

THE SWANNERY TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1040740

Details

Other names	THE FLEET AND SWANNERY TRUST
Status	Registered
Legal form	Trust
Registered	1994-09-12
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	The Estate Office Melbury Sampford Dorchester Dorset DT2 0LF
Phone	01935482200
Email	kevin.jutson@ilchester-estates.co.uk

Activities

Objects: TO PROMOTE THE STUDY OF SWANS AND OTHER BIRDS FOR THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC

Activities: PROMOTION, PRESERVATION AND PROTECTION OF SWANS AND OTHER SUCH SPECIES OF BIRDS THAT ARE RARE OR THREATENED TOGETHER WITH THE CONSERVATION OF CHESIL BEACH AND THE FLEET LAGOON.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Animals, Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, Other Defined Groups, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** IN PRACTICE CHESIL BEACH AND ITS IMMEDIATE HINTERLAND OF THE
- Dorset

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£49,453	£45,677	-	-
2024-03-31	£51,471	£40,285	-	-
2023-03-31	£27,744	£50,563	-	-
2022-03-31	£28,763	£41,144	-	-
2021-03-31	£32,600	£34,800	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
JAMES REGINALD TOWNSHEND		2019-11-12
MARCUS KINGSWOOD SCRACE		
THE HON MRS C A TOWNSHEND		

THE SWANNERY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1040740

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 1040740

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**ACCOUNTS
31 MARCH 2025**

THE SWANNERY TRUST

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

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THE SWANNERY TRUST

CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees	The Hon Mrs Townshend DL J R Townshend M K Scrace
Registered Charity Number	1040740
Working name	The Fleet and Swannery Trust
Principal address	The Estate Office Melbury Sampford Dorchester Dorset DT2 0LF
Solicitors	Charles Russell Speechlys LLP 5 Fleet Place London EC4M 7RD
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc 2 Hendford Yeovil Somerset BA20 1TN
Independent Examiner	Saffery LLP Midland House 2 Poole Road Bournemouth Dorset BH2 5QY

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees submit this report, together with the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Swannery Trust is constituted by Deed of Trust dated 5 August 1994 and is a registered charity, number 1040740. The principal address is at The Estate Office, Melbury Sampford, Dorchester. The Charity's Trustees are listed on page 1.

Objectives and activities

The main objects of the Trust are the promotion, preservation and protection of swans and other such species of birds that are rare or threatened, together with the conservation of Chesil Beach and the Fleet Lagoon. This is achieved through the work of the Ilchester Estates' staff at Abbotsbury Swannery and the Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve.

The main ongoing and specific achievements of the Trust in this report period are summarised in the table below. Contributions by Swannery staff, warden team and volunteers are described as S, W and V respectively.

SUBJECT	ACTIVITY	BY
Birds	Collection of breeding data in resident flock	S
	Collection of data on Fleet's flock of moulting swans	S
	Swan Study Group and other training	S V
	Swan rescue	S V W
	Chesil Bank Little Tern Project - partner	W V
	Collection of data on breeding colony of Common Terns at Abbotsbury	S V W
Habitat maintenance	Willow beds	S W V
	Reed beds	S W V
Other bird species	Passerine and duck ringing	S V
	Surveys and data collection: wetland bird surveys, breeding bird surveys	S W V
The Chesil and Fleet's environment	Fleet Edge Study	W
	Monitoring of Fleet Shoreline, Fleet Lagoon and Chesil Bank activities	W V
	Manage Reserve's Access Permit system	W
	Weather station and temperature logger maintenance and data collection	W
	Litter collection	S W V
	Management of eyesores and washed up boats	W V
	Visitor management	S W V
	Management of boats/dinghies	W
	Management of permit system	W
Hut owner guidelines and safety information	W	
Public awareness	Operate and maintain reserve website and ongoing blog	W
	Design and install interpretation and signage along Reserve	W
	Reserve and Swannery newsletters	W V S
	Events: various	S W
	Walks: various	S W V
	Chesil Beach Centre operation - partner	W V
Chesil multi-media project - live cameras, weather recording etc.	W V	

The Trust is mainly funded by grants and donations.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained within the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's objectives. We seek to ensure the range of activities of the Trust ensures that we meet our obligations in respect of the public benefit.

Achievements and performance

The year from April 2024 to March 2025 saw the Trust continuing its aims and objectives. The Warden's Annual Report and the Reserve's website blog during the year and other published material contain details. A summary of the year's activities is as follows: -

The three main colonies of breeding birds on the Reserve had reasonable breeding success this year. At the Swannery, the first egg arrived on the 25th of March with a total of 109 nests across the site. The first cygnets hatched on the 13th of May and hatching continued until the 19th of June. In total, 163 cygnets successfully fledged and in October, they were ringed and weighed before being released to start their lives on the Fleet.

There were initially 40 nesting Common Tern pairs this year, but these fledged less than 30 chicks. Another 20 pairs (possibly including some of the failed birds from the initial nesting attempts) then nested but fledged less than 10 chicks. This low number may still be a result from the losses we saw in 2023 due to avian influenza. The Black-headed Gulls took up their usual residence of the island and 30 nesting pairs fledge around 50 chicks.

CFNR continues to support the Little Tern Project led by the RSPB, providing practical and advisory support where possible. The colony at Ferrybridge had a good year, with a total of 51 nesting attempts, hatching 64-93 chicks and a confirmed 37+ fledged chicks.

The Fleet Study Group held their usual meetings throughout the year. In September, members carried out a repeat litter survey on Chesil Bank, opposite Moonfleet, looking at the quantity of litter, its composition and any differences from the previous survey. Next year marks the group's 50th anniversary.

Research projects of the 2024/2025 period included, continued data collection of temperature, conductivity and pressure within the Fleet Lagoon, weather data, moth trapping, bird ringing, water sampling, small fish surveys and much more. One new survey of note was the Gravel Project, a project looking at cross-shore stratigraphy and groundwater analysis that offers insights into the geomorphological controls on barrier dynamics and evolution, and the development and persistence of some of the 'vegetated shingle' ecosystems.

Management of the Reserve continues, including signage and interpretation design and installation, visitor and landowner engagement, litter picks and boat management. The latter continues to take up Reserve resources, in terms of additional man hours to collect boats and cost of skip hire to dispose of them. The Reserve's website is also undergoing refurbishment and the initial plans for the new site have been made.

The usual levels of individuals and groups accessing Chesil Bank, the lagoon itself and the shorelines of the Fleet continue to be one of the Reserve's biggest issues. The repetitive and constant nature of this access has a detrimental effect on the protected features of the Reserve in its entirety. As well as the Reserve team tackling these issues, the Chesil and Fleet Mitigation Project that was created in 2022, also helps towards the management of these recreational pressures and CFNR works closely with its partners to achieve its aims. This strategy is ongoing.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The updating of health and safety procedures, annual reviews and carrying out checks and risk assessments continues on an annual basis.

The results of the charity's activities are summarised on page 7. During the year the charity received grants and donations of £48,963 (2024: £50,961) and incurred costs relating to charitable activities of £45,677 (2024: £40,285).

Structure, governance and management

The Trust is managed by the Trustees, who meet regularly to discuss the Trust's activity and ongoing strategy.

The Trustees have power to appoint new Trustees, who are selected on the basis of their relevant skills.

Investment policy

The Trustees have power to make investments as they see fit. The strategy for investments is one of low risk and as such the majority of assets are held in liquid funds.

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider the level of the Trust's reserves to be sufficient to meet its charitable objectives. In doing so, they recognise the importance of donations received. The Trustees have absolute discretion when making grants and as such the reserves can be maintained at a level to safeguard the future of the Trust.

The Trust holds total funds of £22,378 (2024: £25,888) at the year end, of which £20,981 (2024: £21,031) are restricted. Unrestricted reserves therefore amounted to a surplus of £1,397 (2024: £4,857).

Risk Management

The Trustees have made an assessment of the major risks to which the Trust is exposed and taken action to mitigate such risks.

Trustees' responsibilities

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

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**ANNUAL REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 (FRS102);
- 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;
- 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 maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have prepared them from the books and records of the Trust.



