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# THE HOWLETTS WILD ANIMAL TRUST CHARITY REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

**Charity registration number** 1100845 **Company registration number** 04711904

**Trustees** J D A Aspinall (Chairman)

T Aspinall

G J Farley (appointed 8 March 2021) D W Hulme (appointed 2 February 2022) H F Blackman (appointed 21 February 2022)

P O'Driscoll (appointed 8 March and resigned 15 November 2021)

Company secretary C Morrissey

Key Management PersonnelJ D A AspinallL EdneyS JeffreyR AmlotG J FarleyA B Kelly

F Aresti M Ford T McKenzie J Ash C Gilbody C Morrissey T Aspinall A Harland J Riggs S Bailey J Hopper D Sutton H F Blackman K Wild L Horton J Buckingham-Dudley D W Hulme K Yousfi

M Davidson

**Registered office** Port Lympne Hotel and Reserve

Lympne Nr Hythe Kent CT21 4PD

Independent Auditor Azets Audit Services

5th Floor

Ashford Commercial Quarter

1 Dover Place Ashford Kent TN23 1FB

**Bankers** Barclays Bank PLC

1 Churchill Place

London E14 5HP

Solicitors Girlings LLP Loyens & Loeff Russell Cooke

Stourside Place 15 Austin Friars 8 Bedford Row Station Road London London Ashford EC2N 2HE WC1R 4BX

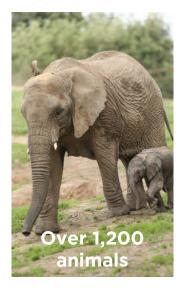
Kent TN23 1PP



# **Our Mission Statement**

- To provide high quality care for confiscated or rescued wild animals and breeding of species that have a demonstrable direct conservation value or that can be released into the wild
- To improve the welfare of every individual animal in our care for the duration of their lives
- To communicate our objectives in a transparent and honest way and to focus only on those activities that truly deliver viable and substantial in situ conservation benefits

# **Our Year Highlights at a Glance**









# **Howletts births (2021)**

# Port Lympne births (2021)

Species	Number of births	Species	Number of births
Western lowland gorilla	1	Przewalski's wild horses	2
Serval	4	Squirrel monkey	3
De Brazza's monkey	1	De Brazza's monkey	1
Clouded leopard	1	Drill	2
Eastern bongo	1	Javan gibbon	1
Francois' langur	2	Lion	5
Greater kudu	3	Mishmi takin	1
Javan gibbon	1	Serval	3
Pied tamarin	2	Owston's palm civet	1
		Hog deer, spotted deer, red lechwe	120
		Sambar	6
		White-belted ruffed lemur	5

# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021 CHAIRMANS REPORT

2021 was a continuation of the worldwide pandemic which has blighted so many lives, communities, and businesses. As we entered the year, with both our parks closed to the public, the future was again uncertain.

Our dedicated animal staff continued to care and look after our animals through this period, which without any furlough or government support for those having to be employed was a difficult time for THWAT. ("The Howletts Wild Animal Trust" or "Trust").

As we emerged from the pandemic in April and May I am delighted to report that through the considerable efforts of our teams, in what were trying and difficult circumstances, we traded exceptionally strongly throughout the rest of the year.

Aided by a strong UK demand for the product and with the customer offering perfectly placed to take advantage of the trading environment the Trust has returned a significant surplus for the 2021 financial year. This far exceeds any other reported surplus in the Trust's history and has eliminated the negative reserves reported in previous accounts.

We are enormously proud of our breeding record at THWAT, and the quality of life that we give to the animals in our care. During the year we were able to continue with our breeding programs at the Parks and 2021 saw over 160 births across 20 species.

In addition, our education programs are specifically designed to ensure that future generations continue to care passionately about animals and their environment, and appreciate nature's ecosystem, and the benefits that animals bring to mankind.

The pandemic has created many challenges, not least the translocation of animals overseas. 2021 was therefore limited in the number of animals that could be sent back to the wild in partnership with The Aspinall Foundation ("TAF" or "the Foundation").

However, we continue to prepare animals for rewilding and in 2021 we commenced with the preparation of the relocation of our herd of 13 African elephants. This will be a record-breaking rewilding and will be a landmark in worldwide conservation. It is a long complex process, but we are committed to making it work.

It goes without saying that our continued thanks go to The Aspinall Foundation, with whom we work very closely, and collaborate on many animal projects together. Details of The Aspinall Foundation's work can be found on www.aspinallfoundation. org

Looking to the future there are further challenges ahead. The cost-of-living crisis, the spiralling cost of energy and more local challenges that both parks face in managing the disruption to travel in the East Kent area, due to disruption at Dover docks and Operation Brock, will add further challenges following the Covid-impacted years.

However I am quietly confident that we will navigate these challenges, as we have the pandemic, and continue to deliver surpluses which will support our world leading breeding and conservation work.













# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

#### Introduction

The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the consolidated financial statements of the Charity and its subsidiary for the year ended 31 December 2021 which are also prepared to meet the requirements for a directors' report and financial statements for Companies Act 2006 purposes.

The financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006, the Charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102).

## **Strategic Report**

## **Objectives and Strategy**

THWAT objectives, as set out in its Memorandum and Articles of Association, are

The advancement and promotion (whether in England or elsewhere in the world) for the public benefit of education and useful knowledge in relation to the science of zoology the preservation and exhibition of living animals and in particular (without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing)

- 1) The preservation and exhibition of wild animals in danger of extinction
- 2) The conservation of wildlife habitats
- 3) The maintenance and expansion of breeding groups

COVID-19 continued to impact us into 2021, requiring our parks to remain shut at the start of the year, and not reopen until 12th April 2021. We were not able to offer the full range of our accommodation and ancillary services until 17th May. We continued to receive assistance through the furlough scheme for some staff. Although our veterinary team and animal handlers were consistently employed and could not avail of the furlough scheme, as our animals still required their normal care and attention

Our parks (and income derived from our trading subsidiary) provide the core income and building blocks on which our charitable aims are able to thrive. Recovering visitor numbers safely and appropriately was a priority, as is continuing to invest in the visitor experience in an increasingly competitive market.

Whilst it now appears that we have COVID-19 in the rear view mirror, the challenges to the business have been replaced with a cost-of-living crisis, soaring energy bills and as international markets reopen, the impact that may have on the UK staycation market. We hope that the positive engagement that our visitors have had on our parks, and the support for our conservation work, will ensure that they continue to support us going forward.

Volunteers have been a huge factor in our success, particularly through the COVID-19 affected years. They are essential to the work we do and assisted hugely in enabling the parks to reopen safely.

THWAT's achievements would not be possible without the generosity of its supporters. We would like to thank all the individuals, companies and agencies who have supported us during 2021.

# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

## **Animal Collection and Breeding Successes**

THWAT has its own collection planning process for each of its parks, which is strongly influenced by our own mission, aims, geography, facilities, expertise, history, and budget.

Our Covid-delayed plans are now getting back on track, with rewilding firmly back on the agenda, and THWAT has donated animals to The Aspinall Foundation's rewilding projects during 2021 and continues to do so during 2022. These donations include a European bison to Romania, two cheetahs to South Africa and two lions to a sanctuary in South Africa. We are always available to assist animals around the globe and continue to look for new opportunities to rewild species from our collection with Javan gibbons, Javan langurs and black rhino due to be rewilded by the end of 2022.

