

Charity Number: 1078757
Company Number: 3387973

LOWER URE CONSERVATION TRUST

(A company limited by guarantee)

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

LOWER URE CONSERVATION TRUST

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and Administrative Information	1
Trustees' Report (including Directors' Report)	2 - 9
Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account)	10
Balance Sheet	11 - 12
Notes to the Financial Statements	13 - 21

LOWER URE CONSERVATION TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Directors and trustees

C W Bourne-Arton

S P Warwick

R M Wells

H Byron

D Heptinstall

R Mercer (appointed 28/02/2023)

Company Secretary

S P Warwick

Company Registered Number

3387973 (England and Wales)

Charity Registered Number

1078757

Registered Office

Sharow Grange

Sharow

Ripon

North Yorkshire

HG4 5BN

Independent Examiner

Guy Baragwanath

C & G B Associates

Accountants

8-10 Millgate

Thirsk

North Yorkshire

YO7 1AA

Bankers

Barclays Bank

7 Market Place East

Ripon

North Yorkshire

HG4 1BP

Investment Managers

Rathbone Investment Management

8 Finsbury Circus

London

EC2M 7AZ

TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 30 June 2023

The trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the financial statements of the Lower Ure Conservation Trust (the company) for the year ended 30 June 2023. The trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the company comply with the current statutory requirements of the company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015).

Since the company qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013 is not required.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The principal objective of the charity is to manage sites, with a preference for former mineral sites, as nature reserves to promote and improve the ecology of the sites and to promote the protection, conservation and enhance the flora and fauna at the sites for the education and enjoyment of the public.

Public benefit

The Nosterfield Local Nature Reserve is open to the public throughout the year free of charge, with the buildings being open during daylight hours. Tours and visits for local schools and groups are held regularly.

The Reserve provides access to the site on foot at all times. Wheelchair access is available to the interpretation building, the bird hide and the Tanfield hide. There is 500m of permissive footpath available to wheelchair users and for people with mobility issues.

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the trustees have given careful consideration to the general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit.

The charity's main reserve is at Nosterfield within the Hambleton District of North Yorkshire.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The organisation was incorporated on 17 June 1997 and is constituted as a company limited by guarantee, without a share capital and is therefore governed by a Memorandum and Association of Articles of Association as amended by special resolutions dated 22 September 1998 and 4 January 2000. It became a registered charity on 29 December 1999.

Every member of the company has however guaranteed an amount not exceeding £10 each.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT - continued

Organisation, Structure and Running of the Reserve

Decisions regarding the running of the charity are delegated to Simon Warwick, as director and the individual responsible for the day to day management. Major decisions concerning the long-term direction of the charity are taken by the trustees.

The Nosterfield Local Nature Reserve (NLNR) is run by the trustees, with the support of a regular volunteer team. The early part of the financial year resulted in LUCT employing a Field Officer, to assist primarily with volunteer support. This role has proved highly valuable and resulted in a significant increase in volunteer numbers.

NLNR has a Management Liaison Committee, with representatives from the LUCT, District and Parish Councils and other user groups.

Appointment, induction and training of new trustees

As set out in the Articles of Association, new trustees are discussed by the board of trustees. Potential trustees can be nominated if they are recommended by a current trustee. New trustees are fully inducted in the structure of the trust and all requirements on them as trustees. Trustee training is delivered via general meetings and upon request if specific needs arise.

None of the trustees have any beneficial interest in the company. All the trustees are directors of the company.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefit from the charity. Any expenses reclaimed from the charity are set out in note 10 to the accounts.

Risk Management

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

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed and are satisfied that appropriate systems and controls are in place to mitigate exposure to these risks.

The major risks to which the trust is exposed, as identified by the trustees, are reviewed annually (or sooner if the need arises) as are the management procedures of these risks.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

LUCT is a small organisation; underpinned by volunteering. We have a very small staff team, supported by a small group of committed trustees and a growing team of enthusiastic volunteers. Our 'core' team of volunteers in 2022 – 23 involved 35 regular practical conservation volunteers, with another 50 or so people joining us for community work days and 'one off' volunteering tasks. An estimate 6,000 hours of volunteering were completed in the year.

