

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND CONSOLIDATED  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the Year Ended 31 December 2024**



Arboricultural  
**A S S O C I A T I O N**

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**trees.org.uk**

**Company number: 04070377**

**Charity number: 1083845**

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**  
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## THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION CHARITY INFORMATION

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### **Company registration number**

04070377

### **Charity registration number**

1083845

### **Trustees and Directors**

Neil Davies – Chair (Vice Chair until 31 August 2024)

Michelle Ryan – Vice Chair (Chair until 31 August 2024)

Robert Murison - Treasurer

Sarah Armstrong

Paul Barton

Stella Bolam

Sarah Kiss

Keith Sacre

Dr Alan Simson

Stephen Westmore

Laura Ancell (Appointed 26 September 2024)

Elizabeth Nicholls (Resigned 16 November 2024)

### **Key Management**

John Parker - Chief Executive Officer

Hanif Bhula - Finance Manager

### **Registered Office**

The Malthouse

Stroud Green

Standish

Stonehouse

GL10 3DL

### **Auditors**

Hazlewoods LLP

Staverton Court

Staverton

Cheltenham

GL51 0UX

### **Bankers**

Natwest Bank Plc

27 Market Place

Romsey

SO51 8ZH

### **Solicitors**

HCR Law

Wellington Street

Cheltenham

GL50 1YD

# ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)

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### 1. Reference and administrative details

- 1.1 The Arboricultural Association (the Association) is a registered charity incorporated in the United Kingdom as a private company limited by guarantee and accordingly has no share capital. Please see further details on the Charity Information page, page 1.
- 1.2 The Trustees submit their Annual Report and the audited financial statements of the Association for the year ended 31 December 2024.
- 1.3 The Trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice for Charities (Charity) SORP in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the Association.

### 2. Objectives and activities

- 2.1 The charitable objective of the Association is *to advance the science of arboriculture for the public benefit*. The vision of the Association, as described in the *Strategic Plan 2025-2027* (adopted on 20 October 2024) is to *inspire, support and promote the tree care community for a society that better appreciates and cares for trees*.
- 2.2 The main ways in which the Association delivers its charitable objective and vision are:
  - Support and advice for members.
  - Online and in-person training.
  - Online and in-person events, including the ARB Show and Annual Amenity Conference.
  - Publications and best practice guidance for professional arboriculturists and the public.
  - Political and public engagement.
  - Representation on industry and cross-sector groups and projects.
  - International liaison and representation on international industry groups.
  - The Approved Contractor and Registered Consultant Accreditation Schemes.
  - Marketing, including two websites – one for arboriculturists and one for the public.
  - Career advice and development opportunities.
- 2.3 The Trustees have an understanding of Charity Commission guidance to ensure they meet their objectives with regard to public benefit. Public-facing activity and content includes the free webinar series, guidance documentation for non-professionals, help and advice for members of the public and the organisation and attendance of public-facing events.
- 2.4 The Association is grateful for the efforts of all of the volunteers involved in delivering the charitable aims of the organisation. This includes Trustees, members of Committees and working groups, Branch representatives and those who represent the Association at external groups and meetings.

# **ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)**

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## **3. Achievements and performance**

3.1 The key achievements of the Association in 2024 included the following:

- Delivered a more successful financial year than budgeted for.
- Continued with a policy of carefully controlling expenditure and maximising revenue as part of responsible financial management.
- Gradual repayment of the business interruption loan taken out in 2020.
- Continued growth in membership, breaking the previous record set in 2023.
- Recruited a new Senior Technical Officer and brought in additional technical support.
- Welcomed 10 new Chartered Environmentalists, an increase of around 15% from 2023.
- Undertook the Discovery phase for the new CRM and CMS systems.
- Delivered 93 training courses to 990 learners.
- Introduced one new training course to the programme, a tree planting workshop.
- Two trainers expanded the number of courses they can deliver for us, increasing resilience.
- Three VETcert exams attracted 41 candidates (27 consulting and 14 practicing, including resits).
- The 2024 VETcert exams brought the total number of VETcert accreditation holders in the UK to 62 (49 consulting and 13 practising).
- Supported delivery of 13 Branch events across the UK and Ireland.
- Continued to provide advice and support to Branches as needed.
- Held a successful ARB Show at Westonbirt with at least 5,500 visitors through the gates.
- Held a successful Annual Conference at Warwick with excellent feedback and strong delegate numbers.
- Held other successful events including a morphophysiology tour to Italy.
- Expansion of the Wednesday Webinar series on previous years, with record attendance figures and a continuation of the sponsorship deal.
- Received 2,439,648 total website page views in 2024, a 30% increase on 2023.
- Continued to grow our social media numbers and impact, with over 100,000 social media followers across all networks.
- Video views have more than doubled on YouTube with 100,466 and 424,379 impressions on LinkedIn.
- Through our social media strategy we have increased our Facebook reach by an additional 6.8 million people compared to 2023.
- Instagram has grown significantly with an additional 8,000 followers and increased reach by an additional 11.3 million in 2024.
- Developed a network over 80 Arb Ambassadors volunteering at career and public events to increase awareness of arboriculture.
- Exhibited at the UK's largest careers event for young people, the National School and College Leavers Festival. Promoting arboriculture with an interactive stand for around 25,000 students aged 15-24 in attendance over two days.
- Over 80 boxes of resource packs sent out to members attending community events and career days.
- Implemented a new PR monitoring and distribution platform which enables the Association to track and value the coverage it receives, as well as reach relevant media contacts with targeted campaigns.
- Google ad campaign promoting Arb Approved Contractor accreditation generated 46,695 clicks in 2024.
- Continued strong press coverage in national media.
- Continued partner support and collaborative working, such as the Woodland Trust supporting our national tree watering campaign for another year.
- Continued progress with Registered Consultant Scheme, increasing numbers of Registered Consultants and holding workshop sessions at Conference.
- Participated in a wide range of professional UK events including the Trees, People and Built Environment Conference.
- Represented internationally at events in countries including Hong Kong, Australia, Italy, Colombia, India, Canada, and the United States.