The Hon Mrs Townsend DL
For and on behalf of the Trustees of The Swannery Trust

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Swannery Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

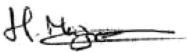
Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Hannah Mazrae ACA CTA
For and on behalf of Saffery LLP



11.11.2025

Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH2 5QY

THE SWANNERY TRUST**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	2025	2025	2025	2024
Notes	Restricted	Unrestricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Donations and legacies:				
Donations	-	44,963	44,963	50,961
Grants receivable	4,000	-	4,000	-
Other trading activities:				
Interest receivable	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous income		490	490	510
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income	4,000	45,453	49,453	51,471
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenditure				
Cost of raising funds:				
Fleet Observer expenses	-	(1,000)	(1,000)	-
General expenses	-	-	-	(376)
Expenditure on Charitable activities:				
Employment costs	-	(30,529)	(30,529)	(28,059)
Conservation projects	(3,809)	-	(3,809)	(1,553)
Support costs	(44)	(10,295)	(10,339)	(10,297)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenditure	(3,853)	(41,824)	(45,677)	(40,285)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net income/(expenditure)	147	3,629	3,776	11,186
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund balances at 1 April 2024	21,031	4,857	25,888	14,702
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Fund balances at 31 March 2025	21,178	8,486	29,664	25,888
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	6		8,921		7,108
Current assets					
Debtors		742		1,098	
Cash at bank		22,378		21,442	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
		23,120		22,540	
Current liabilities					
Creditors due within one year		(2,377)		(3,760)	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
Net current assets			20,743		18,780
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Net assets	9		29,664		25,888
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Represented by:					
Unrestricted funds		8,486		4,857	
Restricted funds		21,178		21,031	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
	10	29,664		25,888	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on its behalf by


The Hon Mrs Townsend DL

THE SWANNERY TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention. The accounts (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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective from 1 January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The Swannery Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

Going concern

The financial statement have been prepared on the basis that the charity is a going concern.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Preparation of a cash flow statement

The charity has taken the exemption provided in Update Bulletin 1 updating Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) allowing small charities not to prepare a cash flow statement.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period when the Trust becomes fully entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Income is deferred only when the Trust has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Gifts in kind are not recognised as incoming resources. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

The cost of raising funds include the cost incurred in generating voluntary income and fundraising trading costs. These costs are regarded as necessary to generate funds that are needed to finance charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to enable the charity to meet its charitable aims and objectives. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Support costs represent expenditure incurred in the general running of the charity; these costs are fully attributable to charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Funds that may be held by the Trust are either:-

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used by the Charity in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for a particular restricted purpose within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds have been raised for particular restricted purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, to write off their cost over estimated useful lives at the following rates:

Plant and equipment:- between 10% and 33% per annum on a reducing balance basis

Motor vehicles:- 25% per annum on a reducing balance basis

All assets are examined annually for the potential impairment and any material deductions in value are written down at year end.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered.

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Creditors

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

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.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Individual donors	0	42,850	42,850	5,000	44,030	49,030
Swan adoption	0	2,113	2,113	0	1,931	1,931
Total donations and legacies	0	44,963	44,963	5,000	45,961	50,961

3 Employment costs

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries	28,312	25,695
Pension costs	1,484	1,337
Other costs	733	1,027
	30,529	28,059

No Trustee received any remuneration from the Trust (2024: £nil).

The Trust has two employees (2024: 2).

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 during either year.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

4 Conservation projects

Expenditure incurred in respect of conservation projects is in relation to the Fencing work project. In the prior year, conservation project expenditure was incurred in respect of the Ringing Hut project.

5 Support costs

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Nature reserve costs	0	6,664	6,664	0	6,445	6,445
Office costs	44	3,630	3,675	54	3,798	3,852
Total support costs	44	10,294	10,339	54	10,243	10,297

No fees were paid to the Independent Examiner during either year.

6 Fixed assets

	Land £	Plant and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 April 2024	4,117	9,200	11,975	25,292
Additions	-	-	4,044	4,044
Disposals	-	-	(11,975)	(11,975)
At 31 March 2025	4,117	9,200	4,044	17,361
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2024	-	(8,127)	(10,057)	(18,184)
Charge for the year	-	(229)	(453)	(682)
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	10,426	10,426
At 31 March 2025	-	(8,356)	(84)	(8,440)
Net book values				
At 31 March 2025	4,117	844	3,960	8,921
At 1 April 2024	4,117	1,073	1,918	7,108

In November 1998 the Trust received by way of gift, an area of land known as Mixen Plantation, situated on the bank of the Fleet at the mouth of Rodden Hive. The value of the gift was estimated to be £3,500. The legal costs incurred were £617. The Mixen Plantation value is not included in the above figures.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

7	Debtors	2025	2024
		£	£
	Prepayments and accrued income	<u>742</u>	<u>1,098</u>
8	Creditors	2025	2024
		£	£
	Trade creditors	168	528
	Accrued expenses	2,206	989
	Other creditors	<u>3</u>	<u>2,244</u>
		<u>2,377</u>	<u>3,760</u>

9 Statement of Funds

	1 April 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	4,857	45,453	(41,824)	8,486
Restricted funds	21,031	4,000	(3,853)	21,178
	<u>25,888</u>	<u>49,453</u>	<u>(45,677)</u>	<u>29,664</u>

The restricted fund is to be used for the protection of the swans at Abbotsbury Swannery.

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

The net assets are held for the various funds as follows:

	Fixed assets	Net current assets	Total
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	8,724	(238)	8,486
Restricted funds	197	20,981	21,178
	<u>8,921</u>	<u>20,743</u>	<u>29,664</u>

11 Pension commitments

The charity participates in a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £1,484 (2024: £1,337). No contributions were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date in either year.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025**

12 Related party transactions

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with connected parties.

Ilchester Estates - a company on which one of the directors was also Trustee of the charity.

Donations received from Ilchester Estates amounted to £39,000 (2024: £42,000).

At the year end balance owed by the charity to Ilchester Estates amounted to £4 (2024:£2,004).

13 Control

The charity is controlled by its Trustees acting in accordance with the terms of the governing trust deed.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1040740

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 1040740

The Swannery Trust

**Accounts
31 March 2024**

The Swannery Trust

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The Swannery Trust

Charity Information

Trustees	The Hon Mrs Townshend DL J R Townshend M K Scrace
Registered Charity Number	1040740
Working name	The Fleet and Swannery Trust
Principal address	The Estate Office Melbury Sampford Dorchester Dorset DT2 0LF
Solicitors	Charles Russell Speechlys LLP 5 Fleet Place London EC4M 7RD
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc 2 Hendford Yeovil Somerset BA20 1TN
Independent Examiner	Saffery LLP Midland House 2 Poole Road Bournemouth Dorset BH2 5QY

The Swannery Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees submit this report, together with the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024.

The Swannery Trust is constituted by Deed of Trust dated 5 August 1994 and is a registered charity, number 1040740. The principal address is at The Estate Office, Melbury Sampford, Dorchester. The Charity's Trustees are listed on page 1.

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The main objects of the Trust are the promotion, preservation and protection of swans and other such species of birds that are rare or threatened, together with the conservation of Chesil Beach and the Fleet Lagoon. This is achieved through the work of the Ilchester Estates' staff at Abbotsbury Swannery and the Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve.

The main ongoing and specific achievements of the Trust in this report period are summarised in the table below. Contributions by Swannery staff, warden team and volunteers are described as S, W and V respectively.

SUBJECT	ACTIVITY	BY
Birds	Collection of breeding data in resident flock	S
	Collection of data on Fleet's flock of moulting swans	S
	Swan Study Group and other training	S V
	Swan rescue	S V W
	Chesil Bank Little Tern Project - partner	W V
	Collection of data on breeding colony of Common Terns at Abbotsbury	S V W
Habitat maintenance	Willow beds	S W V
	Reed beds	S W V
Other bird species	Passerine and duck ringing	S V
	Surveys and data collection: wetland bird surveys, breeding bird surveys	S W V
The Chesil and Fleet's environment	Fleet Edge Study	W
	Monitoring of Fleet Shoreline, Fleet Lagoon and Chesil Bank activities	W V
	Manage Reserve's Access Permit system	W
	Weather station and temperature logger maintenance and data collection	W
	Litter collection	S W V
	Management of eyesores and washed up boats	W V
	Visitor management	S W V
	Management of boats/dinghies	W
	Management of permit system	W
	Hut owner guidelines and safety information	W
Public awareness	Operate and maintain reserve website and ongoing blog	W
	Design and install interpretation and signage along Reserve	W
	Reserve and Swannery newsletters	W V S
	Events: various	S W
	Walks: various	S W V
	Chesil Beach Centre operation - partner	W V
	Chesil multi-media project - live cameras, weather recording etc.	W V

The Trust is mainly funded by grants and donations.

The Swannery Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained within the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's objectives. We seek to ensure the range of activities of the Trust ensures that we meet our obligations in respect of the public benefit.

Achievements and performance

The year from April 2023 to March 2024 saw the Trust continuing its aims and objectives. The Warden's Annual Report and the Reserve's website blog during the year and other published material contain details. A summary of the year's activities is as follows: -

The three main colonies of breeding birds on the Reserve had mixed breeding success this year. The colony of Mute Swans at Abbotsbury had a successful breeding season. The first egg arrived on 23rd March, and in total there were 102 nests across the site. The first cygnets hatched on 6th May and hatching continued until 18th June. In total, 212 cygnets successfully fledged, and in October they were ringed and weighed before being released on the Fleet.

The Common Terns unfortunately, contracted avian influenza (although this was not confirmed) and many breeding adults and all the chicks from the initial nesting attempts died. Remarkably, once the virus had passed through the colony, a number of pairs re-laid, and a handful of chicks eventually fledged.

The Chesil and Fkeet Nature Reserve continue to support the Little Tern Project led by the RSPB, providing practical and advisory support where possible. The colony at Ferrybridge had a productive year, with a total of 60 nesting attempts, hatching 52-77 chicks and a confirmed 35-40 fledged chicks.

The Fleet Study Group held three meetings this year and presentations were given by representatives from a range of organisations, groups and individuals. The FSG also discussed the upcoming 50th anniversary of the Group in April 2025. Various projects are planned, including a photographic study of the area and a study based on environmental data collected throughout the year.