In addition, we're also supported by a wide network of people who collect and share data and information related to wildlife and habitats at Nosterfield Nature Reserve.

Volunteers undertake a wide range of activities to suit their interests and abilities, including running the specialist plant nursery, looking after Nosterfield reserve, practical habitat conservation and restoration tasks and implementing LUCT's surveying, monitoring and reporting programme.

In 2018 a commercial scale, volunteer run polytunnel was constructed, which has been key to making significant progress. Funding secured between March 2021 and March 2022 from the Green Recovery Challenge Fund (GRCF) through the Swale and Ure Washlands Project instigated a step change in the capacity of the organisation, employing a full time project officer supported by two internships and expert ecological advice. Building on this progress, in 2022-2023 over 20,000 local-provenance wetland plants were propagated in our plant nursery.

Project funding

During this period the following sources of project funding have underpinned progress:

Yorkshire Water Biodiversity Enhancement Fund. June 2022 – June 2024

This grant is supporting us '*To extend our practical work on wetland habitat restoration and creation in the lower Ure valley and widely share our experience and learning beyond our boundaries*'

We also submitted the final evaluation for our DEFRA Green Recovery Challenge Fund project, which ran to March 2022 and supported the recruitment of our project officer as well as making significant progress in volunteer recruitment support and training.

In March 2023 we submitted a bid for a new National Lottery Heritage Fund project and heard at the end of June 2023 that we had been successful. We were awarded £250,000 for a new project - 'Ure Connected - Engaging People with Nature in the Lower Ure Valley'.

The project will focus primarily on the Trust's nature reserve at Nosterfield where rare remnant areas of fen and magnesian limestone are in urgent need of attention. But as the project name suggests, work will also take place at other sites in the River Ure catchment area crying out for habitat restoration.

Project funding - continued

The aim is to benefit wildlife and also the communities that live near areas where the work will take place, encouraging people to volunteer to help bring these habitats to life and give them a stake in a better more diverse natural world. The project will last for two and a half years.

We have also been progressing discussions with Yorkshire Water to secure longer term funding for their next strategic plan period of 2025-2030.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Plant propagation and habitat creation

Over 20,000 local-provenance wetland plants are now being propagated at our wetland plant nursery each year. More than 80 plant species are in cultivation at the nursery with propagation of large numbers of key wetland species such as Great Fen Sedge, Tufted Sedge, Glaucous Sedge, Long-stalked Yellow Sedge, Cyperus Sedge, Purple Small-reed, Lesser Reedmace, Blunt-flowered Rush, Grey Club-rush, Common Club-rush, Purple Moor-grass, Yellow Flag, Yellow Loosestrife, Purple Loosestrife, Hemp Agrimony, Water Mint and Greater Spearwort.

The above-named species and more have been grown in quantities of hundreds or thousands. Once established, Flasks Fen an area under LUCT management at the Nosterfield site, will support the largest stand of Great Fen Sedge in Yorkshire.

The nursery is equipped with wet beds and standing areas, producing plants to meet the needs at LUCT's own site as well as supporting habitat restoration/re-creation projects in the wider Lower Ure Valley landscape, such as at Pennycroft (fen creation) and Thornborough Middle Henge (calcareous grassland restoration).

A number of rare plants from material of North Yorkshire origin are being cultivated in significant numbers, establishing ex-situ populations which could potentially be used for re-introductions or to reinforce threatened wild populations. These include Tufted Loosestrife, Tubular Water-dropwort, Marsh Pea, Fibrous Tussock-sedge and Marsh Fern.

