

Charity registration number 1075053

Company registration number 03666857 (England and Wales)

**FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023**

# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

---

**Trustees**

D A Cardus  
V R Wood  
W A Ireland  
J D Sells  
A R Kirby  
A C Sinclair Taylor  
R J Cardus

**Secretary**

V R Wood

**Charity number**

1075053

**Company number**

03666857

**Registered office**

22 Pinewood Drive  
Binley Woods  
Coventry  
West Midlands  
United Kingdom  
CV3 2BX

**Independent examiner**

Azets Audit Services  
3Mc Middlemarch Business Park  
Siskin Drive  
Coventry  
United Kingdom  
CV3 4FJ

---

# **FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD**

---

## **CONTENTS**

---

	<b>Page</b>
Trustees' report	1 - 3
Independent examiner's report	4
Statement of financial activities	5
Balance sheet	6
Notes to the financial statements	7 - 13

---

# **FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023**

---

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 January 2023.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)".

### **Objectives and activities**

(a) To conserve and enhance the natural beauty and amenity of the area of benefit to Brandon Wood including flora and fauna natural to it or as may be compatibly introduced thereto. To assist in the provision of facilities for education, recreation or other leisure activities in the interest of social welfare with a view to improving the conditions of life.

(b) For the protection of the environment, the provision, maintenance and improvement of a public amenity in the vicinity of a landfill site.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake.

# **FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023**

---

### **Achievements and performance**

The Charity has been administered during the year by the Trustees in accordance with the wishes of its members and within the constraints of its constitution. Administrative expenses have been maintained at a very low level. The Trustees expenses have continued to be a nil charge to the Charity (Company).

As pandemic restrictions lifted monthly Trustee meetings shifted from Zoom to a hybrid version where most trustees attended in person. The 2022 Annual General Meeting took place on June 9th and was well attended.

The collection of cash subscriptions for membership has resumed though the aim is move to cash free payment methods in future. There were 468 paid up members for 2022-23 who receive newsletters updating them on the latest developments in the wood. Grants from various wildlife and conservation sources plus timber sales means that the financial situation remains healthy.

Work parties undertaking woodland conservation have been very well attended with new people joining including the welcome addition of several youngsters. Schedules for maintenance and conservation have been adhered to and among the many tasks this year, three stagnant overgrown ponds and an ancient connecting ditch have been excavated and cleared of overhanging trees and brash. Two other ponds have also been cleared. The all ability path as well as other heavily used paths have been resurfaced and culverts, bridges and benches have been erected and/or repaired.

A new information board with a map and description of notable flora and fauna has been erected. A notice board is also being prepared describing the history and refurbishment of the logging cart which has proved to be a popular feature. A number of commemorative plaques have been attached the memorial column and planting around the area undertaken. Pine thinning, tree removal and pruning as well as mowing, raking and planting is undertaken in line with the Forestry Commission and other relevant guidelines. The benefits of which can be seen by the expansion of species such as Meadowsweet, Toadflax and Devil's Bit Scabious.

The impact of climate change is an increasing consideration with weather predicted to become wetter and windier in winter and hotter and drier in summer. These changes will impact tree and plant growth rates and disease as well as change patterns of insect and bird populations. Four new Elm saplings have been planted to test their disease resistance. Deer and squirrel pose an additional threat to trees and where possible tree guards are erected but within a 178 acre site more permanent solutions are being considered. Butterfly and newt surveys continue and moth nights organised by conservationists help to monitor the health of the wood. A wide range of courses have been attended from the safe use of equipment to deer and squirrel management. Regular contact with local people, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, PCOs, the Borough Council and adjacent farm staff help to keep Trustees apprised of any local issues likely to impact users of the wood.

The wood continues to be a very popular amenity for families, walkers, cyclists, special interest groups and schools. Guided walks, led by two of the Trustees, have been instituted and been very popular. Three teenagers, joined the Sunday work parties for their 'service to the community' part of their Duke of Edinburgh Award accreditation. It is hoped that replacement of a bridge at the entrance between the recreation ground and the wood will encourage more people with mobility issues to use the all ability path.

### **Financial review**

During the year the charitable company returned a surplus of £14,818 (2022 - £1,414).

At the balance sheet date the charitable company's reserves totalled £212,263 (2022 - £197,445) of which £133,366 (2021 - £130,866) related to restricted funds.

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (INCLUDING DIRECTORS' REPORT) (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

---

The trustees has assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

### **Structure, governance and management**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and governed by the Memorandum of Association and Articles (Companies Act 1985).

The trustees, who are also the directors for the purpose of company law, and who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

D A Cardus

V R Wood

W A Ireland

J D Sells

A R Kirby

A C Sinclair Taylor

R J Cardus

Trustees are appointed by the Members of the Charity at the Annual General Meeting, provided a quorum of 12 people, all being members, is present. Each Trustee is appointed to fulfil a particular role in relation to achieving the objectives of the Company.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

.....*V R Wood*.....

V R Wood

**Trustee**

Date: .....*4/06/23*.....

# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

### TO THE TRUSTEES OF FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

---

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Friends of Brandon Wood (the charity) for the year ended 31 January 2023.

#### Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 (the 2006 Act).

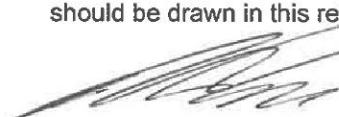
Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act). In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
- 4 the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

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 financial statements to be reached.



