

**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 03889382 (England and Wales)**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1080838**

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND  
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025  
FOR  
WILD GROUND

M. D. Coxey and Co. Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
25 Grosvenor Road  
Wrexham  
LL11 1BT

WILD GROUND

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

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**WILD GROUND  
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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**

### **Objectives and aims**

Our mission is to engage, inspire and enthuse local communities, acting together to protect wildlife, and enhance habitats and eco-systems.

Our aims are:

1. To provide opportunities to all members of the community to connect with and to value their local wildlife;
2. To provide ecological training, providing learning opportunities for personal and professional skills development;
3. To create opportunities and provide support for a diverse range of volunteers;
4. To conserve habitats for the benefit of amphibian and reptile populations and other wildlife.

Each year the trustees of the charity review the objectives and activities of the charity to ensure they continue to reflect the aims of the charity.

## **ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

### **Charitable activities**

The Trustees are mindful of the Charity Commission's requirement to report on public benefit and the following summary of achievements and performance indicates how our activities contribute towards the public benefit.

It was another busy year with full engagement with schools, local communities, and other beneficiaries as well as with our volunteers, creating opportunities for all to understand, connect with and value their local environment and wildlife. The narrative which follows provides an account of Wild Ground's principal activities, as well as examples of its achievements during the year.

Wild Ground owns fifteen nature reserve sites which are grouped into thirteen reserves for management purposes. Most of the sites were taken on as mitigation sites for great crested newts but we manage the sites in a way which benefits wider biodiversity. Funds for the long-term management of these sites are made available via a one-off payment from the developer at the point of site transfer and are based on an agreed management plan. In addition to these land management funds four sites attract payment of rent charges from house owners. As well as owned sites, Wild Ground manages two sites with an amphibian and reptile interest on behalf of the site owners. Work on these sites is funded directly by the site owners.

The work is managed and carried out by our Reserves Team, which comprises the Head of Contracts and Project Delivery, and a small team of Reserves Officers. Some of the reserves have public footpaths and permissive footpaths which enable local communities to access and enjoy their local reserves. Wild Ground runs a full and varied volunteering programme, enabling local communities to support Wild Ground's work, get to know the reserves better and engage in personal and professional development.

Wild Ground holds occasional public events at sites that do not have open public access to engage with local communities and enable them to learn more about the nature reserves.

Wild Ground has for many years managed the Rhydymwyn Valley Nature Reserve (RVNR) site on behalf of Defra under a tendered contract. Since 2019 the contract has been subject to a series of fixed-term extensions, while Defra reviewed the future ownership of the site ahead of formal contract retender. This contracted work provides a significant proportion of Wild Ground's turnover and work activity. We were very pleased to win the most recent tender with an award of contract for one year from October 2022 with annual extensions from October 2023 and from October 2024. A retendering process is expected to be launched in the Summer of 2025, for which we will be competing.

Examples of Wild Ground's achievements during 2024-25 are set out below.

### **Annual Survey of Great Crested Newts**

The annual survey of great crested newts took place in April and May 2024 and was completed in line with contract and SSSI requirements. The survey season is a major undertaking for Wild Ground requiring staff to work night shifts. Through careful planning we succeeded in carrying out our survey obligations as well as maintaining our regular work

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with volunteers and schools and delivering our contractual obligations at our various nature reserve sites.

#### **Newt Networks**

In early 2023 we were delighted to be awarded £250k funding by the Nature Networks Fund (a Welsh Government grant programme delivered by the National Lottery Development Fund) to support our Newt Networks programme which started on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 and extended over the following two years. Working in partnership and involving communities the programme sought to increase the resilience of the network of all our protected sites in Northeast Wales. The Wild Ground team engaged with local communities, schools, and volunteers with the aim of making our site habitats more resilient and of increasing nature connectivity. A wide range of enjoyable, accessible engagement activities to suit varied interests, abilities and access needs were delivered. The programme also included capital investment in sites to deliver habitat improvement, especially for great crested newts, and to support partner neighbouring sites to improve connectivity. In 2024-25 capital works were delivered at

Aberderfyn – Pond Creation  
Glascoed – Fencing to protect pond habitats  
Broadoak – Woodland Management Works  
Knowle Hill – Woodland Management Works

All the capital works were designed to improve and expand suitable habitats for various species on the sites.