Practical conservation work

Our Project Officer and volunteers have continued to make significant progress on delivery of practical conservation tasks. These are grouped under four headings:

Running the Plant nursery -nursery management; plant propagation – pricking out, potting on, splitting, watering, planting, making sandbag planters, seed collection, weeding and maintaining the nursery infrastructure

Looking after Nosterfield Nature reserve: bird hide cleaning & maintenance, osprey nest maintenance, sand martin bank maintenance, path clearance, reserve infrastructure maintenance, litter picking

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

Habitat conservation / restoration: Grassland maintenance / hay cuts, scrub control, dead-hedging, invasive species control, coppicing, woodland thinning & glade creation, hedge-laying, nettle-digging – Thornborough Henges, maintaining ringing rides, tree planting and tree guard removal, reedbed cutting/management.

Surveying, monitoring and reporting WeBS counts, breeding bird surveys, butterfly transects, dragonfly surveys, moth trapping, bird ringing, monthly bird report, annual bird report, livestock checks, nest box checks

LUCT – a learning ‘hub’

The influence of LUCT’s work is increasingly far reaching – both in the wider landscape of the Lower Ure and Mid Swale catchments as well as other sites that have expressed an interest in our work.

It also plays an important role in sharing knowledge, associated with enriching and informing former mineral site restoration as well as other habitat creation and restoration projects. Our work on fen re-creation for example has been groundbreaking and is providing important know how for other practitioners.

Through the commitment and expanding skill set of it’s volunteers the organisation’s capacity to develop, test and pass-on practical techniques for wetland creation has grown significantly. These techniques include: using dead hedging to reduce wave wash; using sacks for safe and efficient planting in shallow water; ‘headstarting’ tussock-forming sedges; growing deep-water emergents such as Common Club-rush in immersion tanks; and specialist propagation techniques for plants such as Great Fen Sedge.

LUCT’s reputation as a leading light in mineral site restoration and wetland habitat creation projects has also grown in recent years. By taking an outward looking and open approach to sharing learning the organisation aims to influence and support wetland habitat restoration across Yorkshire and further afield. Visits from other organisations are regularly hosted (more than 20 in the last couple of years) to see the work and learn from LUCT’s experience. Groups ranged from National Trust, AONB and Wildlife Trust staff to academics and members of other volunteer-led conservation projects.

A small demonstration plot has been created near the nursery so that visitors can see key wetland plants at close hand along with some of the lost flora of the Washlands. This was created by volunteers using railway sleepers and pond liner. Plants include Great Fen Sedge, Bottle Sedge, Slender Sedge *Carex lasiocarpa*, Tufted Loosestrife, Marsh Cinquefoil *Comarum palustre* and Marsh Fern *Thelypteris palustris*.

The Nosterfield Community

The ‘core’ work of LUCT is supported by a much broader community of people with an interest in nature conservation and wildlife, who spend thousands of hours a year observing wildlife at Nosterfield and sharing their findings.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

An informal WhatsApp group was established by one of these volunteers in 2020 and now has 110 members with daily updates and points of interest shared via the group. In its first full year of operation (2021) 1,095 'observation' hours were noted, recording 171 bird species. In 2022 there were 1052 recorded observation hours with 180 species

A monthly review of bird watching highlights is also prepared by one of the volunteers on this group and published on the LUCT website.

Community work days and school visits.

In recent years, with the support of project funding LUCT has hosted a number of weekend community work days to provide opportunities for local families to learn more about the reserve and get involved in practical tasks.

LUCT has also been working to develop its local identity with close links to local schools and colleges. Students from three local Primary schools have visited to learn more about the reserve and help make sandbag planters. Work experience students from Ripon Grammar School have also been hosted along with two day release students from Askham Bryan college. Practical conservation 'field days' for students from York University and Bishop Burton college have also been provided.

