and inspirational volunteers.

We would like to thank you all for supporting the Trust over the past 12 months and look forward to working with you in the years to come. We know there are many challenges ahead but also opportunities. Together we can achieve a truly sustainable future for Birmingham and the Black Country where nature flourishes along with people.

Thank you

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

In approving the Trustees' Annual Report, we also approve the Strategic Report included therein, in our capacity as company directors.

##### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Wildlife Trust For B'ham & Black Country for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES - continued**

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.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website.

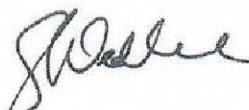
#### **STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS**

So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and each trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make them aware of any audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

#### **AUDITORS**

The auditors, Luckmans Duckett Parker Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 24 November 2020 and signed on the board's behalf by:



S J Needle - Trustee



## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Wildlife Trust For B'ham & Black Country (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2020 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 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 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 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 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 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 Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.



## **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **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 Report of the Trustees.

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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

### **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**

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.

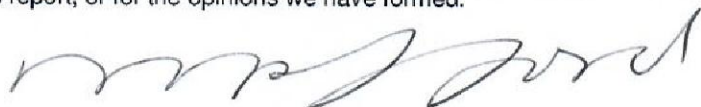
A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.



**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**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 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 members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Mark Spafford FCCA ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Luckmans Duckett Parker Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditors  
1110 Elliott Court  
Herald Avenue  
Coventry Business Park  
Coventry  
West Midlands  
CV5 6UB

Date: 6th December 2020

**Note:**

The maintenance and integrity of the Wildlife Trust For B'ham & Black Country website is the responsibility of the trustees; the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the website.

**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
for the year ended 31 March 2020**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	457,838	-	457,838	252,640
<b>Charitable activities</b>	3				
Conservation, Engagement and Influence		538,315	496,923	1,035,238	716,381
Other income		6,407	-	6,407	9,040
<b>Total</b>		<u>1,002,560</u>	<u>496,923</u>	<u>1,499,483</u>	<u>978,061</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
Raising funds	4	37,324	-	37,324	40,142
<b>Charitable activities</b>	5				
Conservation, Engagement and Influence		581,240	407,036	988,276	838,377
<b>Total</b>		<u>618,564</u>	<u>407,036</u>	<u>1,025,600</u>	<u>878,519</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>		<u>383,996</u>	<u>89,887</u>	<u>473,883</u>	<u>99,542</u>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		497,254	165,964	663,218	563,676
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>881,250</u></u>	<u><u>255,851</u></u>	<u><u>1,137,101</u></u>	<u><u>663,218</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements



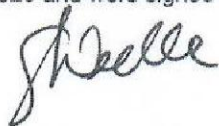
**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31 March 2020**

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	11	59,670	79,547
Heritage assets	12	79,762	79,762
		<u>139,432</u>	<u>159,309</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors	13	512,547	150,863
Cash at bank		671,651	539,840
		<u>1,184,198</u>	<u>690,703</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(186,529)	(178,876)
		<u>997,669</u>	<u>511,827</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
		<u>1,137,101</u>	<u>671,136</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
		1,137,101	671,136
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	15	-	(7,918)
		<u>1,137,101</u>	<u>663,218</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			
		<u>1,137,101</u>	<u>663,218</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	19		
Unrestricted funds		881,250	497,254
Restricted funds		255,851	165,964
		<u>1,137,101</u>	<u>663,218</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			
		<u>1,137,101</u>	<u>663,218</u>

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 on 24 November 2020 and were signed on its behalf by:



S J Needle - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
for the year ended 31 March 2020

	Notes	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash generated from operations	1	157,085	100,469
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>157,085</u>	<u>100,469</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,274)	(18,040)
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(1,274)</u>	<u>(18,040)</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Loan repayments in year		(24,000)	(24,000)
Net cash used in financing activities		<u>(24,000)</u>	<u>(24,000)</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		<u>131,811</u>	<u>58,429</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>		<u>539,840</u>	<u>481,411</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>		<u><u>671,651</u></u>	<u><u>539,840</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements



**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT  
for the year ended 31 March 2020**

**1. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	2020 £	2019 £
<b>Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	473,883	99,542
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	21,151	13,436
Increase in debtors	(361,684)	(3,942)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	23,735	(8,567)
<b>Net cash provided by operations</b>	<u>157,085</u>	<u>100,469</u>

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

	At 1.4.19 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.20 £
<b>Net cash</b>			
Cash at bank	539,840	131,811	671,651
	<u>539,840</u>	<u>131,811</u>	<u>671,651</u>
<b>Debt</b>			
Debts falling due within 1 year	(24,000)	16,082	(7,918)
Debts falling due after 1 year	(7,918)	7,918	-
	<u>(31,918)</u>	<u>24,000</u>	<u>(7,918)</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>507,922</u>	<u>155,811</u>	<u>663,733</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **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, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

##### **Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

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

- Voluntary income includes members subscriptions, donations (including related gift aid tax) legacies and grants of a general nature.
- Income from trading activities includes income earned from fundraising events and trading activities to raise funds for the charity
- Contractual income is recorded when receivable.
- Grants received during the year which relate to the following financial year are carried forward in creditors.

##### **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.

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis, meaning that the cost is identified as a liability awaiting payment, based on the date of the event, rather than the point that cash is paid. The expenditure is allocated to the appropriate cost heading in the financial statements.

- Costs of generating funds relate to expenditure incurred in raising voluntary income and fundraising trading costs.
- Charitable activities' expenditure relates to expenditure on meeting the charitable objects. This includes materials and bought in services, staff costs, information systems, communications, rented accommodation and general management directly chargeable to projects, thereby covering both internal costs and external charges for such costs. Such costs incurred internally are apportioned to projects based on direct staffing levels.
- Governance costs are associated with the governance arrangements of the charitable company and relate to the professional costs of running the charity.
- Support costs including staff costs, information systems, communications, office accommodation and general management, are fully apportioned to other cost categories, and are primarily based on direct staffing levels.
- Membership recruitment costs, where an agency charges the trust a fee based on the first years membership income for recruitment of new members, are charged to the accounts over a period of 10 months. Surplus new income is therefore only recognised in the accounts after this period has ended and this policy is viewed as being prudent.

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.



## WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 March 2020

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

Short leasehold property	- 4% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% straight line

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

##### **Heritage assets**

Land, classified as heritage assets, had previously been included in the accounts at cost. The trustees value the assets every 5 years (a change from the previous annual approach) as this provides more relevant information on the activities and assets held by the charity.

Where information on the cost or valuation of heritage assets is not available or the cost of providing such information significantly outweighs any benefit to the users of the accounts then heritage assets are not recognised on the balance sheet.

Acquisitions only arise when donated to the charity or if it is believed that they will further the charity's objectives.

Full details of original cost can be found in note 8 to the accounts.

##### **Taxation**

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

The charity is partially exempt for VAT. VAT that is irrecoverable due to the partial exemption are allocated to the appropriate cost categories and funds.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes or as suggested in a letter of wishes.

The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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

##### **Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

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

##### **Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

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

##### **Basic financial instruments**

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
for the year ended 31 March 2020

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Donations	277,259	236,878
Legacies	180,579	15,762
	<u>457,838</u>	<u>252,640</u>

**3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	2020	2019
	Conservation, Engagement and Influence £	Total activities £
Conservation & Wildlife	<u>1,035,238</u>	<u>716,381</u>

**4. RAISING FUNDS**

**Raising donations and legacies**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Raising voluntary income costs	<u>37,324</u>	<u>40,142</u>

**5. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 6) £	Totals £
Conservation, Engagement and Influence	<u>877,071</u>	<u>111,205</u>	<u>988,276</u>

**6. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Management £	Governance costs £	Totals £
Conservation, Engagement and Influence	<u>97,408</u>	<u>13,797</u>	<u>111,205</u>

**7. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

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

	2020	2019
	£	£
Auditing of accounts	5,400	5,413
Depreciation - owned assets	21,151	13,436
Hire of plant and machinery	1,381	1,485
Other operating leases	<u>7,898</u>	<u>8,208</u>



# WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 March 2020

### 8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2020 nor for the year ended 31 March 2019.

#### Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2020 nor for the year ended 31 March 2019.