We have the largest collection of Critically Endangered Western lowland gorillas and one of the largest collections of Eastern black rhinoceros in the world. Following successful expansion of our collection in 2022, Port Lympne is now home to 3 species of rhino, making us the only collection in Europe with Eastern black rhino, Southern white rhino and greater one horned rhino.

Overall captive breeding successes of note include Western lowland gorillas, Javan gibbons, drill monkeys and white-naped mangabeys. We are one of the world's leading breeders of Javan langurs and within Europe we are the largest breeders of clouded leopards.

The African elephant herd at Howletts remains the largest in Britain and has had more African elephant births than all other British zoos combined. We were the first site to keep barbary lions (extinct in the wild) and we are the most successful UK collection breeding De Brazza and drill monkeys. Howletts is also the only collection to have housed grizzled leaf monkeys outside of their native range and is the world leader in breeding endangered Javan gibbons.

Howletts and Port Lympne continue to manage the European captive breeding recommendations (studbooks) for clouded leopards, painted dogs, Javan gibbons and bush dogs.

#### **Parks Operations**

Despite being shut for 98 days in the year, our day visitor numbers performed far ahead of budget once we reopened. In addition the UK demand for staycations gave us a welcome boost in visitor numbers, where people were looking for outdoor activities to spend their leisure time after months of lockdown.

Day ticket numbers far exceeded those expected and we were able to benefit from secondary spends in catering and retail outlets.

## Going concern and COVID-19

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In determining the appropriate basis of preparation of the financial statements, the Trustees are required to consider whether the Charity and the group can continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Information in relation to the Charity and group's activities, together with the factors likely to affect future development, performance and position is set out in this Trustee Report, including the Risk Management section later in this Trustees Report.

The parks were closed for 98 days (118 nights for accommodation guests), resulting in a complete loss of income during those periods. Operating costs have been significantly reduced with discretionary spend curtailed in the early part of the year. Once the parks fully reopened, they remained open for the rest of the year and have not been impacted by COVID-19 since. Trading in all aspects of the business have been strong and contributed to a significant surplus being recorded in the 2021 financial year.

Capital expenditure plans that had been suspended during the lockdowns were completed in 2021.

The Trustees consider that the Charity and group are well placed to manage the risks within its control and mitigate those outside its control. After the review of forecasts and predictions for the period to 31 December 2023, taking account of reasonably possible changes in income and considering the existing banking facilities, including the available liquidity and covenant tests, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity and group has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the next 12 months following the date of approval of the financial statements and these financial statements do not include any adjustments that would result from the basis of preparation being inappropriate.

# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

#### **Trading Subsidiary**

COVID-19 meant that our overnight accommodation business was shut for a further 118 nights in 2021, this severely impacted on all revenues including ancillary revenue from guests on safaris, food and beverage related income and other income streams such as weddings and conferences.

Once reopened trading was strong with near 100% occupancy being recorded in the usual holiday periods and occupancy in excess of 85% at other times of the year. Secondary income on these occupancy figures and the record day visitors that attended the parks benefitted accordingly.

Despite the new challenges that 2022 has brought we are confident in the fundamentals of our business and its ability to provide a continued reliable source of income for THWAT.

#### Principal objectives for the year

The objectives for the Group in 2021 were:

- achieving targeted levels of visitor and overnight accommodation numbers;
- keeping costs under control, focusing on revenue-generating activities and targeting a sustainable surplus;
- enhancing the animal welfare experience by making improvement to our parks;
- · continuing to fulfil our mission objectives.

# **UK Government COVID-19 related support**

UK Government COVID-19 related support in 2021 included the Coronavirus job retention scheme plus the continuation of the business rates holiday. Cashflow was positively impacted by being able to defer PAYE/NI payments and spread future payments over the 2021 year and defer quarterly VAT payments with the amounts due being deferred throughout 2021. We are pleased to report that the Trust was able to repay all PAYE/NI and VAT support received within the calendar year.

## **Local Council COVID-19 related support**

The Parks would like to record their thanks to each of Folkestone and Hythe District Council and Canterbury Council for the support that they have continued to extend to the parks in 2021.

#### **Financial Review**

Total income for the year amounted to £22,407,717 (2020: £15,167,194). Expenditure amounted to £20,546,195 (2020: £16,057,380). The above movements resulted in net income for the year of £1,861,522 (2020: £890,186 net expenditure). The Howletts Wild Animal Trust delivered a consolidated fund surplus of £137,325 (2020: £1,724,197 deficit) on the unrestricted fund and £3,566 surplus (2020: £3,566) on the restricted funds. The Howletts Wild Animal Trust aims to continue to maintain and build a surplus in order to support the operating reserve.

The Trustees reported a net increase in restricted, unrestricted and non-charitable funds of £1,861,522 (2020: £890,186 decrease). The consolidated balance sheet at 31 December 2021 shows a net current asset position of £140,891 (2020: £1,720,631 net current liability).



# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

#### **Reserves Policy**

The Charity considers a broad range of factors in its reserves policy that will enable the Charity to manage financial risk and short-term income volatility. A sustainable level of reserves are needed to allow the Charity to maintain optimal levels of conservation programme work, provide appropriate care for the animals in our parks and maintain the infrastructure that allows us to operate, ensuring that financial commitments can be met as they fall due. The Howletts Wild Animal Trust has two reserves funds, Restricted and Unrestricted.

The trustees target is to build and maintain unrestricted reserves of £2.5m based on budgeted running costs, which is in line with the Charities Commission recommendations. At the year end, the charity had unrestricted reserves of £137,325 (2020: £1,724,197 deficit). It remains our intention to continue to build unrestricted reserves over the coming years.

Establishing a six-month operating reserve will support the Charity in trading through potential adversity and take account of future commitments. The calculation of the required level of reserves is an integral part of the Charity's planning, budgeting and forecasting. The level of reserves will be monitored and reviewed by the trustees on an annual basis.

# **Liquidity and General Reserves**

Given the challenging external market conditions THWAT took a balanced approach to maintaining its cash and general reserves. The capital repayment holiday agreed on the Barclays term loan during 2020 was extended into 2021 during the closures and the Trust continued to benefit from a rolling overdraft facility throughout the year. The loan was repaid in full in July 2021, with the intention to refinance. The refinancing was completed in 2022 and the bank overdraft arrangement has also been renewed

# Plans for the future

We will continue to have a strong focus on developing an interesting and diverse range of accommodation at Port Lympne with the aim of achieving increased visitor numbers all year round. In 2021 we added Leopard Creek, a development of 7 new accommodation units including two unique wigwams.

Later in the year we commenced the refurbishment of some of our older accommodation including Bear Lodge and Pinewood. Planning was secured to enable Bear lodge to operate all year, and further applications were submitted for the development of a luxury orangery and pergola in which to host weddings and events. Planning was secured for these in the first quarter of 2022 and the buildings opened to the public later in 2022. This will continue to cement our reputation as a full service luxury destination.