FUTURE PLANS

Looking ahead, the new 'Ure Connected' National Lottery Heritage fund project and Yorkshire Water biodiversity fund grant will underpin our work in the next year: this will focus on growing our reach and involving more people in our work, continuing to share our learning and expertise of plant propagation and habitat restoration and ensuring we continue to deliver high quality practical conservation work with our volunteer team

We'll also be working to secure longer term core funding with a series of grant bids and holding discussions with Tarmac and English Heritage to look at our longer term partnership working and an overarching plan for nature restoration at a landscape scale.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE - continued

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

Incoming resources for the year totalled £53,252 (2022: £247,743). After resources expended of £104,882 (2022: £182,474) and gains on investments of £2,597 (2022: Loss £5,654), the net outgoing resources were £49,033 (2022: incoming resources of £59,585). There was an overall deficit for the year of £49,033 (2022: surplus £59,585), resulting in total funds carried forward of £362,913 (2022: £411,946). Unrestricted funds carried forward were £332,650 (2022: £382,827). Restricted funds carried forward were £30,263 (2022: £29,119).

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use are to be maintained at a level not less than £35,000, to be reviewed on an annual basis.

The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that the charity will be able to properly maintain the Nosterfield Reserve, irrespective of current income levels.

The trustees decided that the expenditure on acquiring the Nosterfield Reserve and any subsequent additions, should not be taken into account in determining the charity's free reserves, given that Nosterfield Reserve is essential to the charity's operations. The free reserves as at 30 June 2023 are £124,363 (2022: £178,721). The free reserves are calculated as the unrestricted funds, not including those funds held as tangible fixed assets.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
for the year ended 30 June 2023

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The trustees (who are also directors of the Lower Ure Conservation Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In preparing this report, the trustees have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

The report was approved by the trustees on 29 April 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Simon Warwick

S P Warwick
Secretary

LOWER URE CONSERVATION TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating the income and expenditure account)
for the year ended 30 June 2023

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
	Note				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	2	1,353	-	1,353	1,332
Investments	3	1,581	-	1,581	1,002
Charitable activities	4	24,801	24,500	49,301	245,379
Raising Funds	5	1,017	-	1,017	-
Total income and endowments		28,752	24,500	53,252	247,713
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds	6	442	-	442	358
Charitable activities	7	68,875	35,565	104,440	182,116
Total expenditure		69,317	35,565	104,882	182,474
Net gains/(losses) on investments		2,597	-	2,597	(5,654)
Transfer between funds		(12,209)	12,209	-	-
Net movement in funds		(50,177)	1,144	(49,033)	59,585
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds at 1 July 2022	18	382,827	29,119	411,946	352,361
Total funds at 30 June 2023	18	332,650	30,263	362,913	411,946

The notes on pages 9 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

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

LOWER URE CONSERVATION TRUST

REGISTERED NUMBER: 5265464

BALANCE SHEET*as at 30 June 2023*

	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		208,287		204,106
Investments	15		65,498		62,138
			273,785		266,244
Current assets					
Debtors	16	3,398		37,994	
Cash at bank and in hand		96,408		118,734	
			99,806	156,728	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(10,678)		(11,026)	
Net current assets			89,128		145,702
Net assets			362,913		411,946
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	18		30,263		29,119
Unrestricted funds - general	18	218,637		268,814	
- designated	18	114,013	332,650	114,013	382,827
Total charity funds			362,913		411,946

BALANCE SHEET (continued)

as at 30 June 2023

The Trustees consider that the charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the charity to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and for preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at 30 June 2023 and of its net resources expended for the year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 of the Act and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008).

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 29 April 2024 and signed on their behalf, by:

Simon Warwick

Simon Warwick
Trustee

The notes on pages 9 to 19 form part of these financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

(a) General information and basis of preparation of financial statements

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charity. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 1 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are on page 2 of these financial statements.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Practice.

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

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

The financial statements do not include a statement of cash flows because the charitable company, as a small reporting entity, is exempt from the requirement to prepare such a statement under SORP (FRS 102).

(b) Funds

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

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

(c) Income recognition

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

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained, then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method and dividend income is recognised as the charity's right to receive payment is established.

Other income includes income such as field rental and restoration work.

(d) Expenditure recognition

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

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense against the activity for which expenditure arose.

(e) Support costs allocation

Support costs are those that assist the work of the charity but do not directly represent charitable activities and include office costs, governance costs, administrative and payroll costs. They are incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. Where support costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to expenditure on charitable activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

The analysis of these costs is included in note 8.