#### **Connah's Quay Woodlands**

Thanks to Landfill funding we were able to deliver a series of volunteer sessions targeted at woodland management, as well as events, and school visits.

#### **Healthy River Community at King's Mill**

Funded by Awards for All this project supported a weekly volunteer session at the King's Mill site. It ended in March 2025.

#### **Rhydymwyn Valley Nature Reserve**

Staff have continued to manage and deliver the contract for this Defra owned site. The contract stipulates a range of site management prescriptions and survey requirements. The contract is managed by Defra with monthly liaison meetings. In addition to an annual report, we are also required to report against KPIs and produce survey data at regular intervals. The most recent contract was awarded in October 2022 for one year with potential annual extensions for a further two years. Both annual extensions were secured by Wild Ground, and the current contract concludes at the end of September 2025. A retendering process is expected to be launched in the Summer, for which Wild Ground will compete.

#### **General Reserve Management**

General reserve management has continued across our network of sites. Our team of reserves officers work across sites to ensure they are maintained safely and provide the best habitat for our range of supported species. The team provide a range of volunteer opportunities for local communities, deliver educational sessions to local schools, and organise events throughout the year. Work has been prioritised across all sites based on contractual obligations, project aims and commitments, and safety requirements. Priority sites with a designation or linked to a contract are maintained to a good or excellent standard, while other sites are maintained to a moderate or good standard. The focus of reserve management through the year included grassland management, access improvements, pond management, tree management, clearing invasive species, and infrastructure improvements such as fencing, bridge repairs and drainage. As regards site and tree safety, monthly safety checks have been recorded digitally using a mapping system, allowing staff to report issues directly via site maps, pinpointing the location accurately.

#### **Volunteering**

Support from our volunteers is vital to enable us to carry out some of our projects, it also enables us to engage local people in practical conservation work which brings immediate benefits to the local area and long-term benefits with increased local knowledge, enthusiasm and participant confidence and wellbeing. The monetary value of this contribution can be used to match funding received from outside sources to maximise the benefits financially and in terms of work completed on the ground.

#### **Performance Measures**

People	
• Number of volunteers	114
• Number of corporate volunteers	19

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Places

- People engaged in outdoor activities 992
- Area of land maintained/improved 405,250m<sup>2</sup>

Planet

- Flooding & Erosion Projects 6
- Waste removed from public spaces 2,335kg
- Environmental Quality Projects 20

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## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial position**

The trustees have reviewed the Charity's need for reserves in line with the Charity Commission guidelines and the Group's Management Plan, Financial Forecast and Risk Assessment Policy.

Given the Charity's dependence on a mix of both contractual and discretionary grant income and to ensure that the Charity can run efficiently and to enable it to discharge its charitable duties, it is considered prudent to maintain unrestricted reserves of no less than three months of unrestricted expenditure. These are to cover costs such as salaries, repairs/replacements, and potential other employment costs. In the past this level of reserves has been shown to be sufficient to absorb unexpected setbacks and short-term fluctuations such as the mismatch between expenditure and discretionary grant income. In addition, the trustees anticipate having to absorb the shortfall between expenditure and income with regards to the managed sites and specific projects provided for in the restricted reserves: the unrestricted reserves need to be maintained to cover the anticipated shortfall. Unrestricted reserves as at 31st March 2025 amounted to £261,282.

### **Principal funding sources**

The Charity has a variety of funding streams which vary from short term to long term. This year the primary sources included continuing payments from Defra in respect of the Rhydymwyn nature reserve.

The Charity also receives land management funds from developers to cover the long-term management costs of nature reserves. These funds are calculated based on the management plan of the site over a 15-year period and paid as a lump sum to the Charity which it retains as deferred income. This enables the Charity to draw down annual amounts for most of its nature reserves which it then uses for conservation management and community works on the sites.