Research projects of the 2023/2024 period included, continued data collection of temperature, conductivity and pressure within the Fleet Lagoon, weather data, moth trapping, bird ringing, water sampling, small fish surveys, an ostracod survey, a polychaetes survey, a scaly cricket survey, a research project looking at eutrophication within the Fleet Lagoon and more.

Management of the Reserve continues, including signage and interpretation design and installation, visitor and landowner engagement, litter picks and beach cleans, boat management and the continuation of the Reserve's research/activity permit system.

With regards to recreational activities, access and disturbance issues, the usual levels of individuals and groups accessing the shorelines and mudflats and shorelines of the Fleet continues. The repetitive and constant nature of this access has a detrimental effect on the protected features of the Reserve. This access has been recorded across a number of activities, some of which include walkers (some with dogs), photographers, cyclists, horse riders, metal detectorists and vehicles. The resulting effects of these activities are twofold; firstly, wildlife disturbance caused by the physical presence of the activity, and secondly, the damage to the substrate through compaction and/or digging.

The Swannery Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

CFNR continue to successfully work with partners, landowners and other associated organisations to manage and protect the Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve. In addition to this, CFNR is a partner of the Chesil and Fleet Mitigation Partnership, which is a strategy created to combat the environmental pressures caused by recreational activities. This project, funded by mandatory financial contributions from local housing developments, has funded a range of projects and initiatives to mitigate these issues.

The updating of health and safety procedures, annual reviews and carrying out checks and risk assessments continues on an annual basis.

During the year the charity received grants and donations of £50,961 (2023: £27,196) and incurred costs relating to charitable activities of £40,285 (2023: £50,563). Overall, the Charity made a surplus of £11,186 (2023: deficit of £22,819) relating to charitable activities.

Structure, governance and management

The Trust is managed by the Trustees, who meet regularly to discuss the Trust's activity and ongoing strategy.

The Trustees have power to appoint new Trustees, who are selected on the basis of their relevant skills.

Investment policy

The Trustees have power to make investments as they see fit. The strategy for investments is one of low risk and as such the majority of assets are held in liquid funds.

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider the level of the Trust's reserves to be sufficient to meet its charitable objectives. In doing so, they recognise the importance of donations received. The Trustees have absolute discretion when making grants and as such the reserves can be maintained at a level to safeguard the future of the Trust.

The Trust holds total funds of £25,888 (2023: £14,702) at the year end, of which £21,031 (2023: £18,014) are restricted. Unrestricted reserves therefore amounted to a surplus of £4,857 (2023: deficit of £3,312).

Risk Management

The Trustees have made an assessment of the major risks to which the Trust is exposed and taken action to mitigate such risks.

Trustees' responsibilities

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

The Swannery Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 March 2024

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 (FRS102);
- 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 maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have prepared them from the books and records of the Trust.



The Hon Mrs Townshend DL

For and on behalf of the Trustees of The Swannery Trust

The Swannery Trust

Independent Examiner's Report For the year ended 31 March 2024

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Swannery Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

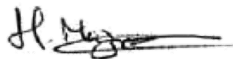
Independent examiner's statement

Since the Trust's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Hannah Mazrae
For and on behalf of Saffery LLP

Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH14 9EA
08.11.2024

The Swannery Trust

Statement of Financial Activities For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 Restricted funds £	2024 Unrestricted funds £	2024 Total £	2023 Total £
Income					
Donations and legacies:					
Donations	2	5,000	45,961	50,961	27,196
Other trading activities:					
Interest receivable		-	-	-	8
Miscellaneous income			510	510	540
Total income		5,000	46,471	51,471	27,744
Expenditure					
Cost of raising funds:					
Fleet Observer expenses		-	-	-	(1,000)
Expenditure on Charitable activities:					
General expenses		(376)	-	(376)	-
Employment costs	3	-	(28,059)	(28,059)	(25,839)
Conservation projects	4	(1,553)	-	(1,553)	(11,854)
Support costs	5	(54)	(10,243)	(10,297)	(11,870)
Total expenditure		(1,983)	(38,302)	(40,285)	(50,563)
Net income/(expenditure)		3,017	8,169	11,186	(22,819)
Fund balances at 1 April 2023		18,014	(3,312)	14,702	37,521
Fund balances at 31 March 2024		21,031	4,857	25,888	14,702

The Swannery Trust

Balance Sheet

For the year ended 31 March 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Fixed assets	6		7,108		7,955
Current assets					
Debtors	7	1,098		1,477	
Cash at bank		21,442		18,163	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
		22,540		19,640	
Current liabilities					
Creditors	8	(3,760)		(12,893)	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
Net current assets			18,780		6,747
			<hr/>		<hr/>
Net assets	9		25,888		14,702
			<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>
Represented by:					
Unrestricted funds		4,857		(3,312)	
Restricted funds		21,031		18,014	
		<hr/>		<hr/>	
	10	25,888		14,702	
		<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>	

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees and signed on its behalf by



.....
The Hon Mrs Townshend DL

The Swannery Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention. The accounts (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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective from 1 January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The Swannery Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the charity is a going concern.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Preparation of a cash flow statement

The charity has taken the exemption provided in Update Bulletin 1 updating Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) allowing small charities not to prepare a cash flow statement.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period when the Trust becomes fully entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Income is deferred only when the Trust has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Gifts in kind are not recognised as incoming resources. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

The Swannery Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

The cost of raising funds include the cost incurred in generating voluntary income and fundraising trading costs. These costs are regarded as necessary to generate funds that are needed to finance charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to enable the charity to meet its charitable aims and objectives. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Support costs represent expenditure incurred in the general running of the charity; these costs are fully attributable to charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Funds that may be held by the Trust are either:-

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used by the Charity in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for a particular restricted purpose within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds have been raised for particular restricted purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, to write off their cost over estimated useful lives at the following rates:

Plant and equipment:- between 10% and 33% per annum on a reducing balance basis

Motor vehicles:- 25% per annum on a reducing balance basis

All assets are examined annually for potential impairment and any material deductions in value are written down at the year end.

Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered.

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

The Swannery Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Creditors

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

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.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Individual donors	5,000	44,030	49,030	-	25,115	25,115
Swan adoption donations	-	1,931	1,931	-	2,081	2,081
Total donations and legacies	<u>5,000</u>	<u>45,961</u>	<u>50,961</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27,196</u>	<u>27,196</u>

3 Employment costs

	2024 £	2023 £
Salaries	25,695	24,062
Pension costs	1,337	1,226
Other costs	1,027	551
	<u>28,059</u>	<u>25,839</u>

No Trustee or closely connected person received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenditure from the Trust during either year.

The Trust has two employees (2023: 2).

No employees received employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) of more than £60,000 during either year.

The Swannery Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2024

4 Conservation projects

Expenditure incurred in respect of conservation projects is in relation to the Ringing Hut Project. In the prior year, conservation project expenditure was incurred in respect of the Nursing Pens project.

5 Support costs

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Nature reserve costs	-	6,445	6,445	-	6,955	6,955
Office costs	54	3,798	3,852	66	4,849	4,915
Total support costs	<u>54</u>	<u>10,243</u>	<u>10,297</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>11,804</u>	<u>11,870</u>

No fees were paid to the Independent Examiner during either year.

6 Fixed assets

	Land £	Plant and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 April 2023	4,117	9,200	11,975	25,292
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>4,117</u>	<u>9,200</u>	<u>11,975</u>	<u>25,292</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2023	-	(7,831)	(9,506)	(17,337)
Charge for the year	-	(296)	(551)	(847)
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>(8,127)</u>	<u>(10,057)</u>	<u>(18,184)</u>
Net book values				
At 31 March 2024	<u>4,117</u>	<u>1,073</u>	<u>1,918</u>	<u>7,108</u>
At 31 March 2023	<u>4,117</u>	<u>1,369</u>	<u>2,469</u>	<u>7,955</u>

In November 1998 the Trust received by way of gift, an area of land known as Mixen Plantation, situated on the bank of the Fleet at the mouth of Rodden Hive. The value of the gift was estimated to be £3,500. The legal costs incurred were £617. The Mixen Plantation value is not included in the above figures.

The Swannery Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2024

7 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Prepayments and accrued income	1,098	1,477

8 Creditors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	528	6,554
Accrued expenses	989	2,796
Other creditors	2,243	3,543
	<u>3,760</u>	<u>12,893</u>

9 Statement of funds

	1 April 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	31 March 2024
	£	£	£	
Unrestricted funds	(3,312)	46,471	(38,302)	4,857
Restricted funds	18,014	5,000	(1,983)	21,031
	<u>14,702</u>	<u>51,471</u>	<u>(40,285)</u>	<u>25,888</u>

The restricted fund is to be used for the protection of the swans at Abbotsbury Swannery.

10 Analysis of net assets between funds

The net assets are held for the various funds as follows:

	Fixed assets	Net current assets	Total
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	6,866	(2,009)	4,857
Restricted funds	242	20,789	21,031
	<u>7,108</u>	<u>18,780</u>	<u>25,888</u>

11 Pension commitments

The charity participates in a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £1,337 (2023: £1,226). No contributions were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date in either year.

The Swannery Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 March 2024

12 Related party transactions

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with connected parties.

Ilchester Estates - a company in which one of the directors was also Trustee of the charity.