## **Remuneration policy**

The Trustees determine and agree the overall policy for the remuneration and pension arrangements for all the charity's employees and oversees any major changes to employee benefits. The Charity's reward principles are to ensure the same remuneration system applies to all, except where there are justifiable reasons for making separate arrangements.

The charity aims to provide an overall reward package that is competitive within the sectors in which it operates. In assessing levels of remuneration, the charity may use external professional advice and salary survey databases from public, private and charity sectors. The charity recognises that it must provide an overall reward package that is competitive to attract and retain high calibre staff to deliver our mission, vision, and values.

# **Equal Opportunities**

THWAT is an equal opportunities employer and is committed to promoting equal opportunity for all staff and job applicants. THWAT has an equal opportunities policy and does not discriminate against staff on the basis of their gender, sexual orientation, marital or civil partner status, gender reassignment, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, disability or age. This policy applies to all aspects of our relationship with staff and to relations between staff members at all levels. This includes job advertisements, recruitment and selection, training and development, opportunities for promotion, conditions of service, pay and benefits, conduct at work, disciplinary and grievance procedures, and termination of employment.

# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

## Risk management

The risk management process assists the Trustees and management by facilitating the identification and assessment of significant risks to the achievement of objectives. The process is supported by a risk management policy which outlines the roles and responsibilities of Trustees, management, and staff.

The Board of Trustees is ultimately responsible for risk and reviews its risk management arrangements at least annually. The Board regularly reviews the content of the strategic risk register and seeks assurance over the adequacy of arrangements in place to manage the risks. The strategic risk register is not an exhaustive list of risks and many other non-strategic risks can and do impact on our business.

There is a clearly defined Risk Matrix that sets out the types and levels of risk the Board of Trustees are prepared to accept. The evaluation of individual risks through this lens allows the Board to assess whether its risk taking is within the defined risk appetite and whether additional management actions are required.

Individual departments and identified risk owners are esponsible for the identification, assessment and review of risks which fall in their area of responsibility. Risks are prioritised using an agreed scoring methodology. The risk management process is facilitated and monitored by the Board.

2021 has brought unprecedented challenges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Whilst these have stretched all organisations, not least our charity, we have benefited from well-established risk management processes. The teams have also managed to maintain their various operational responsibilities, with previous work on addressing People, Business Continuity, and Technology Risks.



# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

The key risks identified by the Trustees are outlined in the tables below:

Risk: Financial	Mitigation Actions to be taken	Score	Probability	Impact
Material loss of income adversely affects ability to maintain existing services	Revenue strategy implemented outlining diversification of income sources, exit strategies in place, keeping costs down	12	3	4
Significant increase in operating costs	Little mitigation possible. Maintain relationships for nonoccurrence / early warning	12	3	4
Fraud or misappropriation of funds	Good financial controls in place, insurances in place including cyber cover	2	2	1

Risk: People	Mitigation Actions to be taken	Score	Probability	Impact
Loss of key member(s) of staff affecting ability to deliver existing services	Shared responsibilities across roles, developing internal resilience through shadowing and delegation. Managers are required to keep JD's up to date to enable rapid recruitment to proceed as a consequence of staff turnover	9	3	3
Member of staff injured or attacked	Up to date Health & Safety Procedures in place; outreach safety mechanisms in place i.e. Suitable risk assessments undertaken. Staff induction and training provided by skilled inhouse trainer or outsourced where specialists' skills and certification is required.	6	2	3
Member of public injured or attacked	Animal Escape Contingency plan in place, routinely exercised and accredited by local EHO. Audits conducted as required by regulation such as fire, fire extinguisher maintenance, legionella, asbestos, and electrical systems. Staff and guests are required to watch a golf buggy safety video before being permitted to drive. Routine fire prevention activity including alarm testing carried out as prescribed by legislation and guidance and recorded in fire books. Adverse weather contingency plan in place	9	3	3
Staffing approach ineffective for service delivery	Clear understanding of skills and competencies; clearly set out requirements when recruiting; good training in place; excellent communications re. daily briefings to provide regular up to date guidance on approach. 360 degree feedback process in place	9	3	3

# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

Risk: Infrastructure	Mitigation Actions to be taken	Score	Probability	Impact
Office-based ICT or premises inaccessible/materially compromised	Business Continuity Plan in place.	3	1	3
Physical damage to property	Appropriate insurances in place	6	2	3

Risk: Reputation	Mitigation Actions to be taken	Score	Probability	Impact
Failure to comply with legislation/regulations services	Data Protection Policy in Place; annual GDPR training, regular briefings regarding confidentiality of data	8	2	4
Service perceived as failing to meet existing/evolving animal and/or trust needs	Annual review of animals requirements to better understand need; increased profile raising with stakeholders, supporters regarding how we meet relevant needs	6	3	2
Quality of animal care and capability of parks called into question	Established system of Quality Assurance, Ongoing training	4	1	4

Risk: Animals	Mitigation Actions to be taken	Score	Probability	Impact
Notifiable Disease	Veterinary Team monitoring, Ongoing training for vets	12	3	4
Disease Outbreak (non notifiable)	Veterinary Team monitoring, Ongoing training for vets, following government guidelines, hand wash stations	12	3	4

# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

#### **Fundraising**

The key sources for income for THWAT are a) gate income and b) trading income that has been gifted to THWAT by its wholly owned subsidiary. Gate Income is the admission fee that the visitors pay to enter our parks. THWAT receives income from its wholly owned subsidiary, Howletts and Port Lympne Estates Limited, which is primarily a short breaks accommodation and associated services business. THWAT benefits from applicable gift aid income on qualifying donations.

THWAT undertakes little or no direct fundraising from our supporters, apart from that outlined above. On the rare occasions that we fundraise directly, we aim to ensure that our supporters and the wider public are treated fairly and with respect. We are continually looking for ways to improve and to ensure we address new challenges and adopt new regulations effectively. Despite turbulent economic times, we remain fully committed to our core fundraising principles.

## Protecting vulnerable people

We are a charity that operates across all of society, and as such our fundraisers will inevitably come into contact with people who may be in vulnerable circumstances. We are especially careful and sensitive when engaging with vulnerable people. Our practices reflect this, for example through our guidance and training, and we strive to ensure our staff and third-party fundraisers follow these too

# Working with third-party fundraisers

We are constantly reviewing the way we engage with our supporters, guests and the public. This year we fundraised in collaboration with some commercial participators. When working with any commercial participator we ensure that robust, monitored contracts are in place so that applicable laws, such as the Data Protection Act 2018, are followed. We have chosen not to use third-party organisations to fundraise door-to-door. We work closely with our staff to ensure they share our goal of creating the very best interactions with guests. Our monitoring practices include delivering training and listening to telephone calls. If we find cause for concern, we investigate as a matter of urgency and take appropriate action.

# Working with key partners

THWAT works closely with two connected organisations, The Aspinall Foundation (TAF) and Walmestone Growers Ltd (Walmestone). TAF and THWAT have two trustees in common, Damian Aspinall and Tansy Aspinall. Walmestone Growers Ltd immediate parent undertaking is Aspers Group Ltd, a company in which Damian Aspinall is a director.

