

## **THE BEARSTED WOODLAND CHARITABLE TRUST**

Registered Charity 1103585

### **Report of the Trustees for year ended 30 June 2025**

The Trustees present their report and financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2025.

#### **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 (24). Two teams of litter pickers (14) continue to make a noticeable visible difference which combined with a newsletter delivery team bring the total to 69 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 remains temporarily closed as we took some time to identify the right solution for us. After some discussion we decided to convert 9 out of the 20 bays to all weather parking with the remainder open during the summer months. Unfortunately, after taking advice, we then had to apply for a Non Material Amendment to an existing planning permission which was received on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2025. Subsequently we have sought quotes from contractors, awarding the contract in Autumn 2025 with a view to construction in 2026.

#### **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.

Richard Ashness  
Chairman of Trustees  
19 April 2026

**BEARSTED WOODLAND TRUST**  
**Registered Charity no. 1103585**  
**ACCOUNTS FOR THE 12 MONTHS TO 30 JUNE 2025**

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>INCOME</b>			
Membership donations		6,092	5,941
Life membership donations	1	2,050	4,800
Donations - various		5,921	2,475
Tree donations	1	4,101	7,072
Gift Aid tax recovery		2,463	3,546
Legacy		1,000	-
Bank interest	2	14,006	11,752
Other Income	3	2,092	1,636
Total income		<u>37,725</u>	<u>37,222</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Trees, wildflower seeds & benches		995	710
Site costs	4	5,384	4,302
Insurance		1,646	1,619
Newsletter & Website	4	749	812
Secretarial & General	5	2,318	265
Merchandise		307	219
Fencing	6	4,134	-
Car Park	7	474	15,887
Tree surgery		840	960
Total expenditure		<u>17,112</u>	<u>24,774</u>
Surplus / (Deficit) for year		20,613	12,448
Reserves brought forward		<u>301,820</u>	<u>289,372</u>
Reserves carried forward		<u>322,433</u>	<u>301,820</u>
<b>BALANCE SHEET AS AT :</b>			
		30 Jun 25	30 Jun 24
<b>Bank balances</b>		£	£
Natwest current		6,821	5,231
Epworth Cash Plus Fund for Charities		215,231	196,069
Redwood		11,781	11,364
United Trust Bank-Notice		74,991	74,991
United Trust Bank-Fixed Term		11,146	10,619
Cash at Bank		<u>319,970</u>	<u>298,274</u>
Sundry Debtor		2,463	3,546
Total Assets		<u>322,433</u>	<u>301,820</u>

Martin Gray  
Honorary Treasurer

Anil Mathur  
Independent Examiner

Richard Ashness  
Trustee

Approved at Trustees meeting held on 19 April 2026



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

The Bearsted Woodland Trust

On accounts for the year  
ended

30 June 2025

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:

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2025

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.**