Donations received from Ilchester Estates amounted to £42,000 (2023: £23,500).

At the year end the balance owed by the charity to Ilchester Estates amounted to £2,004 (2023: £15).

13 Control

The charity is controlled by its Trustees acting in accordance with the terms of the governing trust deed.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1040740

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 1040740

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**ACCOUNTS
31 MARCH 2023**

THE SWANNERY TRUST

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

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THE SWANNERY TRUST

CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees	The Hon Mrs Townshend DL J R Townshend M K Scrace
Registered Charity Number	1040740
Working name	The Fleet and Swannery Trust
Principal address	The Estate Office Melbury Sampford Dorchester Dorset DT2 0LF
Solicitors	Charles Russell Speechlys LLP 5 Fleet Place London EC4M 7RD
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc 2 Hendford Yeovil Somerset BA20 1TN
Independent Examiner	Saffery LLP Midland House 2 Poole Road Bournemouth Dorset BH2 5QY

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees submit this report, together with the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The Swannery Trust is constituted by Deed of Trust dated 5 August 1994 and is a registered charity, number 1040740. The principal address is at The Estate Office, Melbury Sampford, Dorchester. The Charity's Trustees are listed on page 1.

Objectives and activities

The main objectives of the Trust are the promotion, preservation and protection of swans and other such species of birds that are rare or threatened, together with the conservation of Chesil Beach and the Fleet Lagoon. This is achieved through the work of the Ilchester Estates' staff at Abbotsbury Swannery and the Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve.

The main ongoing and specific achievements of the Trust in this report period are summarised in the table below. Contributions by Swannery staff, warden team and volunteers are described as S, W and V respectively. The trust has a number of volunteers who fulfil a number of roles including education, monitoring welfare of the swans and feeding. In addition, numerous volunteers are required to enable the swan round up that is held every two years. This exercise involves the Swannery team and volunteers collecting up all the swans in the wider Fleet lagoon so that they can be monitored, and checked for health.

SUBJECT	ACTIVITY	BY
Birds	Collection of breeding data in resident flock	S
	Collection of data on Fleet's flock of moulting swans	S
	Swan Study Group and other training	S V
	Swan rescue	S V W
	Chesil Bank Little Tern Project - partner	W V
	Collection of data on breeding colony of Common Terns at Abbotsbury	S V W
Habitat maintenance	Willow beds	S W V
	Reed beds	S W V
Other bird species	Passerine and duck ringing	S V
	Surveys and data collection: wetland bird surveys, breeding bird surveys	S W V
The Chesil and Fleet's environment	Fleet Edge Study	W
	Monitoring of Fleet Shoreline, Fleet Lagoon and Chesil Bank activities	W V
	Manage Reserve's Access Permit system	W
	Weather station and temperature logger maintenance and data collection	W
	Litter collection	S W V
	Management of eyesores and washed up boats	W V
	Visitor management	S W V
	Management of boats/dinghies	W
	Management of permit system	W
Hut owner guidelines and safety information	W	
Public awareness	Operate and maintain reserve website and ongoing blog	W
	Design and install interpretation and signage along Reserve	W
	Reserve and Swannery newsletters	W V S
	Events: various	S W
	Walks: various	S W V
	Chesil Beach Centre operation - partner	W V
Chesil multi-media project – live cameras, weather recording etc.	W V	

The Trust is mainly funded by grants and donations.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained within the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's objectives. We seek to ensure the range of activities of the Trust ensures that we meet our obligations in respect of the public benefit.

In respect of future plans for The Swannery Trust, the trustees have set out the following objectives:

- Continue to work with Oxford University, RSPB, Dorset Council and other relevant organisations to support and promote the conservation, preservation and protection of swans at the Swannery and the lagoon
- Explore opportunities to mitigate Avian Influenza and other diseases at the site.
- Explore opportunities to improve or renew the feeding pens at the site.
- Continue to monitor weather patterns and sea levels and create and implement a policy for a "managed retreat" for the site
- Continue to support the Fleet Study Group.

Achievements and performance

The year from April 2022 to March 2023 saw the Trust continuing its aims and objectives. The Warden's Annual Report and the Reserve's website blog during the year and other published material contain details. A summary of the year's activities is as follows:

The colony of Mute Swans at Abbotsbury had a difficult breeding season. The year started off well, with the first egg arriving on the 24th March. There was a total of 107 nests across the site and the first cygnets hatched on 6th May and continued until the 15th June. Unfortunately, the season went downhill from there as the 2021/22 winter avian influenza strain H5N1, was still present throughout the country in the summer months. This was brought back to the Reserve by the annual moulting flock of 1000+ Canada Geese, which arrived in June. As the newly hatched cygnets had no antibodies or immunity to this strain, and being so young, the Swannery lost most of the year's cygnets to it. The saving grace here is that, as swans are relatively long lived, the occasional bad year like this does not overly affect the population. Throughout the season this strain continued to be a concern for our resident and visiting bird life, however it was deemed by The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) as very low risk to humans.

The weather was favourable to the Reserve's other breeding birds throughout spring and summer. As mentioned in last year's report, the Common Tern Island had a major refurbishment. In comparison to the 2021 figures where only 25 pairs of Common Terns nested, fledging just 20 chicks, this year saw an almost 400% increase as 100 pairs successfully nested on the island, fledging 120 chicks. These figures show the benefit of a larger nesting area with clear, vegetation free, shingle. The Black-headed Gulls that were becoming the main concern, with regards to nesting tern numbers, continued to nest on the island. The gulls brought materials from the surrounding land to create nests on the shingle. A total of 25 pairs nested on the island alongside the Terns, fledging 50 chicks.

The Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve (CFNR) team continue to support the Little Tern Project led by the RSPB, by providing practical and advisory support where possible. AT represents CFNR in this project and assists the team with her extensive knowledge and expertise. The Little Tern colony at Ferrybridge had a much better breeding season compared to 2021. There were 40-49 pairs making 49 nesting attempts. A total of 122 eggs were laid and 72-91 chicks hatched. From this total, the peak fledgling count was 55-60 chicks. There are two wader species that also benefit from the protection of the Little Tern project: Oystercatcher and Ringed Plover. Within the colony, 2 pairs of Oystercatcher hatched and fledged a total of 3 chicks, whilst the Ringed Plover saw 2-4 pairs hatching 6-8 chicks and fledging 2 chicks. Other nesting birds on the Reserve, which include Shelduck, Reed, Sedge and Cetti's Warblers, among others, also had a productive year.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Fleet Study Group held two meetings this year on the 18th March and the 18th November. The group discussed current research taking place, future plans or projects by group members or organisations and any issues or concerns raised throughout the year. A milestone for the group is its 50th anniversary, in April 2025. An occasion that is being marked by two publications and a seminar. Plans to mark the 50th anniversary of the FSG is underway. The idea at present is to record "A Year on the Fleet", as a report/book covering all different aspects of the Fleet from geology to hydrodynamics, litter to botany and more. Then to possibly hold a symposium/presentation of the Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve to any interested parties to mark this historic occasion.

The weather station based at Abbotsbury was installed in July 2019 and continues to record and produce live weather data, which can be accessed by anyone via the internet. The solar powered weather station produces weather data every 15 mins, with wind updates every 10 secs. 2020 saw the first full year of recorded data. We now have three full years of data from this invaluable piece of kit.

Research projects for the year included, continued data collection of temperature, conductivity and pressure within the Fleet Lagoon, small fish surveys undertaken by SIFCA, a continuation of the natural biotoxin study and an environmental DNA study carried out by CEFAS, whilst a research project surveying the species distribution of clams within the Fleet Lagoon was undertaken.

The DWT continue to successfully operate the Chesil Beach Centre. A significant change to the DWT visitor centre this year was the renaming of the centre itself. Formally known as The Chesil Beach Centre, the name was officially changed to The Wild Chesil Centre (WCC). The main reason for this change was to remove the word 'beach' as it was thought this word gave the impression of a holiday beach destination rather than being quite a harsh, exposed part of the nature reserve. It is also hoped that by renaming the centre, visitors will perceive the area as the nature reserve that it is rather than a pleasure beach, to camp and sunbath.

With regards to incident management, recreational activities, access and disturbance issues, the usual levels of individuals and groups accessing the shorelines of the Fleet continues to be one of the Reserve's biggest issues, whilst problems caused by recreational activities along the Reserve continued throughout the year, both in terms of the type and the frequency of activity.

The Reserve's website, which is now in its seventh year, remains a very useful management tool. The website address (and QR code) is placed on our new signage, which allows quick access to Reserve information for members of the public. The website's blog continues to highlight the interesting findings and projects on the Reserve throughout the year. One example of this is a handful of large-scale running events that take place along the southwest coast path adjacent to the Fleet. For these events, Reserve staff work with Natural England to ensure the event organisers have strict management procedures in place to minimise the overall impact caused to the Reserve, landowners and businesses.