THWAT's charitable objectives are closely aligned with TAF's and the charities work alongside each other in a number of ways to achieve our shared aims. For example, THWAT's breeding programmes support TAF's overseas conservation projects, and expert animal employees of both charities share knowledge and information. Shared resources such as HR & administrative functions, office space and IT infrastructure help to minimise costs.

Walmestone Growers Ltd are a local farm located nearby to Howletts and Port Lympne, who ensure supply of quality fruits and vegetables essential to many of our species' diets. Our animals' diet and nutrition is closely monitored, with the consistency and quality of supply vital in animal health and welfare. Walmestone operates commercially, supplying produce to local businesses and restaurants including restaurants located at Port Lympne. However, they also grow produce by type and volume specifically to meet the dietary needs of our animals. Damian Aspinall and Anthony Kelly were unpaid directors of Walmestone Growers Ltd throughout the previous year and the beginning of the current year until resigning on 19th May 2021 to avoid any preconceived conflict of interest.







# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

#### Supporter data

Responsible use of personal data remains at the heart of our supporter engagement. We are transparent about what we do with personal data and strive to ensure that our supporters feel confident in how we are using it. We maintain and demonstrate compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation.

#### Feedback and complaints

THWAT engages with its supporters through day-to-day visits to the parks and guests staying over in its accommodation offering at Port Lympne. On that basis over 350,000 people had the opportunity to directly experience the work that THWAT does, and we benefited from in excess of 3.5 million interactions with our guests last year through email, social media and on our website. As THWAT does not raise charitable funds directly, we do not have regular donors with which to engage, and there were no complaints or shortcomings identified that are required to be dealt with. We regularly undertake guest surveys to get direct feedback from our guests. Where shortcomings were identified, we expanded our guidance and training for staff and put new processes in place, both to prevent recurrence of the issues and to improve our guests' experience. Complaints and guest feedback are an important source of information about the impact that our work has on our guests and members of the public, providing us with insight and lessons for future activities. We provide details of how to contact us, and will include details of our complaints process, on our website.

## Governance

The Howletts Wild Animal Trust ('THWAT') is a company registered in England and Wales under company number 04711904 and registered charity (number 1100845) under the Charities Act 2011.

THWAT has a single subsidiary (Howletts and Port Lympne Estates Limited a company registered in England and Wales under company number 01120626) for investment purposes and details are set out in note 14 of the financial statements.

The trustees who served during the year are:

J D A Aspinall

T Aspinall

G Farley (appointed 10 March 2021)

P O'Driscoll (appointed 8 March and resigned 15 November 2021)

# **Public benefit**

The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public guidance published by the Charity Commission, including its supplementary guidance on fee charging.

The Charity relies on income from admission fees, accommodation, food & beverage and retail sales and other charges to cover its operating costs and in setting the pricing structure, the Trustees give careful consideration to the accessibility of the parks to those on low incomes. Coupled with a flexible pricing structure, many visitors enjoy concessionary prices which are set to encourage visits by children, students, families, senior citizens and those with disabilities.

#### Trustees

As at the date of signing these accounts, there are five Trustees (three of whom are independent) and they have trustee responsibility for meeting our charitable obligations. The Trustees take trustee recruitment very seriously and invest time and resource in finding, inducting and developing the highest calibre people.

#### **Trustees' Training**

The relationship between the executive and the Trustees is fundamental to the charity's success. It is vitally important therefore that the Trustees understand the overall day to-day operational activities of the charity. To this end, new Trustees are required to complete an induction tour of the park's various divisions, and to discuss with the executive team the role and function of each division, and the part it plays in the fulfilment of the charity's mission.

All Trustees are encouraged to review and understand the relevant literature, covering the role and responsibilities of being a charity trustee.

Other specific training is provided from time to time as required, and online training resources are available to Trustees.

# REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

## **Trustees' Responsibility Statement**

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and UK Accounting Standards (UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and the application of resources of the charity for that period.

## In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- · Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity and its subsidiary transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and the Group and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply in all material respects with the Charities Act 2011, and the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008.

The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of THWAT (the 'parent charity') and its subsidiaries ('the Group') 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 organisational and financial information included on website of the charity.

# Disclosure of information to auditors

Each of the Trustees have confirmed that there is no information of which they are aware which is relevant to the audit, but of which the auditor is unaware. They have further confirmed that they have taken appropriate steps to identify such relevant information and to establish that the auditors are aware of such information.

Signed J D A Aspinall

Chairman

Date: 24 October 2022



# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HOWLETTS WILD ANIMAL TRUST

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Howletts Wild Animal Trust for the year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated and Charitable Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (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 and groups affairs as at 31 December 2021, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

## **Basis of 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.

We draw your attention to the disclosures relating to the impact of Covid-19 on the charity and group activities as set out on page 6 of the Trustees' Annual Report. Our opinion is not modified in this respect.

#### Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees' annual 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 mis statement 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 (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our 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 strategic report and the directors' report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you, 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;
- certain disclosures of directors' 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 trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 14, the trustees (who are also the

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE HOWLETTS WILD ANIMAL TRUST

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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: http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

# Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed

procedures which included:

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance:
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

## 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.

## Michelle Wilkes FCA

(Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Azets Audit Services Statutory Auditor

Date: 27 October 2022

5th Floor Ashford Commercial Quarter 1 Dover Place Ashford Kent, TN23 1FB

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2021 Total funds £	2020 Total funds £
Income from:					
Donations and grants	2	33,948	36,068	70,016	136,814
Charitable activities	3	9,607,134	-	9,607,134	7,601,420
Other trading activities	4	12,378,379	-	12,378,379	6,906,417
Other income	5	352,188	-	352,188	522,543
Total income		22,371,649	36,068	22,407,717	15,167,194
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds		9,065,391	-	9,065,391	6,103,770
Charitable Activities		11,444,736	36,068	11,480,804	9,953,610
Total expenditure	6	20,510,127	36,068	20,546,195	16,057,380
Net movement in funds		1,861,522	-	1,861,522	(890,186)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		(1,724,197)	3,566	(1,720,631)	(830,445)
Total funds carried forward		137,325	3,566	140,891	(1,720,631)

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020

Comparative Information Only		Unrestricted	Restricted	2020
•	Note	funds	funds	<b>Total funds</b>
		£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations and grants	2	93,544	43,270	136,814
Charitable activities	3	7,601,420	-	7,601,420
Other trading activities	4	6,906,417	-	6,906,417
Other income	5	522,543	-	522,543
Total income		15,123,924	43,270	15,167,194
Expenditure on:				
Raising Funds		6,103,770	-	6,103,770
Charitable Activities		9,910,340	43,270	9,953,610
Total expenditure	6	16,014,110	43,270	16,057,380
Net movement in funds		(890,186)	-	(890,186)
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		(834,011)	3,566	(830,445)
Total funds carried forward		( 1,724,197)	3,566	(1,720,631)

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

All of the above amounts relate to continuing activities.