Grant-funding is the principal source of funding for projects.

Other income sources include management contracts, consultancy, ground rent and property charges, and interest on bank deposits, as well as small amounts derived from donations and fundraising activities.

Total income for the year 2024-25 was £393,641. The main funding sources have been:

	£
Heritage Lottery	119,772
Charitable grants	80,462
Public sector	72,258
Private sector	121,149

These figures allow for accrued and deferred income from all funding sources.

### **Investment policy and objectives**

The trustees invest the Charity's funds in accordance with its investment policy which complies with the regulations and guidelines laid down by the Trustee Act 2000 (or a statutory re-enactment or modification of that Act) and legally binding restrictions as set out in the transfer documents of some sites.

Following a significant injection of cash arising from the successful conclusion of the Lane End nature reserve transfer from Redrow Homes (North West) Ltd the trustees decided to invest £600k of Wild Ground's total cash balances (all restricted reserves) in a balanced and relatively low risk ethical investment portfolio comprising bonds, gilts, and shares, with the strategic objective to at least maintain purchasing power over the longer period by earning appropriate returns. Following a competitive selection process, Canaccord Genuity (CG) were appointed as our investment manager in March 2022. The three years which followed have seen turbulent times in the financial markets, because of the conflicts in the Ukraine and Middle East, high inflation, and political and economic instability. At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025, the value of the investment portfolio stood at £566k—a reduction of £34k from the original investment sum but an increase of £3k over the equivalent 2024 valuation. Regular meetings continue to be held with CG to monitor their performance and the efficacy of the investment strategy with a view to further recovering ground and earning the targeted returns in the longer term. Following a formal strategic review in the first quarter of the financial year £150k was transferred from the discretionary portfolio to an exclusively gilts portfolio to reduce overall risk.

To earn further returns from Wild Ground's cash holdings £100k continues to be held on deposit in an interest-bearing NatWest Treasury reserve account on a rolling fixed term basis, with a further £55k in a NatWest 35-day access account which also yields interest.

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Sufficient liquidity has been retained to meet the organisation's working capital and foreseeable day-to-day needs and the balance of Wild Ground's cash at 31st March 2025 remained on instant access in a current account and a gold account with CAF Bank, with a further sum in a NatWest current account.

#### **FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

The Charity recognises the need to continue to work closely with partners and communities to ensure funding streams are maintained and aims and objectives are met. Whilst the Charity is continually striving to secure funding to meet its immediate needs, it also recognises the need to diversify funding streams and create innovative projects to secure income and to capture the support of the local communities it serves to ensure its continuing viability. To this end the Charity continues to consult with other third sector organisations, charities, and communities it already works with in addition to new community groups to examine how it can better serve local needs.

Mindful of the economic climate and the impact this is having on grant funding, the Charity is also pursuing closer collaboration with like-minded charities. It is hoped that developing closer working relationships with our partners, as well as developing new partnerships, will enable us to pool existing skills and knowledge as well as to work together on projects and fundraising for the benefit of partners and local communities alike.

#### **Business plan priorities 2025-26**

The trustees of Wild Ground continue to pursue the following business plan priorities as part of a strategy for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Charity:

1. To increase and diversify funding streams,
2. To proactively seek out funded mitigation work opportunities arising from development to grow our network of nature reserves with the associated biodiversity and community benefits, and
3. To build capacity within the organisation to grow and develop our service offer and the skills of our specialist team to deliver outcomes in pursuit of Wild Ground's mission.

The GWNW Group's strategic plan for 2024-27 includes the following strategic goal for Wild Ground:

- To champion nature conservation through positive and proactive land management and help more people to connect with and value nature, biodiversity, and open spaces.

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

##### **Governing Document**

The Charity is controlled by its governing document, the Memorandum and Articles of Association incorporated 6 December 1999, as amended by special resolutions dated 19 July 2005, 2 December 2014, 28 November 2016, 28 February 2019, and 6 October 2021, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

##### **Governance Review**

A comprehensive review of the governance of Wild Ground and the other members of the GWNW Group was conducted in 2021 using the framework for governance reviews issued by Groundwork UK. While the findings were generally positive, several improvement actions were identified which were approved by the Board and were progressively implemented with completion in 2023.