### 9. STAFF COSTS

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	636,413	518,601
Social security costs	44,298	32,086
Other pension costs	35,416	38,783
	<u>716,127</u>	<u>589,470</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	2020	2019
Direct charitable work	31	24
Administrative	2	1
	<u>33</u>	<u>25</u>

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

The key management personnel, the senior management team, received total employee benefits in the year of £177,251 (2019 - £194,718). The key management personnel comprise the Chief Executive Officer, Head of Finance & Resources, Head of Education & Education, Head of Conservation and Head of Fundraising & Communications.

### 10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	252,640	-	252,640
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Conservation, Engagement and Influence	342,430	373,951	716,381
Other income	9,040	-	9,040
<b>Total</b>	<u>604,110</u>	<u>373,951</u>	<u>978,061</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
Raising funds	40,142	-	40,142
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Conservation, Engagement and Influence	481,258	357,119	838,377
<b>Total</b>	<u>521,400</u>	<u>357,119</u>	<u>878,519</u>

**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
for the year ended 31 March 2020

**10. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>NET INCOME</b>	82,710	16,832	99,542
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	414,544	149,132	563,676
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>497,254</u>	<u>165,964</u>	<u>663,218</u>

**11. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Short leasehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Totals £
<b>COST</b>			
At 1 April 2019	195,038	76,706	271,744
Additions	-	1,274	1,274
At 31 March 2020	<u>195,038</u>	<u>77,980</u>	<u>273,018</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 April 2019	138,117	54,080	192,197
Charge for year	12,964	8,187	21,151
At 31 March 2020	<u>151,081</u>	<u>62,267</u>	<u>213,348</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31 March 2020	<u>43,957</u>	<u>15,713</u>	<u>59,670</u>
At 31 March 2019	<u>56,921</u>	<u>22,626</u>	<u>79,547</u>

The Centre Of The Earth is built on land which is leased from Birmingham City Council on a twenty five year lease from 24 March 1998. The net book value as at 31 December 1997 is being written off over the term of the lease by equal annual instalments.

**12. HERITAGE ASSETS**

	Total £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1 April 2019 and 31 March 2020	<u>79,762</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31 March 2020	<u>79,762</u>
At 31 March 2019	<u>79,762</u>

If the Land had not been revalued it would have been included in the accounts at the following historical cost totally £20,523. This is broken down to £10,523 being the amount paid for land and £10,000 being the value of land donated. There has been no change to these values in the last five years.



# **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

## **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued** **for the year ended 31 March 2020**

### **12. HERITAGE ASSETS - continued**

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

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

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

The number of acquisitions in the last 5 years is nil.

The Trustees are aware that the valuation of the heritage assets has been increasing in recent years, and this has not been reflected in the financial statements. Due to the current Covid restrictions, assessing a fair value at this time has its difficulties and uncertainties. The Trustees will conduct a full valuation exercise to provide a fully updated valuation for the 2021 accounts

### **13. DEBTORS**

	2020 £	2019 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Trade debtors	466,158	104,646
Prepayments	46,389	36,217
	<u>512,547</u>	<u>140,863</u>
Amounts falling due after more than one year:		
Loan to associate	<u>-</u>	<u>10,000</u>
Aggregate amounts	<u>512,547</u>	<u>150,863</u>

### **14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2020 £	2019 £
Other loans (see note 16)	7,918	24,000
Trade creditors	62,637	46,463
Social security and other taxes	82,071	76,871
Other creditors	6,483	-
Deferred income	19,500	25,624
Accrued expenses	7,920	5,918
	<u>186,529</u>	<u>178,876</u>

The loan from The Wildlife Trusts is repayable in equal instalments of £2,000 per month.