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

		20	2021		2020	
	Note	£	£	£		
Fixed assets						
Intangible assets	11		30.933		-	
Tangible assets	12		9,817,753		8,290,428	
			9,848,686		8,290,428	
Current assets						
Stock	15	140,471		171,301		
Debtors	16	1,053,432		980,817		
Cash at bank and in hand		713,274 1,907,177		465,029 1,617,147		
		1,907,177		1,617,147		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(10,319,217)		(7,373,587)		
Net current liabilities			(8,412,040)		(5,756,440)	
Total assets less current liabilities			1,436,646		2,533,988	
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18		(1.005.755)		(4,254,619)	
than one year	10		(1,295,755)		(4,234,019)	
Net assets			140,891		(1,720,631)	
Charity Funds						
Restricted Funds	20		3,566		3,566	
Unrestricted funds:			3,000			
Designated funds	19		-		-	
General funds			(1,812,718)		(3,120,412)	
General Non-charity funds	14		1,950,043		1,396,215	
Total funds	21		140,891		(1,720,631)	

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 24 October 2022 Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

J D A Aspinall

The notes on pages 23 - 36 form part of these financial statements.

Company Number: 04711904

# CHARITY BALANCE SHEET FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

		20	)21	2	2020	
	Note	£	£	£	£	
Fixed assets						
Tangible assets	12		1,805,173		1,608,035	
Investments	14		2,694,236		2,694,236	
			4,499,409		4,302,271	
Current assets		10.057				
Stock	15	12,657		7 652 627		
Debtors  Cash at bank and in hand	16	3,679,741 290		3,652,623 762		
Cash at bank and in hand		3,710,688		3,653,385		
		3,710,000		3,033,303		
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(8,564,792)	-	(6,682,017)		
Net current liabilities			(4,854,104)		(3,028,632)	
Total assets less current liabilities			( 354,695)		1,273,639	
Creditors: amounts falling due after more						
than one year	18		(1,287,745)		(4,223,769)	
Net assets			(1,642,440)		(2,950,130)	
Charity Funds			3,566		3,566	
Restricted Funds	20				,	
Unrestricted funds:						
Designated funds	19		-		-	
General funds			(1,646,006)		(2,953,696)	
Tabel 6 medi			(1,040,440)		(0.050.170)	
Total funds			(1,642,440)		(2,950,130)	

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board on 24 October 2022 Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

J D A Aspinall

The notes on pages 23 - 36 form part of these financial statements.

Company Number: 04711904

# CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

		Gro	iroup	
	Note	2021 £	2020 £	
Cash flow from operating activities				
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	24	4,130,429	2,266,033	
Cash flow from investing activities				
Purchase of intangible assets		(46,400)	-	
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(2,896,891)	(2,067,616)	
Sale of property, plant and equipment		12,967	-	
Net cash flow from investing activities		(2,930,324)	(2,067,616)	
Cash flow from financing activities Cash flows from borrowing		(2,910,832)	762,565	
Net cash flow from financing activities		( 2,910,832)	762,565	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(1,710,727)	960,982	
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January 2021		(152,748)	(1,113 ,730)	
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December 2021		(1,863,475)	(152,748)	



# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

# 1 Accounting policies

#### 1.1 Basis of accounting

The Howletts Wild Animal Trust is a registered charitable company in the United Kingdom. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are the advancement and promotion for the public benefit of education and useful knowledge in relation to the science of zoology, the preservation and exhibition of living animals.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 as amended by Bulletin 1 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity.

The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

# 1.2 Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the results of the charity and its trading subsidiary, Howletts and Port Lympne Estates Limited, for the year ended 31 December 2021. As a consolidated Statement of Financial Activities is published, a separate Statement of Financial Activities for the parent company is omitted from the group statements by virtue of Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

## 1.3 Company status

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 1. 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.

## 1.4 Fund Accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim

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

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

#### 1.5 Income recognition

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

#### **Donations and donated services**

Donated services or facilities are recognised 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 of the Charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Charity which is the amount the Charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income from the sale of gift vouchers is recognised when the gift vouchers are redeemed. Therefore, amounts received in respect of gift vouchers that have not been redeemed by the year end are deferred to future accounting periods. Gift vouchers that have not been redeemed by the stated expiry date are released to the statement of financial activities at that point.

## Sale of goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- the Company has transferred the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the buyer;
- the Company retains neither continuing managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership nor effective control over the goods sold;
- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably;
- it is probable that the Company will receive the consideration due under the transaction; and
- the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

# 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### Rendering of services

Revenue from a contract to provide services is recognised in the period in which the services are provided in accordance with the stage of completion of the contract when all of the following conditions are satisfied:

- the amount of revenue can be measured reliably;
- it is probable that the Charity will receive the consideration due under the contract;
- the stage of completion of the contract at the end of the reporting period can be measured reliably; and
- the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the trans action can be measured reliably.

The revenue for short breaks is included within the period the break is taken.

#### **Government grants**

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable when there is reasonable assurance that the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

A grant that specifies performance conditions is recognised in income when the performance conditions are met. Where a grant does not specify performance conditions it is recognised in income when the proceeds are received or receivable. A grant received before the recognition criteria are satisfied is recognised as a liability.

# 1.6 Expenditure recognition

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Expenditure is recognised where there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payments to third parties, it is probable that the settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. It is categorised under the following headings:

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

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the charity's operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated

directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### 1.7 Intangible fixed assets and amortisation

Intangible assets are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment. Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Purchased computer software - 3 Website development costs - 3

- 3 years straight line

- 3 years straight line

#### 1.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended. Fixed assets below £500 are not capitalised.

Plant and machinery - 25% reducing balance
Motor vehicles - 25% reducing balance
Property improvements - 3.33 - 20% straight line
Fixed assets under construction - not depreciated until in use

## 1.9 Animals

The value of animals owned by the Group is not included on the Group's balance sheet. The costs incurred when acquiring the animals are charged to the statement of financial activities when incurred. Details of number of animals owned by the Group are disclosed in note 13.

## 1.10 Investments

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

# 1.11 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value, being the estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost is based on the cost of purchase on a first in, first out basis.

At each balance sheet date, stocks are assessed for impairment. If stock is impaired, the carrying amount is reduced to its selling price less costs to complete and sell. The impairment loss is recognised immediately in the statement of financial activities.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

## 1 Accounting policies (continued)

# 1.12 Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

#### 1.13 Financial instruments

The trust only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially reognised 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.

## 1.14 Leasing and hire purchase

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts and finance leases are capitalised as tangible fixed assets. Assets acquired by finance lease are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. Assets acquired by hire purchase are depreciated over their useful lives. Finance leases are those where agreements are included in creditors net of the finance charge allocated to future periods. The finance element of the rental payment is charged to the statement of financial activities so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

## 1.15 Operating Leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Benefits received and receivable as an incentive to sign an operating lease are recognised on a straight line basis over the period until the date the rent is expected to be adjusted to the prevailing market rate.

The Group has taken advantage of the optional exemption available on transition to FRS 102 which allows lease incentives on leases entered into before the date of transition to the standard 1 January 2014 to continue to be charged over the period to the first market rent review rather than the term of the lease.

# 1.16 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

# 1.17 Finance costs

Finance costs are charged to the statement of financial activities over the term of the debt using the effective interest method so that the amount charged is at a constant rate on the carrying amount. Issue costs are initially recognised as a reduction in the proceeds of the associated capital instrument.