(f) Support costs allocation

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 30 June 2023

1 Accounting policies (continued)

(g) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Costs includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended. Assets costing less than £150 are not capitalised.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less their estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful lives as follows:

Hides, fences & other site fixtures	- 5 to 10 years
Motor vehicles	- 4 years

(h) Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year

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

(i) Tax

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations	1,353	1,332
	1,353	1,332

Income from donations and legacies was £1,353 (2022: £1,332) of which all was attributable to unrestricted funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 30 June 2023

3 Income from investments

	2023 £	2022 £
Deposit account interest	455	16
Dividend income	1,126	986
	<u>1,581</u>	<u>1,002</u>

Income from investments was £1,581 (2022: £1,002) of which all was attributable to unrestricted funds.

4 Income from charitable activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Rural Payments Agency	24,801	72,315
National Heritage	-	66,864
Yorkshire Water	24,500	35,000
Esmee Fairburn	-	15,000
Tarmac	-	53,200
Wildscapes	-	3,000
	<u>49,301</u>	<u>245,379</u>

Income from charitable activities was £49,301 (2022: £245,379) of which £24,500 (2022: £163,013) was attributable to restricted and £24,801 (2022: £82,366) was attributable to unrestricted funds.

5 Income from Raising Funds

	2023 £	2022 £
Plant Sales	1,000	-
Sundry Sales	17	-
	<u>1,017</u>	<u>-</u>

All income from raising funds was attributable to unrestricted funds.

6 Analysis expenditure on raising funds

	2023 £	2022 £
Investment management fees	442	358
	<u>442</u>	<u>358</u>

Expenditure on raising funds was £442 (2022: £358) of which £nil (2022: £nil) was attributable to restricted funds and £442 (2022: £358) was attributable to unrestricted funds.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 30 June 2023

7 Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total 2023 £
Maintenance of Reserve	19,726	49,148	68,874
National Heritage Fund Well Wetlands	-	-	-
Natural England/DEFRA - Reedbed Project	-	-	-
National Heritage Green Recovery Fund	17,916	-	17,916
Yorkshire Water Biodiversity Enhancement	17,650	-	17,650
	55,292	49,148	104,440

£35,565 (2022: £92,665) of the above costs were attributable to restricted funds.

£68,874 (2022: £89,451) of the above costs were attributable to unrestricted funds.

8 Allocation of support costs

	Maintenance of Reserve £	Total £
Salaries	12,797	12,797
Governance	2,050	2,050
Office expenses and subscriptions	1,472	1,472
Hide rates	128	128
Rent	1	1
Insurance	5,136	5,136
Computer costs	1,000	1,000
Telephone & Internet	1,052	1,052
Postage, printing and stationery	220	220
Professional fees & Consultancy fees	3,753	3,753
Advertising & Marketing	-	-
Volunteer welfare	1,440	1,440
Depreciation	20,099	20,099
	49,148	49,148

9 Governance costs

		2023 £	2022 £
Independent examiners remuneration	11	1,380	1,516
Bookkeeping & payroll costs		670	2,303
		2,050	3,819

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 30 June 2023

10 Net income / (expenditure) for the year

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the charity	20,099	11,619
	<u>20,099</u>	<u>11,619</u>

11 Independent examiners remuneration

The independent examiners remuneration amounts to an independent examination fee of £1,380 (2022: £1,516).

12 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The Trustees neither received nor waived any remuneration during the year (2022: £nil).

The Trustees had expenses reimbursed during the year totalling £Nil (2022: £Nil).