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

**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
for the year ended 31 March 2020

**15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR**

	2020	2019
	£	£
Other loans (see note 16)	-	7,918
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**16. LOANS**

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Other loans	7,918	24,000
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Amounts falling between one and two years:		
Other loans - 1-2 years	-	7,918
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**17. LEASING AGREEMENTS**

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

	2020	2019
	£	£
Within one year	7,976	5,395
Between one and five years	14,006	17,250
In more than five years	15,050	17,200
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	37,032	39,845
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**18. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020 Total funds £	2019 Total funds £
Fixed assets	139,432	-	139,432	159,309
Current assets	928,347	255,851	1,184,198	690,703
Current liabilities	(186,529)	-	(186,529)	(178,876)
Long term liabilities	-	-	-	(7,918)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	881,250	255,851	1,137,101	663,218
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>



**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
for the year ended 31 March 2020

**19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.19 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.20 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	278,256	220,205	498,461
Designated Fund	159,759	163,791	323,550
Revaluation Reserve	59,239	-	59,239
	<u>497,254</u>	<u>383,996</u>	<u>881,250</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Catchment (Western Park)	23,400	-	23,400
Salmon in the Stour (17-18)	14,664	(14,664)	-
Salmon in the Stour (18-19)	40,000	(33,472)	6,528
River Cole	75,000	(6,000)	69,000
Other awards	12,900	2,350	15,250
South Staffordshire Water	-	13,594	13,594
National Express	-	15,000	15,000
Reaching Communities	-	33,794	33,794
Veolia Capital Funding	-	57,785	57,785
Salmon in the Stour (19-20 - Dunelm Weir)	-	21,500	21,500
	<u>165,964</u>	<u>89,887</u>	<u>255,851</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>663,218</u>	<u>473,883</u>	<u>1,137,101</u>

**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
for the year ended 31 March 2020

**19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	577,711	(357,506)	220,205
Designated Fund	424,848	(261,057)	163,791
	<u>1,002,559</u>	<u>(618,563)</u>	<u>383,996</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Salmon in the Stour (17-18)	-	(14,664)	(14,664)
Salmon in the Stour (18-19)	-	(33,472)	(33,472)
Natural Rivers & Green Corridors	40,464	(40,464)	-
River Cole	-	(6,000)	(6,000)
Natural Prospects HLF	135,221	(135,221)	-
Birmingham City Council - EcoRecord	20,500	(20,500)	-
Other awards	79,543	(77,193)	2,350
Birmingham LNP	12,000	(12,000)	-
South Staffordshire Water	13,594	-	13,594
National Express	20,000	(5,000)	15,000
Reaching Communities	34,440	(646)	33,794
Veolia Capital Funding	60,000	(2,215)	57,785
Salmon in the Stour (19-20 - Dunelm Weir)	27,500	(6,000)	21,500
People Postcode Lottery (Nature Schools)	53,662	(53,662)	-
	<u>496,924</u>	<u>(407,037)</u>	<u>89,887</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u><u>1,499,483</u></u>	<u><u>(1,025,600)</u></u>	<u><u>473,883</u></u>



**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued**  
for the year ended 31 March 2020

**19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.18 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.19 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	201,255	77,001	278,256
Designated Fund	154,050	5,709	159,759
Revaluation Reserve	59,239	-	59,239
	<u>414,544</u>	<u>82,710</u>	<u>497,254</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Esmee Fairbairn	27,010	(27,010)	-
Catchment (Western Park)	23,400	-	23,400
Salmon in the Stour (17-18)	37,090	(22,426)	14,664
Environment Agency	12,500	(12,500)	-
Salmon in the Stour (18-19)	-	40,000	40,000
River Cole	-	75,000	75,000
Natural Prospects HLF	-	3,000	3,000
Other awards	20,765	(11,515)	9,250
HLF Transitional Fund	28,367	(27,717)	650
	<u>149,132</u>	<u>16,832</u>	<u>165,964</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>563,676</u>	<u>99,542</u>	<u>663,218</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	436,860	(359,859)	77,001
Designated Fund	167,250	(161,541)	5,709
	<u>604,110</u>	<u>(521,400)</u>	<u>82,710</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Esmee Fairbairn	-	(27,010)	(27,010)
Salmon in the Stour (17-18)	-	(22,426)	(22,426)
Environment Agency	-	(12,500)	(12,500)
Salmon in the Stour (18-19)	40,000	-	40,000
Natural Rivers & Green Corridors	24,359	(24,359)	-
River Cole	75,000	-	75,000
Natural Prospects HLF	98,663	(95,663)	3,000
Birmingham City Council - EcoRecord	20,109	(20,109)	-
Other awards	115,820	(127,335)	(11,515)
HLF Transitional Fund	-	(27,717)	(27,717)
	<u>373,951</u>	<u>(357,119)</u>	<u>16,832</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>978,061</u>	<u>(878,519)</u>	<u>99,542</u>