#### 1.18 Tax

Tax is recognised in the statement of financial activities, except that a change attributable to an item of income and expense recognised as other comprehensive income or to an item recognised directly in equity is also recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity respectively.

The current income tax charge is calculated on the basis of tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date in the countries where the Company operates and generates income.

#### 1.19 Judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

Accounting 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.

Useful economic lives of tangible assets The group has recognised tangible fixed assets with a carrying value of £9,817,753 at the year end as disclosed in note 12. These assets are stated at their cost less provision for depreciation and impairment. The charity's accounting policy sets out at note 1.8 the approach to calculating depreciation for these assets. For property improvements, the group determines at construction reliable estimates for the useful life of the as set. These estimates are based upon such factors as the expected use of the asset and market conditions. At subsequent reporting dates the Trustees consider whether there are any factors such as changes in market conditions that indicate a need to reconsider the estimates used.Bad and doubtful debts. The value of trade debtors is sensitive to the recoverability in full of any invoices issued to each customer. Once the debt becomes overdue it is chased and periodically reviewed to ensure it is recoverable in full. If a provision is deemed necessary this is included on an annual basis. No provision for bad and doubtful debts is currently included in the accounts.

# 1.20 Going concern

The trustees are of the opinion that The Howletts Wild Animal Trust is a going concern as at 31 December 2021 and remains a Going Concern as at the approval of these financial statements. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statement. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

2	Donations and grants	2021	2020
		£	£
Donatio	Donations other	70,016	136,814
		70,016	136,814

The Trust benefits greatly from the involvement and enthusiastic support of its many volunteers, details of which are given in our annual report. In accordance with FRS 102 and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the economic contribution of general volunteers is not recognised in the accounts.

3 Income from charitable activities	2021	2020
	£	£
Gate income from Animal Parks	5,503,539	4,884,460
Memberships	479,651	412,824
Other primary purpose trading	3,623,944	2,304,136
	9,607,134	7,601,420
4 Income from other trading activities	2021	2020
	£	£
Trading subsidiary	11,733,215	5,876,774
Other income	645,164	1,029,643
	12,378,379	6,906,417
5 Other income	2021	2020
	£	£
Sundry income	13,221	20,197
Education activities	-	2,747
Job Retention Scheme	257,110	499,599
Local council grants	81,857	-
	352,188	522,543



# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

6	Expenditure Raising Funds	Staff costs	Direct costs	Support costs	2021 Total	2020 Total
	Commercial activities	4,893,957	4,158,331	13,103	9,065,391	6,103,770
	Charitable activities					
	Operation of park	4,655,694	2,048,108	2,493,902	9,197,704	8,082,113
	Other primary purpose trading	1,353,184	929,916	-	2,283,100	1,871,497
		10,902,835	7,136,355	2,507,005	20,546,195	16,057,380
7	Support costs				2021	2020
					£	£
	Freight and carriage				33,297	21,503
	Sundry				-	7,721
	Staff training				36,088	15,767
	Motor running costs				5,738	3,226
	Rent, rates and water				274,633	236,432
	Light and heat				587,329	527,416
	Printing, postage and stationery				41,805	16,629
	Telephone				13,373	24,584
	Computer costs				105,060	124,745
	Subscriptions				15,221	22,777
	Cleaning				52,803	34,498
	Staff recruitment costs				28,988	13,469
	Bank charges and interest				138,882	139,901
	Insurance				172,584	131,754
	Advertising and marketing				62,274	58,479
	Equipment hire				108,355	84,047
	Depreciation and profit on disposal				449,583	375,375
	Dinosaur rental Governance:				103,863	107,891
	Audit and accountancy fees				22,667	32,288
	Legal and professional				254,462	65,500
	Legal and professional				254,402	03,300
					2,507,005	2,044,002
8	Net income for the year				2021	2020
					£	£
	This is stated after charging:  Depreciation				1,278,522	1,220,937
	Auditors remuneration - audit				10.750	10.750
	- other services				19,750 2,917	19,750
	Directors remuneration				215,236	12,538 272,937
	Operating lease rentals				103,863	107,891
	Operating lease rentals					
9	Staff costs				2021	2020
	Wagaa and asla				<b>£</b>	£
	Wages and salaries				9,986,943	8,327,776
	Social security costs				652,252	560,450
	Other pension costs				263,640	199,241
					10,902,835	9,087,467

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

#### 9 Staff costs

The Group operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Group in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the Group to the fund and amounted to £263,640 (2020: £199,241).

The average number of employees by headcount during the year was 490 (2020: 444).

The average number of employees by full time equivalent during the year was as follows:

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
Animal departments	88	82
Estates	56	42
Rangers and Safaris	23	25
Retail, Catering & Short breaks	154	157
Administration	36	21
	357	327

The number of employees employed by the group whose remuneration for the year fell within the following bands were:

	2021	2020
	No.	No.
£60,000 to £69,999	6	1
£70,000 to £79,999	2	1
£80,000 to £89,999	1	-
£100,000 to £109,999	-	2
£120,000 to £129,999	1	-
£150,000 to £159,999	1	-
£240,000 to £249,999	-	1
£360,000 to £369,999	1	-

The senior management team includes the Trustees of the Charity, the directors of its wholly owned subsidiary and other key senior staff who are in charge of directing and controlling, running and operating the charity on a day to day basis. As detailed below, no trustees received remuneration during the period. The remuneration and benefits of the group's key management personnel total £1,603,588 (2020: £1,103,741).

Please note that the above bandings are not representative of the overall remuneration of these personnel as the management team, including those disclosed above, voluntarily reduced their salaries during the closure of the parks due to the Covid-19 pandemic

# 10 Trustee remuneration

The Trustees were not paid remuneration for their roles as Trustees or reimbursed expenses during the year (2020:None).

# 11 Intangible fixed assets

	Website Development		
Group	Cost	Software	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
As at 1 January 2021	44,472	26,261	70,733
Additions	-	46,400	46,400
As at 31 December 2021	44,472	72,661	117,133
Amortisation			
As at 1 January 2021	44,472	26,261	70,733
Charge	-	15,467	15,467
As at 31 December 2021	44,472	41,728	86,200
Net book value			
As at 31 December 2021	-	30,933	30,933
As at 31 December 2020		-	_

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

# 12 Tangible fixed assets

	Plant and	Motor	Property	Assets under	
Group	machinery	vehicles	improvements	construction	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£	£
As at 1 January 2021	3,129,081	681,747	16,121,541	1,741,301	21,673,670
Additions	418,646	109,477	444,752	1,956,574	2,929,449
Disposals	(984,453)	(50,891)	(538,778)	-	(1,574,122)
Transfers	-	75,608	2,601,773	(2,677,381)	-
As at 31 December 2021	2,563,274	815,941	18,629,288	1,020,494	23,028,997
Depreciation					
As at 1 January 2021	2,562,217	621,075	10,199,950	-	13,383,242
Charge	267,474	69,718	941,330	-	1,278,522
Elimination on disposals	(929,502)	(49,007)	(472,011)	-	(1,450,520)
Transfers	-	3,315	(3,315)	-	-
As at 31 December 2021	1,900,189	645,101	10,665,954	-	13,211,244
Net book value					
As at 31 December 2021	663,085	170,840	7,963,334	1,020,494	9,817,753
As at 31 December 2020	566,864	60,672	5,921,591	1,741,301	8,290,428