## **ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)**

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- Participated in events organised by the European Arboricultural Council (EAC), European Forum on Urban Forestry and International Society of Arboriculture.
- The Association continues to represent its members and the arboricultural sector on a wide range of industry, and external, working groups and projects.
- Contributed towards external best practice guidance documentation such as the BS5837 and NTSG reviews.
- Recently appointed Approved Contractor Scheme Assessors, including those working on the Utility side of the Scheme, continued to develop through their training, increasing our resilience.
- A comprehensive review of the Approved Contractor Scheme was started.
- Increased support for the UK & Ireland Tree Climbing Teams and successfully delivered two tree climbing competitions.
- Continued to successfully to use the Malthouse Training Room for training and events.
- Awarded £4,934 to arboricultural research through the Association's Research Grant.
- Lobbying and political activity continued, including through the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Horticulture and Gardening and the Environmental Horticulture Group (previously called the Ornamental Horticulture Roundtable Group).
- The succession in arb project work continues across several areas of our work including conference workshops, articles, webinars, school career day visits and engagement with several government departments, particularly the Department for Work and Pensions.
- Publication sales continued to hold up strongly, with existing titles continuing to be popular and new ones performing well.
- Changes to the Board of Trustees, with Michelle Ryan stepping down as Chair after four years. Neil Davies took over as Chair at the 2024 Annual General Meeting, with Michelle taking the role of Vice Chair. Liz Nicholls resigned as a Trustee and Laura Ancell was Co-opted.
- Updated Articles of Association were written and approved by the membership at the Annual General Meeting.
- A new Governance Policy was written and approved by the Board of Trustees.

3.1 These activities and achievements helped the Association deliver on its strategic objectives as published in the Strategic Plan 2025-2027.

### **4. Financial review**

- 4.1 The Consolidated Financial Statements for the year are provided in the following pages. Overheads are not reported separately but have been allocated to each of the principal financial activities of the Association on the basis of estimated staff time attributable to each activity. The financial results of the Association are summarised within the Annual Report, a separate document to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The Annual Report acts as a summary document, predominantly aimed at members of the Association, to summarise the key contents of this Trustees' Report and the Consolidated Financial Statements. It is available on the Association's website.
- 4.2 The key revenue streams of the Association are typically membership subscriptions, Accreditation Scheme membership fees, training, events, publications, advertising and sponsorship. The Association has no financial investments other than its bank deposit account and its shareholding in its trading subsidiary, Arboricultural Association Trading Limited (AATL). Its reserves exist in the form of the Malthouse, which is owned by the Association.
- 4.3 The Association's Reserves Policy (ratified in January 2024) states that the Association will ensure that it retains sufficient cash reserves in order to be able to continue operating for at least twelve months in adverse trading conditions, such as a major economic downturn or pandemic. The Reserves Policy recommends that the Association should keep a minimum of £220,000 in reserve. The Reserves Policy will be reviewed and ratified annually by Trustees.
- 4.4 As of 31 December 2024, the Association held £6,097 in restricted income funds (as compared to £6,097 in 2023) and £895,633 in unrestricted income funds (as compared to £947,084 on 31 December 2023).

## **ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)**

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- 4.5 The Association's liquid reserves in the form of cash and cash equivalents decreased to £401,783 on 31 December 2024 (as compared to £470,464 on 31 December 2023).
- 4.6 The Association is registered with the fundraising regulator. The aim of the regulator is to ensure that fundraising is respectful, honest, open and accountable to the public. All fundraising activities are managed by Association staff. Third parties are not encouraged to raise funds on the Association's behalf. The Association understands that fundraising should not be unreasonably persistent, apply undue pressure on people or invade their privacy. No complaints have been received with regard to the Association's fundraising conduct.
- 4.7 The Association made a donation to research of £4,934 (2023: £5,004) in 2024 through the Association's Research Grant.
- 4.8 The Association made a total of £5,661 (2023: £2,000) in donations and sponsorships in 2024. Payments were made to groups including Perennial, the British Association of Landscape Industries and the Trees and Design Action Group.
- 4.9 The Association spent £12,000 (2023: £18,183) on political expenditure in 2024 through membership of the All-party Parliamentary Group on Horticulture and Gardening (APPGHG) and the Environmental Horticulture Group (EHG, formerly called the Horticulture Roundtable Group).
- 4.10 There is no uncertainty about the Association as a going concern. Cashflow management and budgetary control are key driving forces in the management of the organisation and budgets, cashflow and forecasts are shared with employees and Trustees on a regular basis.
- 4.11 The Association is expecting growth in almost all areas of operation in 2025, and by the end of quarter one of 2025 all key targets are being met.