Reserve management incorporates a broad range of tasks, projects and development, and throughout the year Reserve staff continued their efforts to efficiently manage the many aspects of the Reserve. Management of the Reserve this year included; interpretation design and installation, litter management, boundary management, habitat protection, access incidents, H&S incidents and disturbance issues.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

A recent management strategy that the Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve are a partner of, is the Chesil and Fleet Mitigation Strategy. Natural England have recently provided evidence which suggests that recreational pressures along Chesil Beach and the Fleet Lagoon is adversely affecting the internationally important habitats and species at the site. As a result, objections to planning applications for residential development within the vicinity of Chesil Beach and the Fleet were made. This was done as the increase in local population would result in an associated increase in recreational pressure on this protected area. To mitigate against these pressures, an interim strategy was created to address the recreational impacts upon Chesil and the Fleet, which will ensure that new development contributes to the mitigation. Developers will be charged a cost per dwelling, which will secure sufficient funding to deliver mitigation for new developments. From this, a Chesil and Fleet Mitigation Interim Strategy steering group has been created to deliver the objectives of the strategy and apply this funding to projects, equipment, engagement, interpretation, staffing, etc. The steering group is led by Dorset Council and consists of partners, key stakeholders, landowners and linked organisations. The group meets regularly and funding requests go through a strict vetting system before being approved. It is hoped that with this funding, vital protection can be provided to the Reserve.

The results of the charity's activities are summarised on page 8. During the year the charity received grants and donations of £27,196 (2022: £27,953) and incurred costs relating to charitable activities of £50,563 (2022: £41,144).

Structure, governance and management

The Trust is managed by the Trustees, who meet regularly to discuss the Trust's activity and ongoing strategy.

The Trustees have power to appoint new Trustees, who are selected on the basis of their relevant skills.

Investment policy

The Trustees have power to make investments as they see fit. The strategy for investments is one of low risk and as such the majority of assets are held in liquid funds.

Reserves policy

At 31 March 2023, the Trust held reserves of £14,702 (2022: 37,521) of which £18,014 (2022: £29,926) were restricted and a deficit of £3,312 (2022: surplus of £7,595) were unrestricted. This was due to the timing of a donation received which arrived early in the new financial year, this matter is therefore now resolved. The Trustees consider the level of the Trust's reserves to be sufficient to meet its charitable objectives. In doing so, they recognise the importance of donations received.

Risk Management

The Trustees have made an assessment of the major risks to which the Trust is exposed and taken action to mitigate such risks.

Trustees' responsibilities

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

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**ANNUAL REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 (FRS102);
- 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;
- 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 proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have prepared them from the books and records of the Trust.



.....
The Hon Mrs Townsend DL
(for the Trustees)

21 December 2023
.....

THE SWANNERY TRUST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Swannery Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Hannah Mazrae
Saffery LLP



Chartered Accountants

Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH2 5QY

8 January 2024
.....

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	2023 Restricted funds £	2023 Unrestricted funds £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Income					
Donations and legacies:					
Donations		-	27,196	27,196	27,953
Other trading activities:					
Interest receivable		8	-	8	3
Miscellaneous income		-	540	540	807
Total income		8	27,736	27,744	28,763
Expenditure					
Cost of raising funds:					
Fleet Observer expenses		-	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Expenditure on Charitable activities:					
Employment costs		-	(25,839)	(25,839)	(25,189)
Conservation projects		(11,854)	-	(11,854)	(3,527)
Support costs		(66)	(11,804)	(11,870)	(11,428)
Total expenditure		(11,920)	(38,643)	(50,563)	(41,144)
Net expenditure		(11,912)	(10,907)	(22,819)	(12,381)
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		29,926	7,595	37,521	49,902
Fund balances at 31 March 2023		18,014	(3,312)	14,702	37,521

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	3		7,955		9,050
Current assets					
Debtors		1,477		5,219	
Cash at bank		18,163		29,696	
		<u>19,640</u>		<u>34,915</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors due within one year		(12,893)		(6,444)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net current assets			6,747		28,471
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Net assets	4		14,702		37,521
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Represented by:					
Unrestricted funds		(3,312)		7,595	
Restricted funds		18,014		29,926	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
	5	14,702		37,521	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	

The notes on pages 10 to 12 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on^{21/12/23} and signed on its behalf by:


The Hon Mrs Townsend DL

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention. The accounts (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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective from 1 January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The Swannery Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

Due to the fact that the unrestricted reserves were in deficit at year due to timing of a donation, the Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Preparation of a cash flow statement

The charity has taken the exemption provided in Update Bulletin 1 updating Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) allowing small charities not to prepare a cash flow statement.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period when the Trust becomes fully entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income is deferred only when the Trust has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period. Gifts in kind are not recognised as incoming resources.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

Support costs represent expenditure incurred in the general running of the charity; these costs are fully attributable to charitable activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, to write off their cost over estimated useful lives at the following rates:

Plant and equipment: between 10% and 33% per annum on a reducing balance basis

Motor vehicles: 25% per annum on a reducing balance basis

Fund accounting

Funds that may be held by the Trust are either:-

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used by the Charity in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for a particular restricted purpose within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds have been raised for particular restricted purposes.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

2	Staff costs	2023 £	2022 £
	Salaries	24,062	22,877
	Pension costs	1,226	1,209
	Other costs	551	1,103
		<u>25,839</u>	<u>25,189</u>

No Trustee received any remuneration from the Trust (2022: £nil).

No Trustee expenses were paid for by the Trust during the year (2022: £nil).

The Trust has two employees (2022: 2).

3	Fixed assets	Land	Plant and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£
	At 1 April 2022	4,117	9,200	11,975	25,292
	At 31 March 2023	<u>4,117</u>	<u>9,200</u>	<u>11,975</u>	<u>25,292</u>
	Depreciation				
	At 1 April 2022	-	(7,446)	(8,796)	(16,242)
	Charge for the year	-	(385)	(710)	(1,095)
	At 31 March 2023	<u>-</u>	<u>(7,831)</u>	<u>(9,506)</u>	<u>(17,337)</u>
	Net book values				
	At 31 March 2023	<u>4,117</u>	<u>1,369</u>	<u>2,469</u>	<u>7,955</u>
	At 31 March 2022	<u>4,117</u>	<u>1,754</u>	<u>3,179</u>	<u>9,050</u>

In November 1998 the Trust received by way of gift, an area of land known as Mixen Plantation, situated on the bank of the Fleet at the mouth of Rodden Hive. The value of the gift was estimated to be £3,500. The legal costs incurred were £617. The Mixen Plantation value is not included in the above figures.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023**

4 Allocation of Trust net assets

The net assets are held for the various funds as follows:

	Fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Total £
Unrestricted funds	7,659	(10,971)	(3,312)
Restricted funds	296	17,718	18,014
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	7,955	6,747	14,702
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

5 Funds

	1 April 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds	7,595	27,736	(38,643)	(3,312)
Restricted funds	29,926	8	(11,920)	18,014
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	37,521	27,744	(50,563)	14,702
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The restricted fund is to be used for the protection of the swans at Abbotsbury Swannery.

6 Related party transactions

During the year, there have been no transactions with related parties (2022: £nil).

THE SWANNERY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1040740

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 1040740

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**ACCOUNTS
31 MARCH 2022**

THE SWANNERY TRUST

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

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THE SWANNERY TRUST

CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees	The Hon Mrs Townsend DL J R Townsend M K Scrace
Registered Charity Number	1040740
Working name	The Fleet and Swannery Trust
Principal address	The Estate Office Melbury Sampford Dorchester Dorset DT2 0LF
Solicitors	Charles Russell Speechlys LLP 5 Fleet Place London EC4M 7RD
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc 2 Hendford Yeovil Somerset BA20 1TN
Independent Examiner	Hannah Mazrae Saffery Champness LLP Midland House 2 Poole Road Bournemouth Dorset BH2 5QY

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

The Trustees submit this report, together with the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022.

The Swannery Trust is constituted by Deed of Trust dated 5 August 1994 and is a registered charity, number 1040740. The principal address is at The Estate Office, Melbury Sampford, Dorchester. The Charity's Trustees are listed on page 1.

Objectives and activities

The main objects of the Trust are the promotion, preservation and protection of swans and other such species of birds that are rare or threatened, together with the conservation of Chesil Beach and the Fleet Lagoon. This is achieved through the work of the Ilchester Estates' staff at Abbotsbury Swannery and the Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve.

The main ongoing and specific achievements of the Trust in this report period are summarised in the table below. Contributions by Swannery staff, warden team and volunteers are described as S, W and V respectively.

SUBJECT	ACTIVITY	BY
Birds	Collection of breeding data in resident flock	S
	Collection of data on Fleet's flock of moulting swans	S
	Swan Study Group and other training	SV
	Swan rescue	SVW
	Chesil Bank Little Tern Project - partner	WV
	Collection of data on breeding colony of Common Terns at Abbotsbury	SVW
Habitat maintenance	Willow beds	SVW
	Reed beds	SVW
Other bird species	Passerine and duck ringing	SV
	Surveys and data collection: wetland bird surveys, breeding bird surveys	SVW
The Chesil and Fleet's environment	Fleet Edge Study	W
	Monitoring of Fleet Shoreline, Fleet Lagoon and Chesil Bank activities	WV
	Manage Reserve's Access Permit system	W
	Weather station and temperature logger maintenance and data collection	W
	Litter collection	SVW
	Management of eyesores and washed up boats	WV
	Visitor management	SVW
	Management of boats/dinghies	W
	Management of permit system	W
	Hut owner guidelines and safety information	W
Public awareness	Operate and maintain reserve website and ongoing blog	W
	Design and install interpretation and signage along Reserve	W
	Reserve and Swannery newsletters	WVS
	Events: various	SW
	Walks: various	SVW
	Chesil Beach Centre operation - partner	WV
Chesil multi-media project – live cameras, weather recording etc	WV	

The Trust is mainly funded by grants and donations.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained within the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's objectives. We seek to ensure the range of activities of the Trust ensures that we meet our obligations in respect of the public benefit.