Further governance improvements were carried out in 2024-25 inspired by the Pilotlight mentoring programme, including the drafting and implementation of a blueprint for board succession and development across the GWNW Group.

##### **Recruitment and Appointment of New Trustees**

Following an amendment to the Articles in February 2019, Trustees can be appointed by the member(s) at a general meeting. The members are mindful of their responsibilities towards trustee recruitment and regularly review the recruitment policy, as well as the induction and training offered to new Trustees. A further amendment was made to the Articles in October 2021 to align the appointment terms of Trustees with the three years which applies to the Trustees of Groundwork North Wales, the holding company.

##### **Organisational Arrangements**

During the period of this report, Wild Ground has been effectively managed by a Board of Trustees who are responsible for the overall governance of the Charity, its financial stability and strategic direction. For the sake of administrative efficiency and except for the AGM and when otherwise determined, the governance and business of Wild Ground is conducted under the umbrella of the GWNW Group Board which meets on a quarterly basis, and by GWNW's Finance and Human Resources Subgroup which meets in the period between Board meetings, while risk assurance is overseen by

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

the Group Board's Risk Assurance Subgroup.

Day to day responsibility for the operational running of Wild Ground is delegated to the Head of Environmental Projects and Conservation, who line manages, supervises, and monitors work programmes undertaken by a team of 5 staff. Trustees are presented with regular progress reports on services and activities as well as financial reports; they exercise scrutiny and approve budgets.

Trustees also take responsibility for the development and approval of all company policies and procedures and for the recruitment and appointment of the most senior staff. Wild Ground is a subsidiary of Groundwork North Wales and benefits from the support of the parent's back-office functions in HR, Finance, Business Development, IT and Sales & Marketing, as well as sharing accommodation and the associated costs.

**Related Parties**

Wild Ground collaborates with a wide range of partners at local, regional, and national level. These include public bodies and other third sector organisations. The purpose of this collaboration is to develop new projects and services, to secure additional resources and to represent the third sector. A register of interests is kept, and the declaration of any potential conflicts is invited at each trustee meeting.

**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 controls that are in place to reduce the likelihood of risk occurring include:

1. Having strong financial controls and procedures in place,
2. Having a reserve policy in place,
3. Taking appropriate and timely financial advice.

**Statement of public benefit**

The Objects of Wild Ground as stated in the Memorandum and Articles of Association are: to promote and assist in the preservation and conservation of land in the areas of benefit (as defined below) which is of educational or scientific interest to the general public, including land within which the wildlife is in need of protection and including the improvement and maintenance of public parks, and to educate the public in all matters concerning wildlife and nature conservation.

The areas of benefit are Wales and England.

The trustees have taken note of the Charity Commission's guidance on 'public benefit' and trust that this report reflects that guidance. Wild Ground discharges its responsibility under 'public benefit' by working primarily in North East Wales to engage, inspire and enthuse local communities acting together, to protect wildlife, and enhance habitats and eco-systems as set out in 'Objectives and Activities'.



WILD GROUND  
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Registered Company number**  
03889382 (England and Wales)

**Registered Charity number**  
1080838

**Registered office**  
3-4 Plas Power Road  
Tanyfron  
Wrexham  
LL11 5SZ

**Trustees**  
S V Moore Retired  
M Booker Retired  
H E Wright Retired  
N F Reader Retired

**Independent Examiner**  
Joanne Evans  
FCCA, ACA  
M. D. Coxey and Co. Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
25 Grosvenor Road  
Wrexham  
LL11 1BT

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
N F Reader - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF  
WILD GROUND

**Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Wild Ground ('the Company')**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31st March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its 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**

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of FCCA, ACA which is one of the listed bodies.

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 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 accounts to be reached.