### **5. Plans for future periods**

- 5.1 On 20 October 2024, the Board of Trustees formally adopted the *Strategic Plan 2025-2027* for implementation on 1 January 2025. This published document set out the vision of the Association as "*inspiring, supporting and promoting the tree care community for a society that better appreciates and cares for trees.*"
- 5.2 The vision of the Association feeds into three strategic objectives:
- *Inspire*. Including inclusivity and diversity, Arb Ambassadors, succession and volunteers/staff.
  - *Support*. Including membership, accreditations, resources and training.
  - *Promote*. Including events, engagement, website and communication channels.
- 5.3 The Strategic Plan 2025-2027 can be downloaded from the Association's website, with hard copies available upon request.
- 5.4 Certain external factors beyond the control of the Association can be expected to have an impact on the activities of the organisation, such as the escalating cost of living crisis. This could have an impact on membership levels and other activities, and is being mitigated against through increased diversification of income streams.

### **6. Structure, governance and management**

- 6.1 The Association is governed through its Articles of Association, last updated in 2024. The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring the Association has appropriate financial and operational controls in place, and are responsible for the strategic direction of the Association. The Trustees are the Directors of the Association and meet approximately four times per year.

## **ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT (INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)**

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- 6.2 The majority of Trustees are elected to the Board by the membership. In addition to this, there are four Co-opted Trustee positions which are filled by elected Trustee vote. Elected Trustees have a three-year term of office and are permitted to hold office for three consecutive terms before a minimum one-year break. The Chair of Trustees is able to defer election for an additional year if mid-way through their term as Chair. Co-opted Trustees stand for one-year terms. The Association offers an induction to new Trustees, and provides appropriate training for Trustees as required.
- 6.3 Operational management is overseen by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the pay and remuneration of which is determined by the Board of Trustees and reviewed annually. The CEO reports to the Board of Trustees and attends Board meetings to provide operational and strategic updates. The CEO and Finance Manager also attend meetings of the Finance & Governance Committee.
- 6.4 The trading arm of the Association, AATL, predominantly oversees management of the Approved Contractor Scheme. The appointed Directors of AATL are the Association's Chair, Vice Chair, CEO and Finance Manager. Profits generated by AATL are gift aided to the Association as a registered charity.
- 6.5 In August/September each year the Association holds an Annual General Meeting (AGM) of members. Up until 2020 the AGM formed part of the Annual Amenity Conference, but is now held online and separate to Conference. At the AGM the members receive the accounts of the Association, receive the report of the Board of Directors and appoint the auditor. Result of Trustee elections are announced at the AGM.
- 6.6 The Association has three Committees. These are the Strategic & Governance Committee, the Standards Committee and the Resources Committee. Terms of Reference for these Committees are available on the Association's website. Membership of Committees is exclusively made up of Trustees.
- 6.7 In addition to the Board of Trustees, the Association is aided in the delivery of its charitable objective and strategic vision by a network of volunteers. This includes working parties such as the Arb Education Providers Group, Utility Arborists' Group and the Women in Arboriculture Group, and networks of suitably-experienced members to review complaints and Fellowship applications. The Association also has ten regional Branches, coordinated by member volunteers and the Association's staff team.

### **7. Exemptions from disclosure**

- 7.1 The Association claims no exemptions from disclosure.

### **8. Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others**

- 8.1 The Association does not act as a custodian Trustee for others.

### **9. Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**

- 9.1 The charity Trustees are responsible for preparing an Trustees' Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice). These financial statements must give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year.

**ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION  
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT  
(INCORPORATING THE DIRECTORS' REPORT)**

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9.2 In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

9.3 The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the group and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

9.4 The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

**10. Disclosure of information to the Auditors**

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

10.2 This report has been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed by order of the Board of Trustees on ...07.07.2025

*Neil Davies*

.....  
Neil Davies, Chair of Trustees

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

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### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Arboricultural Association for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated and Parent Charitable Company Balance Sheets, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- Give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and the parent Charitable Company's affairs as at 31 December 2024, and of the Group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- Have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- Have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the group's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**

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### **Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- The information given in the Trustees' Report, which includes the Directors' report and Strategic report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- The Directors' report and Strategic report included within the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' report included within the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- Certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- We have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or

### **Responsibilities of Trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities set out in the Trustees' Annual Report, the Trustees (who are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

*Extent to which the audit was capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud.*

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We considered the nature of the charitable company's activity and its control environment and reviewed the charitable company's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to fraud and compliance with laws and regulations. We also enquired of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

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We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charitable company operates in and identified the key laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, including the UK Companies Act, Charities Act, Charities SORP and tax legislation, and, those that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the charitable company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

We discussed among the audit engagement team regarding the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements.