13 Staff costs and employee benefits

	2023	2022
	£	£
Salaries	30,000	49,190
Pension	713	893
	<u>30,713</u>	<u>50,083</u>

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

National Heritage Green Recovery Fund (100%)	0.5	2.0
Woodland Work (Designated)	-	1.0
Charity - no specific project	0.5	
	<u>0.5</u>	<u>3.0</u>

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 30 June 2023

14	Tangible fixed assets				
		Land	Hides,	Vehicles	Total
		£	fences etc	£	£
			£		
	Cost				
	At 1 July 2022	190,225	304,251	-	494,476
	Additions	-	-	24,280	24,280
	Disposals	-	-	-	-
		<u>190,225</u>	<u>304,251</u>	<u>24,280</u>	<u>518,756</u>
	Depreciation				
	At 1 July 2022	66,257	224,113	-	290,370
	Charge for year	-	15,243	4,856	20,099
	Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-
		<u>66,257</u>	<u>239,356</u>	<u>4,856</u>	<u>310,469</u>
	Net book value				
	At 30 June 2023	<u>123,968</u>	<u>64,895</u>	<u>19,424</u>	<u>208,287</u>
	At 30 June 2022	<u>123,968</u>	<u>80,138</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>204,106</u>
15	Investments			Listed	Total
				Investments	£
				£	
	Cost				
	At 1 July 2022			62,138	62,138
	Additions			1,126	1,126
	Disposals			-	-
	Revaluations			2,234	2,234
				<u>65,498</u>	<u>65,498</u>
	Net book value				
	At 30 June 2023			<u>65,498</u>	<u>65,498</u>
	At 30 June 2022			<u>62,138</u>	<u>62,138</u>

All fixed asset investments are held in the UK.

The value of the investments allotted under ranges under the Trustee Investment Act is as follows: Broad range: £65,498 (2022: £62,138).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 30 June 2023

16	Debtors				
			2023	2022	
			£	£	
	Prepayments and accrued income		3,398	37,994	
			3,398	37,994	
17	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
			2023	2022	
			£	£	
	Accruals and deferred income		10,678	11,026	
			10,678	11,026	
18	Fund reconciliation				
		Balance at	Net	Transfers	Balance at
		1 Jul 2022	movement	between	30 Jun 2023
		£	in funds	funds	£
	Unrestricted funds				
	General fund	268,814	-	(12,209)	256,605
	Designated - YWT Eel Passage	29,026	-		29,026
	Designated - Woodland Work (Tarmac)	4,987	-		4,987
	Designated - Land Purchase	80,000	-		80,000
		382,827	-	(12,209)	370,618
	Restricted funds				
	National Heritage Green Recovery Fund	5,707	(17,916)	12,209	-
	Yorkshire Water Biodiversity Enhancement	8,412	6,850	-	15,262
	Esmee Fairburn	15,000	-	-	15,000
		29,119	(11,066)	12,209	30,262
	Total funds	411,946	(11,066)	-	400,880
	Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:				
			Income	Expenditure	Movement
			£	£	in funds
	Unrestricted funds				£
	General fund				-
	Designated - YWT Eel Passage	-	-	-	-
	Designated - Woodland Work (Tarmac)	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
	Restricted funds				
	National Heritage Green Recovery Fund	-	(17,916)	(17,916)	(17,916)
	Yorkshire Water Biodiversity Enhancement	24,500	(17,650)	6,850	6,850
	Esmee Fairburn	-	-	-	-
		24,500	(35,566)	(11,066)	(11,066)
	Total funds	24,500	(35,566)	(11,066)	(11,066)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 30 June 2023

18 Fund reconciliation - continued

National Heritage Green Recovery Fund is a fund to restore the Swale and Ure washlands.

Yorkshire Water Biodiversity Enhancement is a fund to expand priority wetlands in the lower Ure valley.

Esmee Fairburn is a grant to carry out a feasibility study into the expansion of the reserve.

Designated Funds for Land Purchase are ringfenced by the Trustees to purchase additional land for the charity in a future period.

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets/investments	273,785	-	273,785
Cash and current investments	66,146	30,262	96,408
Other current assets /liabilities	(7,280)	-	(7,280)
Total	332,651	30,262	362,913

20 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions during the period (2022: £nil).

LOWER URE CONSERVATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

for the year ended 30 June 2023

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Lower Ure Conservation Trust ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company 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 your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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:

- 1 accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- 2 the accounts do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the accounts 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 accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102).