Joanne Evans  
FCCA, ACA  
M. D. Coxey and Co. Limited  
Chartered Accountants  
25 Grosvenor Road  
Wrexham  
LL11 1BT

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025

WILD GROUND

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	9,568	200,234	209,802	212,646
Other Trading Activities		177,987	-	177,987	150,013
Investment Income	3	<u>5,852</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,852</u>	<u>3,769</u>
<b>Total</b>		193,407	200,234	393,641	366,428
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>	4				
Salaries and Wages		62,009	95,739	157,748	146,153
Office Expenses		97,167	80,080	177,247	177,922
(Surplus)/Loss on Investment Revaluation			(2,892)	(2,892)	(9,963)
<b>Total</b>		<u>159,176</u>	<u>172,927</u>	<u>332,103</u>	<u>314,112</u>
<b>NET INCOME</b>		34,231	27,307	61,538	52,316
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		227,050	911,559	1,138,609	1,086,293
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>261,281</u>	<u>938,866</u>	<u>1,200,147</u>	<u>1,138,609</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

WILD GROUND

BALANCE SHEET  
31ST MARCH 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.3.25 Total funds £	31.3.24 Total funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	10	20,093	-	20,093	28,780
Heritage assets	11	-	305,044	305,044	305,044
		<u>20,093</u>	<u>305,044</u>	<u>325,137</u>	<u>333,824</u>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	12	88,818	84,268	173,086	74,174
Investments	13	-	565,996	565,996	563,104
Cash at bank and in hand		247,594	(14,743)	232,851	280,893
		<u>336,412</u>	<u>635,521</u>	<u>971,933</u>	<u>918,171</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(31,782)	(1,699)	(33,481)	(20,889)
		<u>304,630</u>	<u>633,822</u>	<u>938,452</u>	<u>897,282</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
		324,723	938,866	1,263,589	1,231,106
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
<b>ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME</b>	15	(63,442)	-	(63,442)	(92,497)
		<u>261,281</u>	<u>938,866</u>	<u>1,200,147</u>	<u>1,138,609</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>					
<b>FUNDS</b>	16				
Unrestricted funds				261,281	227,050
Restricted funds				<u>938,866</u>	<u>911,559</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u>1,200,147</u>	<u>1,138,609</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31st March 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

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

The notes form part of these financial statements

WILD GROUND

BALANCE SHEET - continued  
31ST MARCH 2025

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N F Reader', written over a dotted line.

N F Reader - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

**WILD GROUND**  
**CASH FLOW STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025**

Notes	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Cash generated from operations 1	<u>(53,893)</u>	<u>58,503</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>(53,893)</u>	<u>58,503</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-	(7,685)
Purchase of heritage assets	-	-
Sale of tangible fixed assets	-	-
Purchase of other investments	-	-
Interest received	<u>5,852</u>	<u>3,769</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	<u>5,852</u>	<u>(3,916)</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>	<b>(48,040)</b>	<b>54,587</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>	<b><u>280,893</u></b>	<b><u>226,306</u></b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	<b><u><u>232,852</u></u></b>	<b><u><u>280,893</u></u></b>

The notes form part of these financial statements

WILD GROUND

NOTES TO THE CASH FLOW STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

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

	31.3.25 £	31.3.24 £
<b>Net income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	61,538	52,316
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	8,687	9,074
Interest received	(5,852)	(3,769)
Increase/(Decrease) in group creditor	(2,892)	(1,617)
Decrease/(increase) in Investments		(9,963)
Decrease in stocks		-
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	(98,911)	5,428
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(16,463)	7,034
<b>Net cash provided by operations</b>	(53,893)	58,503

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.24 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.25 £
<b>Net cash</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>280,893</u>	<u>(48,041)</u>	<u>232,852</u>
	<u>280,893</u>	<u>(48,041)</u>	<u>232,852</u>
<b>Liquid resources</b>			
Deposits included in cash			
Current asset investments	<u>563,104</u>	<u>2,892</u>	<u>565,996</u>
	<u>563,104</u>	<u>2,892</u>	<u>565,996</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>843,997</u>	<u>(45,148)</u>	<u>798,849</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

## WILD GROUND

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

##### **Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of certain assets.

The company's presentational currency is pound sterling.