In common with all audits conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override of controls. In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessed whether the judgements made in accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluated the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- reviewing financial statement disclosures by testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatements due to fraud;
- enquiring of management concerning actual and potential litigation and claims and instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, misrepresentations or through collusion. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we are to become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Felicity Sang*

.....  
**Felicity Sang**  
**(Senior Statutory Auditor)**

14/8/2025

.....  
**Date**

**For and on behalf of Hazlewoods LLP, Statutory Auditor**  
**Cheltenham**

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(INCLUDING CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

		<b>Unrestricted funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
	<b>Note</b>				
<b>Income</b>					
<b>Income from charitable activities:</b>					
Subscriptions		553,199	-	553,199	529,479
Other charitable activities	<b>5</b>	740,190		740,190	814,296
Donations		-	73,019	73,019	-
		<u>1,293,389</u>	<u>73,019</u>	<u>1,366,408</u>	<u>1,343,775</u>
<b>Income from trading activities:</b>					
Consultants and contractors		414,002	-	414,002	385,988
Advertising		41,538	-	41,538	33,519
		<u>455,540</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>455,540</u>	<u>419,507</u>
<b>Income from investments:</b>					
Interest received		12,031	-	12,031	6,880
		<u>12,031</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,031</u>	<u>6,880</u>
<b>Total income</b>		<b><u>1,760,960</u></b>	<b><u>73,019</u></b>	<b><u>1,833,979</u></b>	<b><u>1,770,162</u></b>
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<b>Cost of raising funds:</b>					
Fundraising trading		335,690	-	335,690	359,597
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities:</b>					
Charitable activities		1,310,994	18,000	1,328,994	1,212,237
Governance costs		221,333	-	221,333	181,759
		<u>1,532,327</u>	<u>18,000</u>	<u>1,550,327</u>	<u>1,393,996</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>6</b>	<b><u>1,868,017</u></b>	<b><u>18,000</u></b>	<b><u>1,886,017</u></b>	<b><u>1,753,593</u></b>
<b>Net (expenditure) / income</b>		<b><u>(52,038)</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>(52,038)</u></b>	<b><u>16,569</u></b>
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets		-	-	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b><u>(52,038)</u></b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>(52,038)</u></b>	<b><u>16,569</u></b>
Total funds brought forward		1,083,758	6,097	1,089,855	1,073,286
		<u>1,083,758</u>	<u>6,097</u>	<u>1,089,855</u>	<u>1,073,286</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b><u>1,031,720</u></b>	<b><u>6,097</u></b>	<b><u>1,037,817</u></b>	<b><u>1,089,855</u></b>

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

The notes on pages 15-28 form part of these financial statements.

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(INCLUDING CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

		<b>Unrestricted funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	<b>Total 2022 £</b>
<b>Income</b>					
<b>Income from charitable activities:</b>					
Subscriptions		529,479	-	529,479	499,226
Other charitable activities	<b>5</b>	814,296	-	814,296	559,803
		<u>1,343,775</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,343,775</u>	<u>1,059,029</u>
<b>Income from trading activities:</b>					
Consultants and contractors		385,988	-	385,988	401,299
Advertising		33,519	-	33,519	46,857
		<u>419,507</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>419,507</u>	<u>448,156</u>
<b>Income from investments:</b>					
Interest received		6,880	-	6,880	1,149
		<u>1,770,162</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,770,162</u>	<u>1,508,334</u>
<b>Total income</b>					
<b>Expenditure</b>					
<b>Cost of raising funds:</b>					
Fundraising trading		359,597	-	359,597	331,593
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities:</b>					
Charitable activities		1,212,237	-	1,212,237	964,135
Governance costs		181,759	-	181,759	148,085
		<u>1,753,593</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,753,593</u>	<u>1,443,813</u>
<b>Total expenditure</b>					
<b>Net income / expenditure</b>					
		<u>16,569</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,569</u>	<u>64,521</u>
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets		-	-	-	137,261
		<u>16,569</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,569</u>	<u>201,782</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		1,067,189	6,097	1,073,286	871,504
		<u>1,083,758</u>	<u>6,097</u>	<u>1,089,855</u>	<u>1,073,286</u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>					

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

The notes on pages 15-28 form part of these financial statements.

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**  
**CONSOLIDATED AND PARENT CHARITABLE COMPANY BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	Note	Group		Charity	
		2024	2023	2024	2023
		£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Intangible assets	11	55,550	21,032	55,550	21,032
Tangible assets	12	831,840	835,315	831,840	835,315
Investments	13	-	-	1	1
		<u>887,390</u>	<u>856,347</u>	<u>887,391</u>	<u>856,348</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stock	14	48,742	68,825	48,742	68,825
Debtors	15	110,793	148,666	168,777	211,496
Cash and cash equivalents		401,783	470,464	293,693	357,478
		<u>561,318</u>	<u>687,955</u>	<u>511,212</u>	<u>637,799</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Creditors due within one year	16	(387,558)	(391,114)	(342,362)	(345,868)
Net current assets		<u>173,760</u>	<u>296,841</u>	<u>168,850</u>	<u>291,931</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		1,061,150	1,153,188	1,056,241	1,148,279
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>					
Creditors due after one year	16	(23,333)	(63,333)	(23,333)	(63,333)
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>1,037,817</u>	<u>1,089,855</u>	<u>1,032,908</u>	<u>1,084,946</u>
<b>Funds of the group</b>					
Charity restricted income funds	19	6,097	6,097	6,097	6,097
Charity unrestricted income funds	19	890,724	942,175	890,724	942,175
Revaluation reserve	19	136,087	136,674	136,087	136,674
Non-charitable reserves	13	4,909	4,909	-	-
<b>Total funds</b>		<u>1,037,817</u>	<u>1,089,855</u>	<u>1,032,908</u>	<u>1,084,946</u>

The Trustees have prepared group accounts in accordance with section 398 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 138 of the Charities Act 2011. These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 07.07.2025  
and signed on its behalf by:

*Neil Davies*  
.....  
**N Davies (Chair)**

The notes on pages 15-28 form part of these financial statements.

