

# **WORCESTERSHIRE BIOLOGICAL RECORDS CENTRE**

Lower Smite Farm, Smite Hill, Hindlip, Worcester, WR3 8SZ

A company limited by guarantee and registered in England No. 04416182

This company is a Registered Charity under registration No. 1096279

## **ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE BOARD**

**1<sup>st</sup> May 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

### **Objective of the Company**

To provide a service which collects, manages and disseminates quality environmental information for the public benefit.

### **Public Benefit Statement**

In addition to the public benefits arising from the availability of quality environmental information, such as assisting decision making which protects the environment, WBRC provides identification services to members of the public, and provides education on environmental issues through its support of the Worcestershire Recorders, their field events, the production of the joint journal, Worcestershire Record, and its website [www.wbrc.org.uk](http://www.wbrc.org.uk). We aim to include records held by WBRC on the National Biodiversity Network Atlas of which WBRC is a member.

WBRC has continued to supply information to all Service Level Agreement holders including Environment Agency, Worcestershire County Council and Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, together with providing data to environmental consultants and local natural history groups, with species identification assistance to members of the public on an ongoing basis as single data requests.

Staffing was maintained at 1.6 FTE with 2 long-term volunteers contributing greatly during this reporting period within the areas of data processing and administrative duties. Commercial enquiries remained an important income stream, representing 42% of total income, Service Level Agreement streams were reduced with the loss of the Worcestershire Wildlife Consultancy contract but the remaining were stable during this period and all look to renew for next financial year. WBRC can report a sound financial status to end the year.

The update of the Worcestershire area of the National Ancient Woodland Inventory continued during this financial year. This is a major project fully funded by Woodland Trust and in conjunction with Natural England; WBRC will continue to feed into this project until March 2024.

The database has continued to grow over the year, giving access to over 1.6 million records in the county. The methods by which data is funnelled into WBRC have begun to evolve over the last few years and much more biological recording is undertaken by individuals via online portals such as iRecord. WBRC is working to update and maintain processes to ensure we collate and provide access to the best possible data for the county.

### **Review of Financial Activity**

The organisation finished the year with total assets of **£78,577.04**

Ruth Bourne

Chair of the Board

**Worcestershire Biological Records Centre**

Financial Statement - 01.05.22 to 30.04.23

Charity Number 1096279  
 Company Number 4416182

Bank Balance Brought Forward 74180.67

Expenditure:

Income:

Contributions

Worcs Wildlife Trust	10500
WNCT Enterprises	600
Worcs County Council	6740.00
Environment Agency	9651
Woodland Trust (Ancient Woodland Inventory)	18000.00
Worc Recorders	25.00

Employment Costs	69884.30
Phone & Broadband	602.46
Insurance	668.82
Expenses/Travel	248.79
Office/Equipment/IT	882.17
Training/Conferences	13.00
Rent/Rates	765.00
OS Licence	728.28
Worcs Recorders reimburse	25.00

Expenditure Sub Total 73817.82

Sales	32481.50
Bank Interest	216.69

Balance Carried Forward 78577.04

Income Total 78214.19

Total Assets 152394.86



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Worcestershire Biological Records Centre

On accounts for the year  
ended

30/04/23

Charity no  
(if any)

1096279

Set out on pages

1

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD/MM/YYYY.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

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

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

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below \*) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

\* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

J Blakiston

Date:

15/2/24

Name:

JOHN BLAKISTON

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

ACMA (Member in Practice (MIP))

Address:

ROSE COTTAGE, SPRING GROVE BARNS  
BEWOLEY BYPASS, BEWOLEY, WORCS  
DY12 1LG



Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Nothing to disclose