##### **Income**

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

##### **Expenditure**

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

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

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

Plant and machinery	- 20% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	- 33% on cost
Motor vehicles	- 20% on cost
Computer equipment	- 20% on cost

##### **Heritage assets**

The charity's accounting policy for its heritage assets is to value at cost where a site has been purchased or at fair value for donated sites. At present all sites have been acquired through section 106 agreements with local authorities. The charity has adopted the policy under FRS 102 section 18.19 to treat the initial valuation as deemed cost.

No depreciation is provided in respect of freehold land.

##### **Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

##### **Investments**

Interest-bearing bank deposits are held at cash value. Longer term investments are stated at the relevant market valuation.

##### **Taxation**

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

##### **Fund accounting**

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

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

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

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

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.



WILD GROUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

**2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Donations	5,079	24
Grants	200,234	208,471
Rent charge	4,488	4,050
	<u>209,802</u>	<u>212,545</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
WCVA	-	48,125
Heritage Lottery	119,772	129,789
Groundwork UK	1,000	2,998
Co-op Charitable Trust	500	2,576
Postcode Community Trust		24,983
Big Lottery	19,917	-
D Oylly Carte	4,000	-
Scottish Power Foundation	55,045	-
	<u>200,234</u>	<u>208,471</u>

**3. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Deposit account interest	<u>5,852</u>	<u>3,769</u>

**4. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS**

	Direct Costs £	Support costs (see note 5) £	Totals £
Salaries and Wages	157,748	-	157,748
Office Expenses	174,319	2,928	177,247
(Surplus)/Loss on investment revaluation	<u>(2,892)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,892)</u>
	<u>329,175</u>	<u>2,928</u>	<u>332,103</u>

**5. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Governance Costs £
Office Expenses	<u>2,928</u>

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

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>8,687</u>	<u>9,074</u>

WILD GROUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

**7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st March 2025 nor for the year ended 31st March 2024.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st March 2025 nor for the year ended 31st March 2024.

**8. STAFF COSTS**

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Wages and salaries	143,477	133,326
Social security costs	9,340	8,234
Other pension costs	<u>4,931</u>	<u>4,592</u>
	<u>157,748</u>	<u>146,153</u>

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	5	7
Office, management & operational	<u>5</u>	<u>7</u>

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

**9. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>			
Donations and legacies	154,187	208,472	362,659
Other trading activities			
Investment income	<u>3,769</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,769</u>
<b>Total</b>	157,956	208,472	366,428
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>			
<b>Charitable activities</b>			
Salaries and Wages	57,129	89,024	146,153
Office Expenses	88,883	89,038	177,921
Loss on Investment Revaluation	-	(9,963)	(9,963)
	<u>146,012</u>	<u>168,099</u>	<u>314,111</u>
<b>Total</b>	146,012	168,099	314,111
<b>NET INCOME</b>	11,944	40,373	52,317
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>			
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	215,106	871,186	1,086,292
	<u>227,050</u>	<u>911,559</u>	<u>1,138,609</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>227,050</u>	<u>911,559</u>	<u>1,138,609</u>

WILD GROUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

**10. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Improvements to Property £	Plant and Machinery £	Fixtures & office equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Computer Equipment £	Totals £
<b>COST OR VALUATION</b>						
At 1st April 2024	10,459	63,203	11,232	39,307	17,062	141,263
Additions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations						
At 31st March 2025	10,459	63,203	11,232	39,307	17,062	141,263
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>						
At 1st April 2024	5,936	59,707	11,232	18,908	16,700	112,483
Charge for year	1,046	874	-	6,606	161	8,687
At 31st March 2025	6,982	60,581	11,232	25,514	16,861	121,170
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>						
At 31st March 2025	3,477	2,622	-	13,793	201	20,093
At 31st March 2024	4,523	3,496	-	20,399	362	28,780

**11. HERITAGE ASSETS**

	Total £
<b>MARKET VALUE</b>	
At 1st April 2023 and 31st March 2025	<u>305,044</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>	
At 31st March 2025	<u>305,044</u>
At 31st March 2024	<u>305,044</u>

The directors have valued the Heritage Assets having sought advice.