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION  
CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net income and expenditure		(52,038)	16,569
Finance income		(12,031)	(6,880)
Finance costs		6,332	7,811
Depreciation, amortisation, and impairment	<b>11, 12</b>	12,252	29,969
		<u>(45,485)</u>	<u>47,469</u>
Decrease / (Increase) in stocks		20,083	(26,268)
Decrease / (Increase) in debtors		37,873	(13,900)
(Decrease) / Increase in creditors		(43,556)	39,950
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<u><b>(31,085)</b></u>	<u><b>47,251</b></u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Interest received		12,031	6,880
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(3,295)	(19,966)
Purchase of intangible fixed assets		-	-
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from investing activities</b>		<u><b>8,736</b></u>	<u><b>(13,086)</b></u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Interest paid		(6,332)	(7,811)
Repayment of borrowings		(40,000)	(40,000)
<b>Net cash outflow from financing activities</b>		<u><b>(46,332)</b></u>	<u><b>(47,811)</b></u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<u><b>(68,681)</b></u>	<u><b>(13,646)</b></u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		470,464	484,110
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December</b>		<u><u><b>401,783</b></u></u>	<u><u><b>470,464</b></u></u>

See Note 23 for Analysis of Changes in Net Cash

The notes on pages 15-28 form part of these financial statements.

# THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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#### 1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The Arboricultural Association a registered Charity, incorporated in England & Wales as a private company. It is limited by guarantee and accordingly has no share capital. It is registered with Companies House under company number 04070377, and with the Charity Commission under reference number 1083845. The registered office and principle place of business is The Malthouse, Stroud Green, Standish, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, GL10 3DL.

#### 2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### **Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates**

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

##### **Statement of compliance**

These financial statements were prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), and the Companies Act 2006.

The Arboricultural Association meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

##### **Basis of preparation**

These financial statements have been prepared using the historical cost convention except for, where disclosed in these accounting policies, certain items that are shown at fair value. The Arboricultural Association has adapted the Companies Act 2006 formats to reflect the special nature of its charitable activities.

The presentational currency of the financial statements is Pounds Sterling, being the functional currency of the primary economic environment in which the company operates. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest Pound.

##### **Basis of Consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements consolidate the financial statements of the Charity and its subsidiary undertaking drawn up to 31 December.

A subsidiary is an entity controlled by the Charity. Control is achieved where the Charity has the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring their accounting policies into line with those used by the Group. Inter-company transactions and balances, between the Charity and its subsidiaries, are eliminated in full. Accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the Group.

##### **Going concern**

After reviewing the Charity's forecasts and projections, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and consider that there are no material uncertainties. The Charity therefore continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements.

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts 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 if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

***Judgements***

Preparation of the financial statements requires management to make significant judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the statement of financial position date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the period. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. The following judgement had a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements:

**Revaluation of freehold property**

The Group has opted to account for its freehold property at fair value, which was determined by independent qualified valuers using evidence from observed prices in market transactions for similar properties in similar locations.

**Useful economic life of freehold property**

The Group has determined that the useful economic life of its freehold property following revaluation is 100 years.

***Key sources of estimation uncertainty***

Other than detailed below for expenditure, no key sources of estimation uncertainty have been identified by the Trustees in preparing these financial statements.

**Income**

Subscription income is included in the period in which it falls due. Income from charitable trading activities is included in the period to which the relevant activity or transaction relates. Resources from activities to generate funds, interest and other incoming resources are included on a receivable basis. Amounts received in advance are not included in income for the year but are disclosed as deferred income in creditors.

**Grants receivable**

Grants receivable are recognised in income on a systematic basis over the life of the grant as the conditions related to the grant are. The grants become repayable when the conditions of the grants are not met.

**Expenditure**

All expenditure is included when it is incurred. Expenditure is allocated to the particular activity where the cost relates directly to that activity. The cost of overall direction and administration of each activity, comprising the salary and overhead costs of the central function, is apportioned on the basis of estimated staff time attributable to each activity. The nature of the organisation is such that all staff time can be attributed to activities which further the charitable objects. Governance costs are those costs incurred in meeting regulatory requirements and providing the strategic direction of The

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**Grants payable**

Grants payable are payments to third parties in the furtherance of the charitable objectives. Grants are accounted for when either the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and the Trustees have agreed to pay the grant without condition, or the recipient has a reasonable expectation that they will receive a grant and any condition attaching to the grant is outside the control of The Arboricultural Association.

**Intangible fixed assets**

Trademark, intellectual property and technical guides are initially recorded at cost. They are not depreciated as any amortisation is considered immaterial.

Software costs are initially recorded at cost and are written off over their estimated useful life. Software costs are amortised on cost at 12.5% on a straight line basis.

Assets under construction are capitalised at cost and are not amortised until they are available for use, at which point they are transferred to the relevant asset category and amortised over their estimated useful life.