The net book value of assets held under finance leases or hire purchase contracts, included above, are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Plant and machinery	20,579	65,584
Motor Vehicles	50,107	70,949
Total	70,686	136,533

Charity	Plant and machinery £	Motor vehicles £	Property improvements £	Assets under construction	Total £
Cost					
As at 1 January 2021	2,056,260	484,538	6,084,993	224,221	8,850,012
Additions	111,473	109,477	162,813	285,533	669,296
Disposals	(350,055)	(50,892)	(103,957)	-	(504,904)
Transfers	-	-	509,754	(509,754)	-
As at 31 December 2021	1,817,678	543,123	6,653,603	-	9,014,404
Depreciation					
As at 1 January 2021	1,798,868	404,733	5,038,376	-	7,241,977
Charge	82,600	47,072	289,869	-	419,541
Elimination on disposals	(311,183)	(49,007)	(92,097)	-	(452,287)
As at 31 December 2021	1,570,285	402,798	5,236,148	-	7,209,231
Net book value					
As at 31 December 2021	247,393	140,325	1,417,455	-	1,805,173
As at 31 December 2020	257,392	79,805	1,046,617	224,221	1,608,035

The net book value of assets held under finance leases or hire purchase contracts, included above, are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Plant and machinery	-	24,425
Motor Vehicles	50,107	34,250
Total	50,107	58,675

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

## 13 Animal numbers

In accordance with its objectives, the Group owns wild animals that it exhibits at its two wild animal parks at Howletts and Port Lympne. The Trustees do not consider it possible to determine a reasonable value for these animals and so, as per note 1.9, they are not included on the Group's balance sheet. At 31 December 2021, the following animals were located at the Group's two wild animal parks:-

	2021 Howletts	2021 Port Lympne	2020 Howletts	2020 Port Lympne
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Carnivores	51	93	44	84
Elephants	14	-	14	-
Gorillas	26	20	26	21
Hoofstock	40	531	36	454
Primates	159	161	162	173
Rhino and Giraffe	2	24	4	24
Other	22	119	23	20
	314	948	309	776

## 14 Fixed asset investments

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**Shares in** 

Subsidiary undertaking
Howletts and Port Lympne Estates Limited

Country of registration or incorporation
incorporation
England and Wales

Proportion of voting rights and ordinary share capital held
100%

Howletts and Port Lympne Estates Limited operate the commercial activities of The Howletts Wild Animal Trust. The trading results of Howletts and Port Lympne Estates Limited for the year to 31 December 2021 are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Turnover	15,357,159	8,180,910
Cost of sales	(7,798,504)	(5,483,633)
Administration costs	(3,508,095)	(2,359,852)
Other operating income	645,164	1,029,643
Operating surplus for the year	4,695,724	1,367,068
Interest payable	(41,896)	(131,783)
Retained surplus for the year	4,653,828	1,235,285
Retained earnings brought forward	1,396,215	2,960,930
Distribution under gift aid	(4,100,000)	(2,800,000)
Retained earnings carried forward	1,950,043	1,396,215
	2021	2020
The assets and liabilities of the subsidiary were:	£	£
Fixed assets	8,200,664	6,839,543
Current assets	5,208,500	5,513,430
Current liabilities	(5,942,401)	(5,683,737)
Non-current liabilities	(2,822,484)	(2,578,785)
Share capital	(2,694,236)	(2,694,236)
Reserves	1,950,043	1,396,215

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

15	Stock	Gro	oup	Cha	arity
		2021	2020	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£
	Catering stock	61,441	69,127	-	-
	Retail stock	66,373	102,174		-
	Other stock	12,657	-	12,657	
		140,471	171,301	12,657	-
16	Debtors				
		2021	2020	2021	2020
		£	£	£	£
	Trade debtors	7,432	43,326	6,763	41,487
	Loan to group undertaking	-	-	2,814,474	2 ,820,303
	Other debtors	668,295	300,019	657,102	434,462
	Prepayments and accrued income	377,705	637,472	219,402	356,371
		1,053,432	980,817	3,697,741	3 ,652,623

A loan totalling £3,450,000 was provided to Howletts and Port Lympne Estates Limited (HPLE), repayable from 28 February 2018 over 3 years. Interest is charged at a rate of 2.45% over LIBOR. The loan terms were extended during the year, in line with the extended borrowing facility terms made available by Barclays. The Barclays loan was refinanced in 2022 and matching terms extended to HPLE.

# 17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Gro	oup	Cha	arity
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Bank overdraft	2,576,749	617,778	2,576,749	617,778
Bank loans	-	272,368	-	272,368
Other loans	500,000	375,000	500,000	375,000
Net obligations under finance leases	59,323	54,262	37,444	21,546
Trade creditors	1,192,292	834,881	729,570	606,866
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	4,038,501	4 ,465,388
Amounts owed to connected parties	86,991	-	-	-
Other taxation and social security	478,482	487,524	119,684	85,625
Other creditors	65,658	78,650	24,321	50,240
Accruals and deferred income	5,359,722	4,653,124	538,523	187,206
	10,319,217	7,373,587	8,564,792	6 ,682,017

The bank overdraft is secured by way of a guarantee provided by C Filmer, J Aspinall and R Birley. The overdraft was extended during the process of the refinancing of the term loan, and a temporary facility increase was made available during the year of an additional £2.8M. The refinance of the term loan was completed in 2022, and the overdraft facility extended for the same term.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

# 18 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group		Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Other loans	1,250,000	1,625,000	1,250,000	1,625,000
Bank loans	-	2,547,934	-	2,547,934
Payments received on account	8,010	8,971	-	-
Net obligations under finance leases	3 7,745	72,714	37,745	50,835
	1,295,755	4,254,619	1,287,745	4,223,769

Obligations under bank loans, included above, are payable as follows:

	G	Group		Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020	
	£	£	£	£	
Due within 1 year	-	272,368	-	272,368	
Due 2-5 years	-	2,547,934	-	2,547,934	
	-	2,820,302	-	2,820,302	

The bank loan of £3.45M was repayable over a 3-year term from 28 February 2018 and was repaid in 2021. The loan was due to be refinanced and a temporary overdraft facility was made available while this financing was arranged. The loan refinance was completed in June 2022

Other loans consist of an Aspinall Foundation loan of £2m loan taken out June 2020 and repayable from June 2021 over 5 years at an interest rate of 2.5% fixed rate, first year interest free. The loan is guaranteed from Howletts & Port Lympne Estates Limited and The Howletts Wild Animal Trust.

Obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts, included above, are payable as follows:

	Gr	oup	Charity	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Due within 1 year	59,323	54,262	37,444	21,546
Due 2-5 years	37,745	72,714	37,745	50,835
	97,068	126,976	75,189	72,381

Finance lease payments represent rentals payable by the company for certain items of plant and machinery. Leases include purchase options at the end of the lease period and no restrictions are placed on the use of the assets. The average lease term is 2 years. All leases are on a fixed repayment basis and no arrangements have been entered into for contingent rental payments.