Achievements and performance

The year from April 2021 to March 2022 saw the Trust continuing its aims and objectives. The Warden's Annual Report and the Reserve's website blog during the year and other published material contain details. A summary of the year's activities is as follows: -

The colony of Mute swans at Abbotsbury had a productive year, both in terms of nest numbers, cygnets hatching and the total reared to the end of the season. The first egg arrived on the 22nd March, there were a total of 90 nests and the first cygnets hatched on 7th May. The annual Release Day was held on the 14th October, where 153 cygnets were ringed, weighed and released ready for the winter ahead. Unfortunately, the success of a good breeding year was short lived, as in November 2021, Swannery staff began to suspect that avian influenza had reached the Fleet yet again. At the end of November, avian influenza H5N1 was confirmed in two Canada geese, brought in by migrating wild birds from Europe. Although this strain was a concern for our resident and visiting bird life, this particular strain was, at the time deemed as very low risk to humans. Incident and safety management procedures were implemented immediately and all staff, members of the public, volunteers and researchers responded well to the situation and adhered to restrictions in place.

The weather was kind to other breeding birds this spring and summer, being fairly mild to very warm. The Common Tern colony at Abbotsbury however saw its least productive year since 2013, with only 25 nesting pairs and fledging just 20 chicks. Staff believe this low number of nesting birds is due to the lack of space and the abundance of vegetation on the island. A total of 25 Black-headed gulls nested on the Island this year, fledging 50 chicks. The gulls simply outcompeted the Terns for space on the Island and so, it was planned to carry out a re-vamp on the island in the winter of 2021/22, clearing it of vegetation and making it larger. This substantial project, which was funded by a donation to the charity, was completed in March 2022. The restoration saw an entire new surface put on the island, with new anti-predator measures and chick roosting areas. The entire island was clad to make the structure sturdier and increase its longevity. It is hoped that this restoration will greatly increase the Common Tern breeding success on the Fleet for the future.

The Little Tern colony at Ferrybridge did not have a particularly good breeding year throughout 2021. The number of nesting attempts were positive at the beginning of the season as 48 pairs made 65 nesting attempts. From this, a total of 155 eggs were laid and at least 102 chicks hatched. Despite these figures, the number of chicks that fledged at the end of the season totalled to just 3. This was mainly due to a very persistent male kestrel that had nested on Portland. Little Tern wardens and volunteers witnessed the kestrel predating 23 chicks but it is believed that it took at least another 50 of the remaining 79 chicks. Poor years such as this are all part of managing a breeding colony of birds but it is always hugely disappointing when it happens. It is hoped that this was a one off year of this particular kestrel and that the Terns will bounce back in 2022. Other nesting birds on the Reserve, which include Oystercatchers, Ringed Plover, Shelduck, Reed, Sedge and Cetti's Warblers, among others, have had a productive year.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

The FSG held two meetings in 2021 that were attended by a number of individuals, organisations and interested parties. The meetings cover a broad range of topics regarding the Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve and its interests, as well as discussing any surveys and research being conducted throughout the year and incidents that may have occurred. The chairman of the FSG, Ed Harland, continues to carrying out a re-vamp of the Chesil Beach website (www.chesilbeach.org), which is out dated and holds the majority of the FSG data and information. When able, other members of the FSG took to other areas of the Reserve looking at moth records, seagrass health and distribution, Foxtail stonewort surveys, Fleet temperatures and more.

The weather station mentioned in last year's report has now completed two full years of data recording and continues to offer live and historic weather data for the area. The solar powered weather station records weather data every 10minutes and wind data every 10 seconds. The last 14 days of weather data is accessible publicly and can be viewed anywhere in the world. From this data, Reserve staff can produce useful visualisations of the data collected.

Research projects of the 2021/2022 period included, continued data collection of temperature, conductivity and pressure within the Fleet Lagoon, a bat migration survey, fossil surveys and research undertaken by the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS) investigating natural bio-toxins within water bodies and trialling a resin that can absorb and detect low levels of bio-toxins.

The DWT continue to successfully operate the Chesil Beach Centre. They saw an increase in visitors in comparison to 2020 as a result of many Covid restrictions being lifted. The Fleet Explorer (under the ownership and management of the Dorset Wildlife Trust) was able to operate throughout the year, with the only restriction being the number of passengers per trip. The boat was well received and a number of trips took place.

The Reserve's website, which is now in its sixth year, is still a very useful management tool and a place to send enquiries and/or requests for information. The blog continues to highlight the interesting findings and projects on the Reserve throughout the year.

With regards to incident management; we did not have the level of access and disturbance issues in comparison to 2020, specifically in relation to the masses of people descending upon the area in a very short period of time. We did however see an increase in the quantity and frequency of recreational activities as a result of the number of 'staycationers' this year. Walkers and dog walkers remained at their usual high levels but a specific activity to mention is paddle boarding, which caused significant disturbance along the Reserve. Other incidents of note throughout 2021 included; two cases of kite surfers on the Fleet Lagoon, low flying aircraft seen on a number of occasions, kayakers launching from the Tank Teeth at Abbotsbury, two separate cases of fishermen driving a quad bike along the crest of Chesil Bank from the Tank Teeth, heading east, one incident of an individual seen with a slingshot firing pebbles from the beach and finally, a substantial number of camping incursions on Chesil beach, particularly at Abbotsbury.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Reserve management incorporates a broad range of tasks, projects and development, and throughout the year Reserve staff continued their efforts to efficiently manage the many aspects of the Reserve. Management of the Reserve this year included; interpretation design and installation, litter management, boundary management, habitat protection, access incidents, H&S incidents and disturbance issues.

The ongoing management of access remains one of the key drivers for interpretation along the Reserve. All of the large green safety and Reserve information signs that are located at all major access points along the Fleet are under review and planned to be replaced. The new signs are now designed and are awaiting final approval from partners. In addition to this, Reserve staff have designed a new Fleet Foreshore sign that reminds members of the public that dogs must be kept under close control and that they, and their dogs, must remain on the south west coast path and not on the Fleet foreshores. Fifty copies of this foreshore sign have been made and are to be installed along the Reserve throughout 2022.

Updating health and safety procedures, especially in respect of public incidents, carrying out checks and risk assessments.

Contributions to other projects and plans continues where required.

The results of the charity's activities are summarised on page 8. During the year the charity received grants and donations of £27,953 (2021: £31,759) and incurred costs relating to charitable activities of £41,144 (2021: £34,776).

Structure, governance and management

The Trust is managed by the Trustees, who meet regularly to discuss the Trust's activity and ongoing strategy.

The Trustees have power to appoint new Trustees, who are selected on the basis of their relevant skills.

Investment policy

The Trustees have power to make investments as they see fit. The strategy for investments is one of low risk and as such the majority of assets are held in liquid funds.

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider the level of the Trust's reserves to be sufficient to meet its charitable objectives. In doing so, they recognise the importance of donations received. The Trustees have absolute discretion when making grants and as such the reserves can be maintained at a level to safeguard the future of the Trust.

Risk Management

The Trustees have made an assessment of the major risks to which the Trust is exposed and taken action to mitigate such risks.

Trustees' responsibilities

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

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**ANNUAL REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 (FRS102);
- 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;
- 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 maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have prepared them from the books and records of the Trust.



The Hon Mrs Townsend DL
(for the Trustees)

25 January 2023

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Swannery Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

**H Mazrae
Saffery Champness LLP**

25 January 2023



Chartered Accountants

Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH2 5QY

THE SWANNERY TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 Restricted funds £	2022 Unrestricted funds £	2022 Total £	2021 Total £
Income					
Donations and legacies:					
Donations		-	27,953	27,953	30,759
Grants receivable		-	-	-	1,000
Other trading activities:					
Interest receivable		3	-	3	20
Miscellaneous income		-	807	807	785
Total income		3	28,760	28,763	32,564
Expenditure					
Cost of raising funds:					
Fleet Observer expenses		-	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Expenditure on Charitable activities:					
Employment costs		-	(25,189)	(25,189)	(24,404)
Conservation projects		(3,527)	-	(3,527)	(134)
Support costs		(81)	(11,347)	(11,428)	(9,238)
Total expenditure		(3,608)	(37,536)	(41,144)	(34,776)
Net expenditure		(3,605)	(8,776)	(12,381)	(2,212)
Fund balances at 1 April 2021		33,531	16,371	49,902	52,114
Fund balances at 31 March 2022		29,926	7,595	37,521	49,902

THE SWANNERY TRUST

BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022	2021
		£	£
Fixed assets	3		10,468
Current assets			
Debtors		5,219	5,266
Cash at bank		29,696	36,977
		<u>34,915</u>	<u>42,243</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors due within one year		(6,444)	(2,809)
		<u>28,471</u>	<u>39,434</u>
Net current assets			
		<u>28,471</u>	<u>39,434</u>
Net assets	4	37,521	49,902
		<u>37,521</u>	<u>49,902</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted funds		7,595	16,371
Restricted funds		29,926	33,531
		<u>37,521</u>	<u>49,902</u>
	5	37,521	49,902
		<u>37,521</u>	<u>49,902</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 12 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 25 January 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



