

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2024

FOR

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

A REGISTERED CHARITY

AND

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

Registered Company Number 07151955
Registered Charity Number 1137142

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

Index

Index	2
Company Information	3
Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024	4
Independent Auditors' Report to the Members of Thameside Nature Park Limited	14
Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st December 2024	19
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024	20
Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024	21
1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES	21
2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	23
3. STAFF COSTS	24
4. EXPENDITURE	24
5. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION	25
6. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEMES	25
7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	25
8. DEBTORS	26
9. CREDITORS	26
10. CONTINGENT LIABILITY	26
11. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS	26
12. ANALYSIS OF FUNDS	27
13. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS	29
14. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY	29
15. COMPANY STATUS	29
16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND GROUP TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES	29
17. PRIOR PERIOD STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	30

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

Company Information

DIRECTORS:

S Boswell (name changed from S Howe 29/01/2024 - resigned 22/08/2024)
J Dagley
K Hazelhurst (resigned 29/05/2025)
D Holt
A Impey – Chair (resigned 05/02/2024)
A Pritchard
S Quill
R Yates – Chair (from 5/02/2024)

REGISTERED OFFICE:

Abbotts Hall Farm
Great Wigborough
Colchester
Essex
CO5 7RZ

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER:

07151955 (England and Wales)

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:

1137142

AUDITORS:

Moore Kingston Smith
Orbital House
20 Eastern Road
Romford, Essex
RM1 3PJ

BANKERS:

Barclays Bank PLC
Chelmsford Business Centre
40-41 High Street
Chelmsford Essex
CM1 1BE

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

The Board presents its report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2024.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

Thameside Nature Park Limited is a company limited by guarantee governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is registered as a charity with the Charity Commission.

Appointment of Trustees

The Trustees are also Directors for the purpose of company law. The Chair of the Trustees is elected by the Board. There is provision for at least three Trustees one third of who are elected annually by the members of the charity at the Annual General Meeting (AGM). The Trustees serve for a period of three years.

The Trustees have the power to co-opt a member to fill a vacancy on the Board of Trustees that occurs between AGMs. The co-opted Trustee must however stand down or be nominated for election at the next AGM. All members are circulated with the names of nominated trustees prior to the AGM.

Trustee induction and training

New Trustees undergo a training programme that will brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the decision-making processes and recent financial performance of the charity. During the induction, they meet key employees and other Trustees.

The Trustees are encouraged to attend appropriate external training events where these will facilitate the undertaking of their role.

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

Trustees/Directors

The directors during the year under review were:

S	Boswell (name changed from S Howe 29/01/2024 - resigned 22/08/2024)
J	Dagley
K	Hazelhurst (resigned 29/05/2025)
D	Holt
A	Impey – Chair (resigned 05/02/2024)
A	Pritchard
S	Quill
R	Yates – Chair (from 5/02/2024)

Organisation

The Board of Trustees is responsible for determining the strategic direction of the charity and for monitoring performance towards those set objectives. The Board meets on average 4 times per year. To facilitate effective operations the Chair has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for operational matters including finance and employment.

Related parties

Thameside Nature Park Limited is a subsidiary of Essex Wildlife Trust Limited. Other subsidiaries of Essex Wildlife Trust Limited are:

Essex Wildlife Sales Limited - The company exists to carryout retail sale of goods associated with the aims of Essex Wildlife Trust Limited at the Trust's centres throughout Essex.

Essex Ecology Services Limited - The provision of advisory services relating to environmental matters.

Chafford Gorges Limited – for the benefit of the public, to look after and further the conservation, maintenance and protection of the area known as Chafford Gorges Nature Park in Thurrock.

Essex Wildlife Trust Limited is also a Corporate Trustee of the Veolia Pitsea Marshes and the Veolia Havering Riverside Maintenance Trusts from which it has also received grants for support of its environmental objectives. The ongoing involvement with these two organisations has ceased from 13th February 2024, when the last of the funds were distributed and the two charities were dissolved.