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

## **WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued for the year ended 31 March 2020**

#### **19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

The designated fund of £323,550 (2019: £159,759) relates to the balance of funds received in the accounts for the year to 31 March 2020 remaining unspent designated by the Trustees for use on our commitments post year end. The Trust council agreed in July 2020 to designate £60,000 towards the EcoPark capital project

The restricted fund represents monies receivable for projects which can only be spent on their respective activities as imposed by the donor or grant making body.

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

More detailed disclosure on description nature and purpose of the funds, reasons for restrictions etc are listed below:-

##### **Conservation**

Restricted Funds for the Trust's conservation work delivery against Goal 1 and includes

- managing our Nature Reserves (many smaller awards)
- Improving spaces for nature through the Nature Improvement Area (Esmee Fairbairn)
- Ecological surveys (Environment agency and other smaller awards)
- Development of water catchment improvement works along the River Stour (Salmon in the Stour)
- Natural Rivers project will improve woodlands, grasslands, wetlands and watercourses along the River Rea and its tributaries in south-west Birmingham and the River Tame in west Birmingham. (Natural Rivers)
- River Cole Partnership with the Environment Agency for the restoration and naturalisation 940 m of urban river catchments

##### **Planning and Advocacy**

- Biodiversity - service level agreements with local authorities supporting biodiversity improvement activities including surveying sites and advising planners

##### **EcoRecord**

- Service Level agreements or provide ecological records and services from the biological record centre for Birmingham and the Black Country

##### **People and Wildlife**

- HLF skills for the Future - delivery of the Natural Prospects trainee programme

##### **Resources**

- HLF Transitional Fund - improvements to internal systems to make the Trust more effective including improved CRM system and development of income generating activities.

#### **20. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

Wildlife Fundraising (Central) Limited is a company set up in 2013 by eight Wildlife Trusts following the demise of a previously used fundraising company. As part of the setting up arrangement each trust was to provide a loan to the company. The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country Limited provided £10,000 (secured by a fixed and floating charge). This has now been repaid in the year.

There is no share capital as the company is limited by guarantee. The Trusts liability is limited to £1 in the event of liquidation.

The Wildlife Trust for Birmingham and the Black Country Limited paid commission amounting to £33,610 (net of VAT) (2019 - £23,600) to Wildlife Fundraising (Central) Limited during the year, and the Trust owes the company a balance of £5,297 (gross) (2019 - £2,223) at the year end for commission invoiced but not yet paid.



**WILDLIFE TRUST FOR B'HAM & BLACK COUNTRY**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
for the year ended 31 March 2020**

**20. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES - continued**

The Trust is affiliated to The Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT), a registered charity that acts as an umbrella group for county wildlife trusts, and provides assistance and co-ordination of activities and campaigning at a UK level. An annual contribution is payable to RSWT amounting to £10,000 (2019: £9,820). The trust also purchased publications and other sundries from RSWT amounting to £9,195 (2019 - £11,444), with £1,696 (2019 - £3,435) owed to RSWT at the year end. Sales made to RSWT were £4,511 (2019: £2,193) and amounts owed by RSWT were £1,380 at the year end (2019: £120).

Details of a loan from RSWT to the Trust can be found in note 14 to the accounts.

Donations of £20,000 (2019: £30,000) were received without conditions from charitable trusts in which trustees of this charity are also trustees of the donor charitable trusts.