The Hon Mrs Townsend DL

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention. The accounts (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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective from 1 January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The Swannery Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Preparation of a cash flow statement

The charity has taken the exemption provided in Update Bulletin 1 updating Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) allowing small charities not to prepare a cash flow statement.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period when the Trust becomes fully entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income is deferred only when the Trust has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period. Gifts in kind are not recognised as incoming resources.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

Support costs represent expenditure incurred in the general running of the charity; these costs are fully attributable to charitable activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, to write off their cost over estimated useful lives at the following rates:

Plant and equipment: - between 10% and 33% per annum on a reducing balance basis

Motor vehicles: - 25% per annum on a reducing balance basis

Fund accounting

Funds that may be held by the Trust are either:-

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used by the Charity in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for a particular restricted purpose within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds have been raised for particular restricted purposes.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

2	Staff costs	2022	2021
		£	£
	Salaries	22,877	22,601
	Pension costs	1,209	1,194
	Other costs	1,103	609
		25,189	24,404
		25,189	24,404

No Trustee received any remuneration from the Trust (2021: £nil).

The Trust has two employees (2021: 2).

3	Fixed assets	Land	Plant and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
		£	£	£	£
	Cost or valuation				
	At 1 April 2021	4,117	9,200	11,975	25,292
	Additions	-	-	-	-
	Disposals	-	-	-	-
		4,117	9,200	11,975	25,292
	At 31 March 2022	4,117	9,200	11,975	25,292
	Depreciation				
	At 1 April 2021	-	6,942	7,882	14,824
	Charge for the year	-	504	914	1,418
	Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-
		-	7,446	8,796	16,242
	At 31 March 2022	-	7,446	8,796	16,242
	Net book values				
	At 31 March 2022	4,117	1,754	3,179	9,050
	At 31 March 2021	4,117	2,258	4,093	10,468

In November 1998 the Trust received by way of gift, an area of land known as Mixen Plantation, situated on the bank of the Fleet at the mouth of Rodden Hive. The value of the gift was estimated to be £3,500. The legal costs incurred were £617. The Mixen Plantation market value is not included in the above figures.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022**

4 Allocation of Trust net assets

The net assets are held for the various funds as follows:

	Fixed assets	Net current assets	Total
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	8,688	(1,093)	7,595
Restricted funds	362	29,564	29,926
	<u>9,050</u>	<u>28,471</u>	<u>37,521</u>

5 Funds

	1 April 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	31 March 2022
Unrestricted funds	16,371	28,760	(37,536)	7,595
Restricted funds	33,531	3	(3,608)	29,926
	<u>49,902</u>	<u>28,763</u>	<u>(41,144)</u>	<u>37,521</u>

The restricted fund is to be used for the protection of the swans at Abbotsbury Swannery.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 1040740

Accounts

Registered Charity Number: 1040740

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ACCOUNTS

31 MARCH 2021

THE SWANNERY TRUST

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

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THE SWANNERY TRUST

CHARITY INFORMATION

Trustees	The Hon Mrs Townshend DL J R Townshend M K Scrace
Registered Charity Number	1040740
Working name	The Fleet and Swannery Trust
Principal address	The Estate Office Melbury Sampford Dorchester Dorset DT2 0LF
Solicitors	Charles Russell Speechlys LLP 5 Fleet Place London EC4M 7RD
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc 2 Hendford Yeovil Somerset BA20 1TN
Independent Examiner	H Mazrae Saffery Champness LLP Midland House 2 Poole Road Bournemouth Dorset BH2 5QY

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Trustees submit this report, together with the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2021.

The Swannery Trust is constituted by Deed of Trust dated 5 August 1994 and is a registered charity, number 1040740. The principal address is at The Estate Office, Melbury Sampford, Dorchester. The Charity's Trustees are listed on page 1.

Objectives and activities

The main objects of the Trust are the promotion, preservation and protection of swans and other such species of birds that are rare or threatened, together with the conservation of Chesil Beach and the Fleet Lagoon. This is achieved through the work of the Ilchester Estates' staff at Abbotsbury Swannery and the Chesil and Fleet Nature Reserve.

The main ongoing and specific achievements of the Trust in this report period are summarised in the table below. Contributions by Swannery staff, warden team and volunteers are described as S, W and V respectively.

SUBJECT	ACTIVITY	BY
Birds	Collection of breeding data in resident flock	S
	Collection of data on Fleet's flock of moulting swans	S
	Swan Study Group and other training	S V
	Swan rescue	S V W
	Chesil Bank Little Tern Project - partner	W V
	Collection of data on breeding colony of Common Terns at Abbotsbury	S V W
Habitat maintenance	Willow beds	S W V
	Reed beds	S W V
Other bird species	Passerine and duck ringing	S V
	Surveys and data collection: wetland bird surveys, breeding bird surveys	S W V
The Chesil and Fleet's environment	Fleet Edge Study	W
	Monitoring of Fleet Shoreline, Fleet Lagoon and Chesil Bank activities	W V
	Manage Reserve's Access Permit system	W
	Weather station and temperature logger maintenance and data collection	W
	Litter collection	S W V
	Management of eyesores and washed up boats	W V
	Visitor management	S W V
	Management of boats/dinghies	W
	Management of permit system	W
Hut owner guidelines and safety information	W	
Public awareness	Operate and maintain reserve website and ongoing blog	W
	Design and install interpretation and signage along Reserve	W
	Reserve and Swannery newsletters	W V S
	Events: various	S W
	Walks: various	S W V
	Chesil Beach Centre operation - partner	W V
	Chesil multi-media project – live cameras, weather recording etc	W V

The Trust is mainly funded by grants and donations.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained within the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust's objectives. We seek to ensure the range of activities of the Trust ensures that we meet our obligations in respect of the public benefit.

Achievements and performance

The year from April 2020 to March 2021 saw the Trust continuing its aims and objectives. The Warden's Annual Report and the Reserve's website blog during the year and other published material contain details. A summary of the year's activities is as follows: -

- The colony of Mute swans at Abbotsbury had a productive year, both in terms of nest numbers, cygnets hatching and the total reared to the end of the season. The absence of visitors throughout March, April and May did not have an effect on the swans or their productivity. The first egg arrived on the 26th March, there were a total of 106 nests and the first cygnets hatched on 11th May. In total, 165 cygnets were ringed throughout the autumn, ready for the winter ahead. Unfortunately, the success of a good breeding year was short lived. In October the H5N8 strain of avian influenza, that had been circulating throughout Europe was identified within the UK, brought over by migrating wild birds. At the beginning of November, H5N8 was confirmed in a Canada goose found on the Reserve. As a result of the virus, swan losses throughout November were fairly substantial with a handful of other waterfowl species succumbing also. Incident and safety management procedures were implemented immediately.

The weather was kind to the other breeding birds this spring and summer, being fairly mild to very warm. The Common Tern colony at Abbotsbury consisted of 55+ nesting pairs, which hatched 90 chicks. Unfortunately, we were unable to ring them due to staff social distancing restrictions. The Little Tern colony at Ferrybridge had a bumpy start to the season. It started off well with a good number of pairs laying but, many of the first clutches of eggs were predated by a hungry hedgehog. After relays the colony had made 80 nest attempts and managed to fledge an estimated 20-30 chicks. The Cormorants that nested for the first time on the Reserve last year, successfully nested again in 2020. This aquatic bird made use of the old Tern platform located within the Swannery embayment. This year, five pairs nested, fledging an average of two chicks per pair. Other nesting birds on the Reserve, which include Oystercatchers, Ringed Plover, Shelduck, Reed, Sedge and Cetti's Warblers, among others, have had a productive year. One final breeding bird of note, on the Reserve, is the Barn Owl. A second Barn Owl nest site was discovered this year, the adults successfully reared two chicks to fledging. A continued effort to survey the breeding species within the reedbeds and collating vital data on the populations utilising this habitat is ongoing.

- The FSG hold three meetings a year including additional field days. During 2020 the Covid19 outbreak prevented any of these activities from taking place. When the restrictions were eased some activities were carried out but only by individuals rather than in groups. Chairman of the FSG, Ed Harland was able to carry out a limited number of deployments of the acoustic equipment in the Lower Fleet as well as carrying out a major re-vamp of the Chesil Beach website (www.chesilbeach.org), which was outdated. When able, other members of the FSG took to other areas of the Reserve looking at historical structures, the thriving growth of flora due to reduced footfall, shingle movement, land slippage, Fleet temperatures and more.