Risk management

The Trustees have a risk management strategy that comprises an annual review of the risks the charity may face and the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified in the review. They will also oversee the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

Generally, the risks faced by the charity consist of health and safety and land management issues related to the nature of the site as an ex-landfill site. These are explained further in the health and safety section on page 8.

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

Fundraising Policy

Thameside Nature Park Limited is a subsidiary of Essex Wildlife Trust Limited and follows their fundraising policy.

Essex Wildlife Trust is accountable regarding its fundraising. Essex Wildlife Trust monitors fundraising activity through regular reports to the Board of Trustees, based on our budgetary and management accounts process and policy.

All projects are approved and managed through the Strategic Leadership Team, with Board approval where appropriate. All of our projects and core fundraising contribute to Essex Wildlife Trust's strategy and overall vision – to have a county rich in wildlife with people connected to nature – with communities that value the countryside and that are inspired to help protect it.

Essex Wildlife Trust has a complaints policy and the procedure for making complaints regarding our fundraising that can be found on our website, as a link under Essex Wildlife Trust's Fundraising Promise.

Essex Wildlife Trust's policy regarding Vulnerable Adults and Treating Donors Fairly sets out how we expect our fundraisers to behave. Essex Wildlife Trust is respectful – we respect decisions not to make donations and to withdraw membership, we will contact our supporters and donors in the way that they request, we will respond to queries in an open, honest, courteous and professional way. We will acknowledge any complaint within five working days to let complainants know when they can expect a response. During the year we recorded no complaints (2023 nil).

Going Concern

Having reviewed the company's financial forecasts and expected future cashflows, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and for a period of at least 12 months following the approval of these financial statements. Thus, the going concern basis has been adopted in preparing the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of the charity are:

For the benefit of the public, to look after and further the conservation, maintenance and protection of the area known as Thameside Nature Park adjacent to Mucking in Thurrock, which is leased from Enover at a peppercorn rent.

To advance the education of the public in the principles and practice of conservation, sustainable development and biodiversity within the Thameside Nature Park.

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

Sustainable development is primarily defined as "Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." (The Brundtland Commission).

The strategies employed to achieve the charity's objectives are as follows:

- Ensuring that the Thameside Nature Park is a good example of conservation management where wildlife thrives.
- Physical management of the Thameside Nature Park through Action Plans that identify priority work.
- Reaching all ages, all abilities, and all communities.
- Raising their understanding of sustainable living, what they can do for wildlife and what a good environment can do for them by advancing the interest and education of the public through activities in the Thameside Nature Park and the Visitor Centre situated within the Park.
- Making the Thameside Nature Park and Visitor Centre (which is leased to Essex Wildlife Trust) available to others who are involved in similar projects.
- Providing a supportive culture for both staff and volunteers.
- Maintaining a firm financial foundation.
- Undertaking or supporting other essential work in relation to Access, Health and Safety, minimising anti-social behaviour and actions to address any issues in priority order.

Each year the Trustees work with EWT to ensure the strategic focus is relevant for the site, through setting the annual budget.

Thameside Nature Park relies on regular annual grants received from the Mucking Charitable Trust, and donations from other sources to cover its operating costs.

In shaping the objectives for the year and planning the activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, including their guidance on fee charging.

Free education is provided by Essex Wildlife Trust staff, using the facilities at Thameside Nature Park, covering topics linked to the objects of the charity. For those courses for which fees are levied, careful consideration is given to the accessibility to the courses by all members of the public. In these cases, it is often the case that the fees charged do not cover the full cost of the courses, the remainder being subsidised by the Essex Wildlife Trust as part of the core objectives of the charity.

Thameside Nature Park is accessible to the public free of charge and on-going work is always mindful of improving that access for families with young children and the disabled, within the unique health and safety considerations for the site. Where possible and practical, free advice is also given to members of the public who contact the charity.

The charity is very dependent on the help of volunteers in all these activities. Currently, there is a growing band of volunteers who do a huge variety of valuable work on work parties, completing

surveys and assisting with administration.

The charity sub-lets an area of the Thameside Nature Park to Essex Wildlife Trust Limited who have erected a visitors' centre on the site for the use and benefit of all members of the public. The centre was generously funded by a range of funders including the Cory Environmental Trust in Thurrock, the Homes and Communities Agency - Parklands, the Hew Watt Charitable Trust, and several other sources of charitable appeals.