**Tangible fixed assets**

All assets costing more than £500 that are acquired for continuing use within The Arboricultural Association are capitalised at their cost to the organisation. Depreciation is provided on expenditure at rates calculated to write off each asset over its estimated remaining life. The rates applied to achieve this are:

Freehold property	100 years straight line
Computer equipment	15 - 25% of net book value
Fixtures and fittings	20% straight line

**Revaluation of tangible fixed assets**

Individual freehold properties are carried at fair value at the date of the revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses. Revaluations are undertaken with sufficient regularity to ensure the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the balance sheet date.

**Investments**

Investments in equity shares which are not publicly traded and where fair value cannot be measured reliably are measured at cost less impairment.

**Trade and other debtors**

Trade debtors are amounts due from members for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of activity. Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the Group will not be able to collect all amounts due.

**Stock**

Stock is stated at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to sell. The cost of finished goods comprises direct material costs. At each reporting date, stocks are assessed for impairment. If stocks are impaired, the carrying amount is reduced to its selling price less costs to sell; the impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits.

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

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**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**Trade and other creditors**

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of activity from suppliers. Trade creditors are classified as current liabilities if the Group does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost.

**Borrowings**

Borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing. Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges. Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Group has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

**Funds accounting**

Unrestricted funds are those funds which the Trustees are free to use in accordance with charitable objects. Restricted funds are funds which are given for particular purposes specified by their donors. Non-charitable reserves are funds held by Arboricultural Association Trading Limited, a non-charitable company.

**Leases**

Leases in which substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Receipts under operating leases are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

**Pensions**

The Arboricultural Association makes contributions to individual personal pension schemes of eligible employees. These are defined contribution schemes. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which fixed contributions are paid into a pension fund and the Group has no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions even if the fund does not hold sufficient assets to pay all employees the benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods. Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as employee benefit expense when they are due. If contribution payments exceed the contribution due for service, the excess is recognised as a prepayment. Pension costs are allocated to activities in proportion to the related staffing costs incurred and are wholly charged to unrestricted funds.

**Financial Instruments**

***Classification***

Financial instruments are classified and accounted for according to the substance of the contractual arrangement, as financial assets, financial liabilities or equity instruments. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the company after deducting all of its liabilities.

***Recognition and measurement***

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets classified as at fair value through profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. If an arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**2 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

***Impairment***

Assets, other than those measured at fair value, are assessed for indicators of impairment at each balance sheet date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss as described below.

A non-financial asset is impaired where there is objective evidence that, as a result of one or more events that occurred after initial recognition, the estimated recoverable value of the asset has been reduced. The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

For financial assets carried at amortised cost, the amount of an impairment is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate.

For financial assets carried at cost less impairment, the impairment loss is the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the best estimate of the amount that would be received for the asset if it were to be sold at the reporting date.

Where indicators exist for a decrease in impairment loss, and the decrease can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the prior impairment loss is tested to determine reversal. An impairment loss is reversed on an individual impaired financial asset to the extent that the revised recoverable value does not lead to a revised carrying amount higher than the carrying value had no impairment been recognised.

**3 LEGAL STATUS OF THE CHARITY**

The Charity is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. In the event of the Charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £5 per member of the Charity.

**4 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE CHARITY**

The consolidated statement of financial activities includes the results of the Charity's wholly owned subsidiary, The Arboricultural Association Trading Limited, which undertakes the assessment of Registered Consultants and Approved Contractors for inclusion in the Arboricultural Association's Directories.

As permitted by section 408 Companies Act 2006, the parent charitable company's statement of financial activities has not been included in these financial statements. Its deficit for the financial year was £127,850 (2023 – surplus of £26,391).

**5 OTHER CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Publications	177,808	173,336
Conference	251,648	306,198
Workshops and seminars	217,374	218,683
Other income	93,360	116,079
	<b>740,190</b>	<b>814,296</b>

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**6 TOTAL EXPENDITURE**

	<b>Direct costs £</b>	<b>Staff costs £</b>	<b>Support costs* £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>
<b>Costs of raising funds</b>					
Consultants and contractors	176,636	121,063	37,991	335,690	359,597
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities</b>					
Subscriptions	12,192	96,090	30,154	138,436	94,956
Publications	85,669	45,594	14,308	145,571	128,828
Conference	115,886	71,195	22,342	209,423	194,622
Workshops and seminars	107,474	81,688	25,635	214,797	210,016
Trade fair	160,645	47,996	15,062	223,703	200,485
Advertising and publicity	-	14,159	4,443	18,602	14,779
Promotion	43,578	58,329	18,305	120,212	114,705
Technical support	16,635	19,456	6,105	42,196	78,879
Meeting costs	28,380	15,691	4,924	48,995	40,826
Grant making	44,718	-	-	44,718	32,662
Newsletter / journal	68,922	23,155	7,266	99,343	83,009
Branch expenditure	-	17,505	5,493	22,998	18,470
<b>Total charitable activities</b>	<b>684,099</b>	<b>490,858</b>	<b>154,037</b>	<b>1,328,994</b>	<b>1,212,237</b>
<b>Expenditure on governance costs</b>					
Political expenditure	12,000	5,934	1,862	19,796	18,183
Audit fees	16,747	-	-	16,747	14,012
Finance and accounts	-	101,059	31,714	132,773	122,741
Committees and governance	-	32,904	10,326	43,230	21,973
Legal and professional fees	8,787	-	-	8,787	4,850
<b>Total governance costs</b>	<b>37,534</b>	<b>139,897</b>	<b>43,902</b>	<b>221,333</b>	<b>181,759</b>
<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>898,269</b>	<b>751,818</b>	<b>235,930</b>	<b>1,886,017</b>	<b>1,753,593</b>
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>782,239</b>	<b>706,154</b>	<b>265,200</b>	<b>1,753,593</b>	