The weather station mentioned in last year's report has now completed a full year of data recording and continues to offer live and historic weather data for the area. The solar powered weather station records weather data every 10 minutes and wind data every 10 seconds. The last 14 days of weather data is accessible publicly and can be viewed anywhere in the world. From this data, Reserve staff can produce useful visualisations of the data collected.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

- There were two storms of note in 2020, one in February and the second in December 2020. The latter of which produced 60+ mph winds (recorded by the CBFNR weather station) and 9 metre waves, as recorded by the Channel Coastal Observatory's wave rider buoy, located off of Chesil in Lyme Bay opposite Wyke Regis. During this storm, large quantities of shingle were pulled down into the sea and then thrown back onto the beach. In some locations, shingle was thrown onto the inner flank of the beach where it has smothered vegetation and increased the size of the existing cans. The topography of the beach on the seaward side continually shifts and moves. It is unknown just how much these frequent winter storms and high winds impact on the integrity of the beach. There are areas where the crest of the beach is notably undulated as a result of these storms.
- Research projects of the 2020/2021 period included, continued surveying of the health and distribution of the seagrasses within the Fleet via systematic drone photographs, small fish surveys undertaken by the Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (SIFCA), temperature, conductivity and pressure logger data collection, bat migration survey and two research project undertaken by the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS) investigating 1) micro-plastic Vibro attachment and 2) natural bio-toxins within water bodies and trialling a resin that can absorb and detect low levels of bio-toxins.
- The DWT continue to successfully operate the Chesil Beach Centre. Due to the restrictions this year, there has been a dramatic decrease in visitor numbers within the centre itself. However, between lockdowns, there were high numbers of people visiting the beach. Unfortunately, the Fleet Explorer (under the ownership and management of the Dorset Wildlife Trust) was unable to operate this year as visitors could not socially distance on the boat. The boat saw a financial loss but is hoped it can operate again in 2021.
- The reserve's website, which is now in its fifth year, is still a very useful management tool and a place to send enquiries and/or requests for information. The blog continues to highlight the interesting findings and projects on the Reserve throughout the year.

With regards to incident management; the usual volume of disturbance incidents occurred this year, which included a range of different water users such as kayaks, dinghies and paddle boarders, as well as issues relating to untethered boats, cyclists and dog walkers, plus many more. These incidents remain an ongoing problem along the length of the reserve, particularly in the mid and east Fleet. Reserve staff strive to tackle these issues with interpretation and wardening when possible. One main disturbance issue along the Reserve is that of members of the public accessing and walking the shorelines of the Fleet, especially with dogs. This activity displaces birds that utilise shorelines and shallow waters and forces them to waste energy to avert the perceived danger, as well as contributing to compaction of the sediments, which is potentially damaging to marine life. The main issue with this access is that each occurrence is not perceived as having an impact on the Reserve by the individuals concerned and so, goes unnoticed. However, when repeated numerous times a day at the same location, the fauna and flora that utilise the site will be unwilling or physically unable to reside there. The risk is that these areas will one day be completely void of wildlife as a result, which has unfortunately already been seen at areas along the Fleet. It is hoped that with new and updated interpretation, the frequency of this disturbance can be reduced and the impact lessened.

- Reserve management incorporates a broad range of tasks, projects and development, and throughout the year Reserve staff continued in their efforts to efficiently manage the many aspects of the Reserve. This was hindered somewhat this year due to Covid restrictions, working from home when possible and the constraint of not coming into contact with people. Once restrictions eased, practical elements to the management of the Reserve could resume, including; litter management, boundary management, habitat protection, access incidents, H&S incidents and disturbance issues.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

ANNUAL REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The results of the charity's activities are summarised on page 8. During the year the charity received grants and donations of £31,759 (2020: £29,981) and incurred costs relating to charitable activities of £34,776 (2020: £34,961).

Structure, governance and management

The Trust is managed by the Trustees, who meet regularly to discuss the Trust's activity and ongoing strategy.

The Trustees have power to appoint new Trustees, who are selected on the basis of their relevant skills.

Investment policy

The Trustees have power to make investments as they see fit. The strategy for investments is one of low risk and as such the majority of assets are held in liquid funds.

Reserves policy

The Trustees consider the level of the Trust's reserves to be sufficient to meet its charitable objectives. In doing so, they recognise the importance of donations received. The Trustees have absolute discretion when making grants and as such the reserves can be maintained at a level to safeguard the future of the Trust.

Risk Management

The Trustees have made an assessment of the major risks to which the Trust is exposed and taken action to mitigate such risks.

Trustees' responsibilities

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

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**ANNUAL REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these 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 (FRS102);
- 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;
- 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 maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and to enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have prepared them from the books and records of the Trust.



The Hon Mrs Townshend DL
(for the Trustees)

25 January 2022

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Swannery Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Hannah Mazrae

Saffery Champness LLP

25 January 2022

Chartered Accountants

Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH14 9EA

THE SWANNERY TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	2021 Restricted funds £	2021 Unrestricted funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
Income					
Donations and legacies:					
Donations		-	30,759	30,759	28,281
Grants receivable		-	1,000	1,000	1,700
Other trading activities:					
Interest receivable		20	-	20	81
Miscellaneous income		-	785	785	812
Total income		20	32,544	32,564	30,875
Expenditure					
Costs of raising funds:					
Fleet Observer expenses		-	(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
Expenditure on Charitable activities:					
Employment costs	2	-	(24,404)	(24,404)	(24,315)
Conservation projects		-	(134)	(134)	-
Support costs		(99)	(9,139)	(9,238)	(9,646)
Total expenditure		(99)	(34,677)	(34,776)	(34,961)
Net expenditure		(79)	(2,133)	(2,212)	(4,086)
Fund balances at 1 April 2020		33,610	18,504	52,114	56,200
Fund balances at 31 March 2021		33,531	16,371	49,902	52,114

The notes on pages 10 to 12 form part of these accounts.

All activities are classed as continuing. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included.


THE SWANNERY TRUST

**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	3		10,468		12,306
Current assets					
Debtors		5,266		5,983	
Cash at bank		36,977		35,259	
		<u>42,243</u>		<u>41,242</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors due within one year		(2,809)		(1,434)	
		<u>39,434</u>		<u>39,808</u>	
Net current assets			39,434		39,808
Net assets	4		<u>49,902</u>		<u>52,114</u>
Represented by:					
Unrestricted funds			16,371		18,504
Restricted funds			33,531		33,610
	5		<u>49,902</u>		<u>52,114</u>

The notes on pages 10 to 12 form part of these accounts.

Approved by the Trustees on 25 January 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



The Hon Mrs Townsend DL

THE SWANNERY TRUST

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1 Accounting policies

Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention. The accounts (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 and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective from 1 January 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2019.

The Swannery Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS102.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Preparation of a cash flow statement

The charity has taken the exemption provided in Update Bulletin 1 updating Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) allowing small charities not to prepare a cash flow statement.

Incoming resources

Income is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period when the Trust becomes fully entitled to receipt and the amount can be measured with reasonable certainty. Income is deferred only when the Trust has to fulfil conditions before becoming entitled to it or where the donor has specified that the income is to be expended in a future period. Gifts in kind are not recognised as incoming resources.

Resources expended

Expenditure is included on an accruals basis.

Support costs represent expenditure incurred in the general running of the charity; these costs are fully attributable to charitable activities.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, other than freehold land, to write off their cost over estimated useful lives at the following rates:

Plant and equipment:	- between 10% and 33% per annum on a reducing balance basis
Motor vehicles:	- 25% per annum on a reducing balance basis

Fund accounting

Funds that may be held by the Trust are either:-

Unrestricted general funds – these are funds which can be used by the Charity in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds – these are funds that can only be used for a particular restricted purpose within the objects of the Charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds have been raised for particular restricted purposes.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

2 Staff costs

	2021	2020
	£	£
Salaries	22,601	21,784
Pension costs	1,194	1,103
Other costs	609	1,428
	<u>24,404</u>	<u>24,315</u>

No Trustee received any remuneration from the Trust (2020: £nil).

The Trust has two employees (2020: 2).

3 Fixed assets

	Land	Plant and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost or valuation				
At 1 April 2020	4,117	9,200	11,975	25,292
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
	<u>4,117</u>	<u>9,200</u>	<u>11,975</u>	<u>25,292</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>4,117</u>	<u>9,200</u>	<u>11,975</u>	<u>25,292</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2020	-	6,280	6,706	12,986
Charge for the year	-	662	1,176	1,838
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>6,942</u>	<u>7,882</u>	<u>14,824</u>
At 31 March 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>6,942</u>	<u>7,882</u>	<u>14,824</u>
Net book values				
At 31 March 2021	<u>4,117</u>	<u>2,258</u>	<u>4,093</u>	<u>10,468</u>
At 31 March 2020	<u>4,117</u>	<u>2,920</u>	<u>5,269</u>	<u>12,306</u>

In November 1998 the Trust received by way of gift, an area of land known as Mixen Plantation, situated on the bank of the Fleet at the mouth of Rodden Hive. The value of the gift was estimated to be £3,500. The legal costs incurred were £617. The Mixen Plantation value is not included in the above figures.

THE SWANNERY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

4 Allocation of Trust net assets

The net assets are held for the various funds as follows:

	Fixed assets	Net current assets	Total
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	10,025	6,346	16,371
Restricted funds	443	33,088	33,531
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,468	39,434	49,902
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

5 Funds

	1 April 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	31 March 2021
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	18,504	32,544	(34,677)	16,371
Restricted funds	33,610	20	(99)	33,531
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	52,114	32,564	(34,776)	49,902
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The restricted fund is to be used for the protection of the swans at Abbotsbury Swannery.