WILD GROUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

**12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Trade debtors	100,330	13,843
Amounts owed by group undertakings	43,320	43,320
Accrual income	29,223	16,780
Prepayments	213	231
	<u>173,086</u>	<u>74,174</u>

**13. CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS**

	31.3.24	31.3.25
	£	£
Other	<u>565,996</u>	<u>563,104</u>

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

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,278	334
Amounts owed to group undertakings	24,050	12,687
VAT	3,153	4,830
Accrued expenses	-	3,038
	<u>33,481</u>	<u>20,889</u>

**15. ACCRUALS AND DEFERRED INCOME**

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	<u>63,442</u>	<u>92,497</u>

**16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.4.24 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
Group Fund	227,050	34,232	261,282
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	911,559	27,307	938,866
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,138,609</u>	<u>61,539</u>	<u>1,200,148</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
Group Fund	193,407	159,175	34,232
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	200,234	172,927	27,307
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>393,640</u>	<u>332,102</u>	<u>61,539</u>

WILD GROUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

**16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**  
**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
Group Fund	215,107	11,943	227,050
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	<u>871,186</u>	<u>40,373</u>	<u>911,559</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,086,293</u>	<u>52,316</u>	<u>1,138,609</u>

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
Group Fund	157,956	146,013	11,943
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	208,472	168,099	40,373
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>366,428</u>	<u>314,112</u>	<u>52,316</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.4.23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.3.25 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
Group Fund	215,107	46,173	261,280
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	871,186	67,920	939,106
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,086,293</u>	<u>114,093</u>	<u>1,200,386</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds,  
included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
Group Fund	351,362	305,189	46,173
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Restricted Fund	408,706	340,786	67,920
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>760,068</u>	<u>645,975</u>	<u>114,093</u>

**Unrestricted Reserves**

Group fund is an unrestricted reserve which represents the surplus amounts carried forward to future periods for general spending on site maintenance and other costs determined by the Board of Trustees. The receipt of funding has not been contingent on the resources being expended for any purpose other than that determined by the Board of Trustees.

WILD GROUND

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2025

**17. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY**

The company is under the control of Groundwork North Wales, the parent charity.

Groundwork North Wales is a registered charity, number 1004132. Its Company Registration Number is 02614714. The charity has the following aims and objectives:

- To promote the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment including that which is of educational or scientific interest to the general public or within which the wildlife is in need of protection and including the improvement and maintenance of public parks.
- To advance public education in environmental matters and in all matters concerning wildlife and nature conservation, in the ways of better conserving, protecting, and improving the same wheresoever.
- To conserve and protect the physical and natural environment by promotion of sustainable waste management practices in accordance with the best practicable environmental option.
- The promotion for the benefit of the public of urban or rural regeneration of areas in social or economic deprivation, by relieving poverty or financial hardship through improving the employability of disadvantaged individuals through the provision of work placement, affordable childcare, training and volunteering opportunities, the provision of quality affordable furniture and household goods, the provision of items such as food and energy efficiency measures and energy efficiency advice.
- To provide facilities for recreation and other leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom they are intended.
- To advance cultural well-being through people's engagement with the arts and the nation's built and natural heritage.

Groundwork North Wales has the same registered office as Wild Ground.

**18. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

	31.3.25	31.3.24
	£	£
Contracted but not provided for in the financial statements	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

During the year, the charity purchased services and delivery and overhead recharges from the parent charity amounting to £258,378 (2024: £239,814) and sold services and overhead recharges to the parent charity amounting to £150 (2024: £11,724).

During the year, the charity purchased services and delivery and overhead recharges from the Refurbs Flintshire charity amounting to £nil (2024: £18.98) and sold services and overhead recharges to the Refurbs Flintshire charity amounting to £2,700 (2024: £7,969).

**20. LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARITY**

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital.

Every member promises, if the charity is dissolved while they remain a member or within 12 months of their resignation as a member, to pay up to £1 towards the cost of dissolution and the liabilities incurred by the charity.