I have no concerns and have come across no 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.

Signed:



Dated:

29-Apr-23

Guy R Baragwanath FCA

C & G B Associates

8-10 Millgate
Thirsk
North Yorkshire
YO7 1AA

LOWER URE CONSERVATION TRUST

NOTES FOR TRUSTEES

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOMING RESOURCES		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	1,262	1,046
Donations - Donation Box	91	286
	1,353	1,332
Investments		
Deposit account interest	455	16
Dividend income	1,126	986
	1,581	1,002
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
RPA - Single Payment Scheme	24,801	12,868
RPA - Environmental Stewardship	-	13,298
Reedbed Project	-	46,149
National Heritage - Well Wetlands	-	464
National Heritage - GRCF	-	66,400
Yorkshire Water	24,500	35,000
Emsee Fairburn	-	15,000
Tarmac	-	53,200
Wildscapes	-	3,000
	49,301	245,379
Raising funds		
Sale of plants	1,000	-
Sundry income	17	-
	1,017	-
Total incoming resources	53,252	247,713
RESOURCES EXPENDED		
Costs of raising funds		
Investment Management Fees	442	357
Costs of charitable activities		
Maintenance of Reserve		
Hire of equipment	301	229
Repairs & Renewals	9,335	7,856
Reserve maintenance	8,522	21,628
Protective clothing	446	91
Staff Training	819	122
Event costs	304	-
	19,726	29,926
Resources expended carried forward	20,168	30,283

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

LOWER URE CONSERVATION TRUST

NOTES FOR TRUSTEES (continued)

for the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
RESOURCES EXPENDED - continued	20,168	30,283
Resources expenses brought forward		-
Charitable activities - continued		
Heritage Lottery Fund - Well Wetlands:		
Consultancy		4,250
Fencing		-
Repairs & Maintenance		-
Reserve Maintenance		2,500
Advertising & Marketing		-
Natural England/DEFRA - Reedbed Project		-
Yorkshire Water Biodiversity Enhancement:		
Consultancy	15,688	9,516
Repairs & Maintenance	1,951	1,618
Reserve Maintenance	11	5,909
National Heritage Green Recovery Fund:		
Advertising & Marketing		4,709
Consultancy		10,865
Repairs & Maintenance		2,170
Hire of Equipment		204
Salaries & Pension	17,916	41,529
Printing & Stationery		336
Protective Clothing & First Aid		2,229
Reserve Maintenance		1,067
Software & Computer Costs		130
Staff Training		5,119
Telephone		315
Volunteer welfare		197
Sand Martin Bank (Designated):		
Hire of Equipment		230
Repairs & Maintenance		7,496
YWT Eel Passage (Designated):		
Consultancy Fees		6,224
Hydrological Study (Designated):		
Consultancy Fees		7,500
Woodland Work Tarmac (Designated):		
Repairs & Renewals		1,442
Reserve Maintenance		80
Printing, Postage & stationery		60
Salaries & Pension		8,554
Staff Training		578
	55,734	155,110

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

2023

2022

LOWER URE CONSERVATION TRUST

NOTES FOR TRUSTEES (continued)

for the year ended 30 June 2023

RESOURCES EXPENDED - continued

Governance costs

Independent Examination
Bookkeeping & payroll

1,380 1,516
670 2,303

2,050 3,819

Support costs

Hide rates
Rent
Insurance
Internet
Printing, Postage & stationery
Website costs (including web domain)
Subscriptions
Legal & Professional costs
Consultancy Fees
Software & Computer Costs
Credit card charges
Advertising & Marketing
Salaries & Pension
Sundry expenses:
Depreciation

128 128
1 1
5,136 3,544
1,052 774
220 461
273 114
1,427 923
318 714
3,435 2,560
727 1,252
32 32
- 294
12,797 -
1,440 1,115
13 13
20,099 11,619

49,148 27,363

Total resources expended

104,882 182,473

NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

(51,630) 65,240

Investment gains (losses)

2,597 **(5,654)**

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements