

THE BEARSTED WOODLAND CHARITABLE TRUST

Registered Charity 1103585

Report of the Trustees for year ended 30 June 2024

The Trustees present their report and financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Objectives of the Trust

To preserve and maintain land owned by the Trust off Church Landway, Bearsted and immediately adjacent areas in the interests of social welfare to provide a place of exercise and recreation for the benefits of the inhabitants of Bearsted and visitors. In the interests of conservation to develop, conserve, protect and restore the natural resources and animal and plant life of the land.

Organisation and decision making structure

Bearsted Woodland Trust was founded by a Deed of Trust dated 5 January 2004 and is a Registered Charity no. 1103585. The Trustees govern the charity and delegate day to day operations to a Management Committee which is appointed by the Trustees. Members of the Management Committee contribute a large amount of time and expertise on a voluntary basis.

Review of the activities of the Trust

During the year the operations of the Trust continued in a similar pattern to previous years. Maintenance continues to be well managed and supported by a large team of weekly volunteers (25). Two teams of litter pickers (16) continue to make a noticeable visible difference which combined with a newsletter delivery team bring the total to 79 volunteers (excluding trustees) making a contribution to our trust. Communication with supporters is assured by an excellent website, an annual newsletter, and a member's AGM. Funding is maintained via annual 'membership' donations, tree and bench 'sponsorship' and other donations. The car park went live on 9th October but due to the very wet Autumn 2023 was temporarily closed by the Management committee and remains temporarily closed.

Policy on reserves

The Trustees policy is to maintain sufficient reserves to fund the Trust's activities and meet future commitments. This includes retaining sufficient reserves to fund future capital expenditure and to use paid for contractors if necessary.

The Bearsted Woodland Charitable Trust renamed to Bearsted Woodland Trust

At the 4th November 2023 Trustee meeting the Trustees approved a proposal to rename the Trust from The Bearsted Woodland Charitable Trust to Bearsted Woodland Trust, as it is locally known, and the Trustees signed the required supplementary deed. This name change request was filed with the Charities Commission in July 2024 and subsequently approved on 23 September 2024.

Richard Ashness
Chairman of Trustees
5 April 2025

BEARSTED WOODLAND TRUST**Registered Charity no. 1103585****ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 30 JUNE 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME			
Membership donations		5,941	6,369
Life membership donations	1	4,800	3,225
Donations - various		2,475	1,444
Tree donations	1	7,072	5,210
Gift Aid tax recovery		3,546	2,679
Bank interest	2	11,752	7,247
Other Income		1,636	1,421
Total income		<u>37,222</u>	<u>27,595</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Trees, wildflower seeds & benches		710	2,707
Site costs	3	4,302	4,754
Insurance		1,619	1,582
Newsletter & Website	3	812	787
Secretarial & General	3	265	732
Merchandise		219	937
Car Park	4	15,887	5,656
Tree surgery		960	-
Total expenditure		<u>24,774</u>	<u>17,155</u>
Surplus / (Deficit) for year		12,448	10,440
Reserves brought forward		289,372	278,932
Reserves carried forward		<u>301,820</u>	<u>289,372</u>
BALANCE SHEET AS AT :			
		30 Jun 24	30 Jun 23
Bank balances		£	£
Natwest current		5,231	2,414
Epworth Cash Plus Fund for Charities		196,069	139,388
Redwood		11,364	87,399
United Trust Bank-Notice		74,991	49,991
United Trust Bank-Fixed Term		10,619	10,180
Cash at Bank		<u>298,274</u>	<u>289,372</u>
Sundry Debtor		3,546	-
Total Assets		<u>301,820</u>	<u>289,372</u>

Martin Gray
Honorary Treasurer

Anil Mathur
Independent Examiner

Richard Ashness
Trustee

Approved at Trustees meeting held on 5 April 2025



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

The Bearsted Woodland Trust

On accounts for the year
ended

30 June 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1103585

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 30 / 06 / 2024.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 all 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 in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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.

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

Signed:

Date:

5th September 2024

Name:

Anil Mathur

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

FCA Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Address:

14 Windmill Heights, Bearsted, Maidstone, Kent ME14 4QE

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.