Robert Anderson FCA

#### Azets Audit Services

3Mc Middlemarch Business Park  
Siskin Drive  
Coventry  
CV3 4FJ  
United Kingdom

Dated: 12/6/23

# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and legacies	3	13,691	9,509	23,200	11,627	11,627
Charitable activities	4	11,002	-	11,002	2,739	2,739
Investments	5	40	-	40	59	59
<b>Total income</b>		<b>24,733</b>	<b>9,509</b>	<b>34,242</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,425</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	6	182	-	182	-	287
Charitable activities	7	13,297	5,945	19,242	-	12,724
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>13,479</b>	<b>5,945</b>	<b>19,424</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,011</b>
<b>Net incoming resources before transfers</b>		<b>11,254</b>	<b>3,564</b>	<b>14,818</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,414</b>
Gross transfers between funds		1,064	(1,064)	-	-	-
<b>Net income for the year/ Net movement in funds</b>		<b>12,318</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>14,818</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,414</b>
Fund balances at 1 February 2022		66,579	130,866	197,445	130,866	196,031
<b>Fund balances at 31 January 2023</b>		<b>78,897</b>	<b>133,366</b>	<b>212,263</b>	<b>130,866</b>	<b>197,445</b>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the Companies Act 2006.



# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 JANUARY 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	10		143,686		147,274
<b>Current assets</b>					
Cash at bank and in hand		69,477		50,863	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	11	(900)		(692)	
Net current assets			68,577		50,171
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			212,263		197,445
<b>Income funds</b>					
Restricted funds	12		133,366		130,866
Unrestricted funds			78,897		66,579
			212,263		197,445

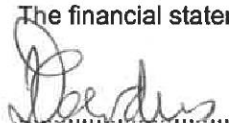
The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 31 January 2023.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 3/6/2023



D A Cardus  
Trustee

Company registration number 03666857

# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

---

### 1 Accounting policies

#### Charity information

Friends of Brandon Wood is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is 22 Pinewood Drive, Binley Woods, Coventry, West Midlands, CV3 2BX, United Kingdom.

#### 1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's [governing document], the Companies Act 2006, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)" (effective 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

#### 1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

#### 1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

#### 1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

---

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### 1.5 Expenditure

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

##### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at cost or valuation, net of depreciation and any impairment losses.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost or valuation of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Land and enhancements	15% per annum of cost on certain enhancements
Tractor and chipper	15% per annum of cost
Tools and equipment	15% per annum of cost

Freehold land is not depreciated.

The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying value of the asset, and is recognised in the statement of financial activities.

##### 1.7 Impairment of fixed assets

At each reporting end date, the charity reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss (if any).

##### 1.8 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

##### **Basic financial assets**

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### **Basic financial liabilities**

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **Derecognition of financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

### 1.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

### 3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Unrestricted funds
	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £
Donations and gifts	7,564	-	7,564	5,851
Grants receivable	6,127	9,509	15,636	5,776
	<u>13,691</u>	<u>9,509</u>	<u>23,200</u>	<u>11,627</u>

# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

### 3 Donations and legacies

(Continued)

#### Grants receivable for core activities

Rural Payments Agency	6,127	-	6,127	5,776
Warwickshire County Council	-	7,009	7,009	-
St James Place	-	2,500	2,500	-
	<u>6,127</u>	<u>9,509</u>	<u>15,636</u>	<u>5,776</u>

### 4 Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Sales within charitable activities	<u>11,002</u>	<u>2,739</u>

### 5 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023 £	2022 £
Interest receivable	<u>40</u>	<u>59</u>

### 6 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2023 £	2022 £
<u>Fundraising and publicity</u>		
Other fundraising costs	182	287
	<u>182</u>	<u>287</u>

# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

### 7 Charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation and impairment	3,588	3,588
Administrative expenses	2,464	4,712
Maintenance and development costs	13,190	4,424
	<u>19,242</u>	<u>12,724</u>
	<u>19,242</u>	<u>12,724</u>
<b>Analysis by fund</b>		
Unrestricted funds	13,297	12,724
Restricted funds	5,945	-
	<u>19,242</u>	<u>12,724</u>

### 8 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

### 9 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

### 10 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and enhancements £	Tractor and chipper £	Tools and equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 February 2022	151,476	20,046	2,835	174,357
At 31 January 2023	151,476	20,046	2,835	174,357
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>				
At 1 February 2022	20,219	6,014	850	27,083
Depreciation charged in the year	156	3,007	425	3,588
At 31 January 2023	20,375	9,021	1,275	30,671
<b>Carrying amount</b>				
At 31 January 2023	131,101	11,025	1,560	143,686
At 31 January 2022	131,257	14,032	1,985	147,274

### 11 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Accruals and deferred income	900	692

# FRIENDS OF BRANDON WOOD

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JANUARY 2023

### 12 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds		Movement in funds				
	Balance at 1 February 2021	Incoming resources	Balance at 1 February 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers	Balance at 31 January 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Brandon Wood including enhancements	130,866	-	130,866	-	-	-	130,866
Pond project	-	-	-	7,009	(5,945)	(1,064)	-
New culvert project	-	-	-	2,500	-	-	2,500
	<u>130,866</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>130,866</u>	<u>9,509</u>	<u>(5,945)</u>	<u>(1,064)</u>	<u>133,366</u>

Brandon Wood including enhancement  
Original funding to assist in the purchase of the wood.

Pond project  
Funding for work carried out on three ponds on the southern boundary of the wood.

New culvert project  
Funding for a new culvert to replace a bridge to enable wheelchair access to the wood.

### 13 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total 2023	Unrestricted funds 2022	Restricted funds 2022	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 January 2023 are represented by:						
Tangible assets	12,820	130,866	143,686	16,408	130,866	147,274
Current assets/(liabilities)	66,077	2,500	68,577	50,171	-	50,171
	<u>78,897</u>	<u>133,366</u>	<u>212,263</u>	<u>66,579</u>	<u>130,866</u>	<u>197,445</u>

### 14 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2022 - none).