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**6 TOTAL EXPENDITURE (continued)**

\* Support costs of £235,930 (2023: £265,200) include:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Depreciation / amortisation	12,254	29,969
Premises costs	22,640	22,162
Other staff costs	15,667	23,671
Office running costs	156,090	155,215
Finance costs	25,334	28,973
Subscriptions and representation	3,945	5,210
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

Of the above expenditure, £18,000 was paid for via restricted funds (2023: £Nil), and £1,868,017 was paid for via unrestricted funds (2023: £1,753,593)

**7 TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES**

No Trustee received any remuneration from the Association during the year (2023: £nil).

Travel expenses totalling £1,832 (2023: £2,568) were reimbursed to 5 (2023: 1) Trustees during the year. At the year end £nil (2023: £nil) was outstanding and owed to Trustees.

**8 STAFF COSTS**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Salaries and wages	631,682	599,002
Social security	58,283	53,819
Pension contributions	36,854	34,826
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	726,819	687,647
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

The key management personnel of the Charity are the Trustees, the Chief Executive Officer and the Finance Manager. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £138,668 (2023: £136,657).

1 employee received employee benefits in excess of £60,000 during the year (2023: 1).

**9 STAFF NUMBERS**

The average monthly head count was 19 staff (2023: 18 staff).

**10 TAXATION**

All income of the charitable company falls within the exemptions afforded to corporate charities and charitable trusts by Sections 478 and 479 Corporation Tax Act 2010 and Sections 524 and 525 Income Tax Act 2007 and there is no corporation tax payable by the Charity's trading subsidiary.

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**11 INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

**Group and Charity**

	<b>Trademark</b>	<b>Intellectual</b>	<b>Software</b>	<b>Asset under</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>Property</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>construction</b>	<b>£</b>
		<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>	
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January 2024	3,112	11,678	189,167	-	203,957
Additions	-	-	-	40,000	40,000
At 31 December 2024	3,112	11,678	189,167	40,000	243,957
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 January 2024	-	10,678	172,247	-	182,925
Charge for the year	-	-	5,482	-	5,482
At 31 December 2024	-	10,678	177,729	-	188,407
<b>Net book value</b>					
At 31 December 2024	3,112	1,000	11,438	40,000	55,550
At 31 December 2023	3,112	1,000	16,920	-	21,032

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

**12 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

**Group and Charity**

	<b>Freehold property £</b>	<b>Computer equipment £</b>	<b>Fixtures and fittings £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
<b>Cost or revaluation</b>				
At 1 January 2024	828,580	15,774	17,960	862,314
Additions	-	3,295	-	3,295
At 31 December 2024	828,580	19,069	17,960	865,609
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 January 2024	3,286	10,794	12,919	26,999
Charge for the year	3,286	2,254	1,230	6,770
At 31 December 2024	6,572	13,048	14,149	33,769
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 31 December 2024	822,008	6,021	3,811	831,840
At 31 December 2023	825,294	4,980	5,041	835,315

The property valuations were made by Ash & Co (RICS) as at 20 December 2022, on an open market value for existing use basis. The trustees consider the fair value in line with the net book value as at 31 December 2024.

**THE ARBORICULTURAL ASSOCIATION**  
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**13 INVESTMENTS**

**Company**

The wholly owned subsidiary, Arboricultural Association Trading Limited, is a company registered in England and Wales. It is used to operate the non-charitable activities of The Arboricultural Association, which includes the Register of Consultants and Approved Contractors. All profits earned by the subsidiary are donated to The Arboricultural Association.

Arboricultural Association Trading Limited has only one share of £1 in issue, which is held by The Arboricultural Association.

The activities and results of Arboricultural Association Trading Limited were:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Turnover	414,002	385,988
Cost of sales	(176,636)	(169,799)
Administrative expenses	(159,054)	(189,798)
Profit for year	78,312	26,391

A Gift Aid Donation of £78,312 (2023: £26,391) has been paid in respect of the 2024 profit post year end Gift Aid donations are recognised as distributions and presented in the Statement of Changes in Equity.

At 31 December 2024, Arboricultural Association Trading Limited had the following assets and liabilities:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Debtors	14,592	13,506
Cash at bank and in hand	108,090	112,986
Creditors: Amounts due within one year	(117,772)	(121,582)
	4,910	4,910
Share capital	1	1
Reserves	4,909	4,909
	4,910	4,910

**14 STOCKS**

	<b>Group</b>		<b>Charity</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Publications and other items for resale	48,742	68,825	48,742	68,825

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**15 DEBTORS**

	<b>Group</b>		<b>Charity</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	52,020	72,409	37,428	54,673
Other debtors and prepayments	58,773	76,257	58,773	76,257
Amounts owed from subsidiary	-	-	72,576	80,566
	<u>110,793</u>	<u>148,666</u>	<u>168,777</u>	<u>211,496</u>

**16 CREDITORS**

<b>Creditors due within one year</b>		<b>Group</b>		<b>Charity</b>	
		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Bank loan	17	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Trade creditors		70,248	130,046	46,856	104,487
Social security and other taxes		36,578	32,961	36,578	32,961
Other creditors and accruals		103,664	36,900	97,232	33,929
Deferred income		137,068	151,207	121,696	134,491
		<u>387,558</u>	<u>391,114</u>	<u>342,362</u>	<u>345,868</u>

<b>Creditors due after one year</b>		<b>Group</b>		<b>Charity</b>	
		<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Bank loan	17	23,333	63,333	23,333	63,333

Deferred income relates to membership subscriptions, training fees and contractor and consultant fees that are received in advance of the subscription year commencing 1 January. The balance of deferred income has moved in the year as follows:

	<b>Group</b>		<b>Charity</b>	
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Balance at 1 January	151,207	127,040	134,491	108,715
Amount released in year	(151,207)	(127,040)	(134,491)	(108,715)
Amount deferred in year	137,068	151,207	121,696	134,491
	<u>137,068</u>	<u>151,207</u>	<u>121,696</u>	<u>134,491</u>

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**17 LOANS AND BORROWINGS**

Creditors due within one year	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank loan	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000

Creditors due after one year	Group		Charity	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Bank loan	23,333	63,333	23,333	63,333

The bank loan is secured by a fixed charge over the property owned by The Arboricultural Association and is repayable in monthly instalments. Fixed rate interest is charged on the loan.

**18 DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION SCHEME**

The group operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The pension cost charge for the year represents contributions payable by the group to the scheme and amounted to £36,854 (2023 - £34,826). Contributions totalling £3,021 (2023 - £4,683) were payable to the scheme at the end of the year and are included in creditors.

**19 ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS (Current year)**

	At 1 January 2024	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2024
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
Revaluation reserve	136,674	-	-	(587)	136,087
Unrestricted income funds	947,084	1,815,979	(1,868,017)	587	895,633
	<u>1,083,758</u>	<u>1,815,979</u>	<u>(1,868,017)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,031,720</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
The Memorial fund	6,097	-	-	-	6,097
Ted Green Donation	-	18,000	(18,000)	-	-
	<u>6,097</u>	<u>18,000</u>	<u>(18,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,097</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>1,089,855</u>	<u>1,833,979</u>	<u>(1,886,017)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,037,817</u>

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**19 ANALYSIS OF CHARITABLE FUNDS (Prior year)**

	At 1 January 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	At 31 December 2023
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
Revaluation reserve	137,261	-	-	(587)	136,674
Unrestricted income funds	929,928	1,770,162	(1,753,593)	587	947,084
	<u>1,067,189</u>	<u>1,770,162</u>	<u>(1,753,593)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,083,758</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
The Memorial fund	6,097	-	-	-	6,097
	<u>6,097</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,097</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>1,073,286</u>	<u>1,770,162</u>	<u>(1,753,593)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,089,855</u>

**Restricted funds**

The Charitable Company has two restricted funds.

The Memorial Research Fund

This Fund is used to support research in the field of Arboriculture by the provision of grants.

Ted Green Donation

Funds received through a donation made by an author towards printing costs.

**20 ANALYSIS OF ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

2024	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Intangible fixed assets	55,550	-	55,550
Tangible fixed assets	831,840	-	831,840
Current assets	555,221	6,097	561,318
Current liabilities	(387,558)	-	(387,558)
Non-current liabilities	(23,333)	-	(23,333)
	<u>1,031,720</u>	<u>6,097</u>	<u>1,037,817</u>

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**20 ANALYSIS OF ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS (continued)**

<b>2023</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds £</b>	<b>Restricted funds £</b>	<b>Total funds £</b>
Intangible fixed assets	21,032	-	21,032
Tangible fixed assets	835,315	-	835,315
Current assets	681,858	6,097	687,955
Current liabilities	(391,114)	-	(391,114)
Non-current liabilities	(63,333)	-	(63,333)
	<u>1,083,758</u>	<u>6,097</u>	<u>1,089,855</u>

**21 OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS**

**Group and Charity**

The total of future minimum lease payments is as follows:

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Not later than one year	2,299	244
Later than one year and not later than five years	7,472	-
	<u>9,771</u>	<u>244</u>

The amount of operating lease payments recognised as an expense during the year was £2,543 (2023 - £978).

The total of future minimum lease receivable is as follows:

	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Not later than one year	-	-
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	12,337
	<u>-</u>	<u>12,337</u>

**22 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Charity has taken advantage of the exemption under FRS 102 from disclosing related party transactions with other members of the group.

**Other related party transactions**

During the year, there were no related party transactions that the Charity entered into.

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23 CONTROL

The Arboricultural Association is controlled by the Board of Trustees/Directors.

24 ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET CASH

	At 1 January 2024 £	Cash flows £	Other non cash changes £	At 31 December 2024 £
<b>Analysis of changes in net debt</b>				
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>				
Cash	470,464	(68,681)	-	401,783
<b>Borrowings</b>				
Due withing 1 year	(40,000)	40,000	(40,000)	(40,000)
Due after 1 year	(63,333)	-	40,000	(23,333)
	(103,333)	40,000	-	(63,333)
<b>Total net cash</b>	367,131	(28,681)	-	338,450