19 Designated funds					As at 31
	As at				1 December
	January 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Animal support fund	-	30,180	(30,180)	-	-
	-	30,180	(30,180)	-	-
Designated funds - 2020					As at 31
	As at 1				December
	January 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Animal support fund	-	85,273	(85,273)	-	-
Fun run fund	771	-	(771)	-	-
	771	85,273	(86,044)	-	-

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

## 19 Designated funds (continued)

# **Animal Support Fund**

Amounts raised to assist in feeding the animals during the Covid-19 pandemic.

## Fun run fund

A fun run to raise money for the animal projects.

20 Restricted funds	As at 1				As at 31
	January 2021	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Scottish Wild Cats Fund	1,958	-	-	-	1,958
<b>Howletts Education Centre</b>	1,608	-	-	-	1,608
Lions and Bear Enclosure	-	36,068	(36,068)	-	-
	3,566	36,068	(36,068)		3,566
Restricted funds - 2020	As at 1				As at 31
	January 2020	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Scottish Wild Cats Fund	1,958	-	-	-	1,958
<b>Howletts Education Centre</b>	1,608	-	-	-	1,608
Lions and Bear Enclosure	-	43,270	(43,270)	-	-
	3,566	43,270	(43,270)	-	3,566

**Scottish Wild Cats Fund** - Amounts received to build new enclosures for Scottish Wild Cats. The Group have plans in place to use the fund to build a Scottish Wild Cat enclosure.

**Howletts Education Centre -** Amounts received to refurbish the Howletts Education Centre.

**Lions and Bears Enclosure -** Donations received for the building of new enclosures for lions and a family of brown bears rescued from Andorra.

21	Analysis of net assets between funds	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total 2021
		£	£	£
	Tangible fixed assets	-	9,848,686	9,848,686
	Current assets	3,566	1,903,611	1,907,177
	Creditors due within one year	-	(10,319,217)	(10,319,217)
	Creditors due in more than one year	-	(1,295,755)	(1,295,755)
		3,566	137,325	140,891
	Analysis of net assets between funds - 2020	Restricted funds	Unrestricted funds	Total 2020
		£	£	£
-	Tangible fixed assets	-	8,290,428	8,290,428
(	Current assets	3,566	1,613,581	1,617,147
(	Creditors due within one year	-	(7,373,587)	(7,373,587)
(	Creditors due in more than one year	-	(4,254,619)	(4,254,619)
		3,566	(1,724,197)	(1,720,631)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

## 22 Commitments under operating leases

Total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Within one year	239,665	186,873
Between two and five years	145,203	76,727
	384,868	263,600
23 Capital Commitments		
The charity has had capital commitments at the year end as follows:	2021	2020
	£	£
Bear and lion enclosures	-	99,750
Orangery	140,569	-
	140,569	99,750
24 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities		
	2021	2020
	£	£
Net movement for the year	1,861,522	(890,186)
Depreciation charges	1,278,522	1,220,937
(Profit)/Loss on sale of fixed assets	30,042	1
Amortisation charges	15,467	3,910
Increase in stocks	30,830	30,298
Increase in debtors	(72,615)	(119,257)
Increase in creditors	986,663	2,020,330
Net cash flow from operating activities	4,130,429	2,266,033
25 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash in hand	713,274	465,029
Overdraft facility repayable on demand	(2,576,749)	(617,777)
Total	(1,863,475)	(152,748)

# 26 Related party transactions

The group received a loan from The Aspinall Foundation in 2020. At the year end the balance due was £1,750,000 (2020: £2,000,000). The loan is repayable in equal instalments with the final instalment due for repayment in June 2025 at a fixed interest rate of 2.5% per annum. During the year, interest of £21,548 (2020: £45,829) was paid.

Sales invoices, being recharges of costs incurred on their behalf, amounting to £293,898 were raised to The Aspinall Foundation and purchase invoices amounting to £16,198 were raised by The Aspinall Foundation to the group. At the year end, the group was owed £331,273 (2020: £128,873) by The Aspinall Foundation.

The Group rents freehold land and buildings from The Aspinall Foundation for an annual rent of £1 (2020: £1).

No payments were made to Lady Aspinall during the year (2020: £28,709). Lady S Aspinall also vacated the Garden Cottage during 2020, an accommodation previously provided to her as part of her former employment.

During the year, sales invoices, being recharges of costs incurred on his behalf, amounting to £17,272 were raised to J D A Aspinall. At the year end, the group was owed £6,233 by J D A Aspinall. This has been repaid post year end.

During the year, the group were invoiced £34,200 by Consulting Services POD Ltd, for the provision of interim Finance Director services (2020: £nil) a company of which P O'Driscoll is a Director.

During the year interior design services were provided by Victoria Aspinall Limited, a company of which Mrs V Aspinall, the wife of J D A Aspinall, is a director. The value of these services in the year were £50,000 (2020: £nil).

# **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# 26 Related party transactions (continued)

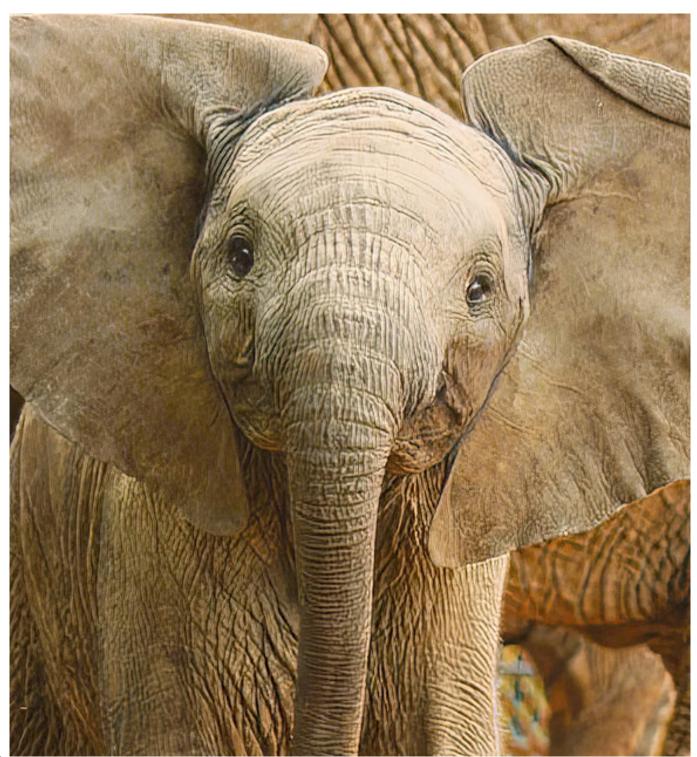
During the year purchase invoices amounting to £518,417 (2020: £481,914) were raised by Walmestone Growers Limited, a company in which JDA Aspinall and A Kelly were directors until May 2021, for the supply of fruit and vegetables for the animals at the wildlife parks. At the year end the group owed £32,291 (2020: £40,236) to Walmestone Growers Limited.

# 27 Company limited by guarantee

The company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 1. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

## 28 Controlling party

The charity is a company limited by guarantee.





# **NOTES**

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