Other buildings on the site, Crown Cottages, Red Barn and Brick Barn are leased by the charity from Enover at a peppercorn rent.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Access for all

Our Ranger staff (1 Ranger, 0.6 Asst Ranger) continue to maintain the site in accordance with the management plan, as well as look for areas to develop and enhance the site for the benefit of wildlife and visitors. The team has responded to low levels of antisocial behaviour and damage. There has been the usual cutting of path verges and amenity areas. The area of land managed has not increased this year as hoped, as there are no further areas of land as yet ready to be handed over by Enover.

Health and Safety

As in previous years, health and safety issues on an ex-landfill site are the most important considerations when we do any management work. Vehicle access has again been carefully controlled this year to ensure the landfill capping is not damaged and landfill material is not exposed.

Ongoing monitoring of methane around the site is carried out by Enover, and at the Centre we take occasional readings in the basement pods. We have had no issues this year with elevated methane levels.

An annual tree safety survey was carried out. The identified works were carried out by our Rangers.

The Rangers and volunteers continue to undertake regular checks around the lake. Signage about the dangers of swimming in the lakes is in place. Life buoys are present and are reinstalled if removed.

Practical Conservation

The site was grazed over winter from September 2023 to February 2024 at low density by at less than 0.75 livestock units per hectare, using the same local grazier (Froods of Corringham). Grazing will continue as a standard management practice, as this will improve the diversity of the grassland species by controlling coarse grasses that could dominate the sward. The timing of grazing will be assessed year on year to optimize the approach. We do want areas of 'rank' grassland because this

encourages the development of ant hills, that supports good populations of small mammals, an important food source for reptiles and species like barn owl and short eared owl. This mosaic of sward heights provides a variety of grassland habitat that encourages greater species diversity. Only grazing can achieve this, unlike mechanical mowing, and this is going to be an essential management tool when we take on the remaining area of the site. Some areas of the park cannot be cut because of waste material that is on the surface, such as concrete and metal. We will inspect future lease areas in much more detail, to ensure that we take on land in a state that will allow it to be managed as required.

A hay cut was taken again on the Coronation Meadow area to encourage diversity in the grassland species. These meadows were also subsequently grazed. Regular hay cuts will result in a reduction in fertility, which will result in a greater diversity of plant species. Surveying indicates a significant increase in species variety in the Coronation Meadows. Plants will be affected by climate change. We are getting more extreme weather events, and this will influence which species will thrive or survive. The risks of fire in grassland with prolonged dry spells are a threat, not just to the grassland species, but to the whole site.

We have maintained longer grassland habitat boarder scrub to maintain areas of cover for reptiles, mammals, and invertebrates. The scrub and bramble areas continue to increase and provide great habitat, but we need to manage them to maintain the cover and not expand at the expense of the grassland.

Scrub and bramble have been managed to create a mosaic of different aged habitat to support different species. We have continued to manage the woodland (Henry's Shaw), with the aim of increasing dead wood habitat and open glades, this is important for specialist invertebrates.

The historic translocation areas continue to be managed to ensure they are suitable habitats for the translocated reptiles. Natural degradation of reptile fencing has allowed dispersion of the population over the wider site. We have enhanced the short cut basking areas. The 2024 survey showed good numbers of slow worm, common lizard, grass snake, and adder across the site.

Invasive species such as goat's rue were tackled again this year by means of mechanical cutting and chemical spraying; where possible digging out from the roots, though time consuming, is the most effective method.

It is difficult to keep invasive species under control and minimise spread. They are a problem at the site; we will need to consider what is practical when we have the whole site to manage. We may have to accept that these invasive species are part of the ecology of the site and work with them or concentrate efforts in key areas.

The site still supports good numbers of skylarks. Any grassland management needs to take their ground nesting habits into consideration. To protect the breeding territories of the skylarks we have

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

limited access to stop disturbance during the breeding season March - August. We enforce dogs on leads all year round to avoid confusion, as they are the biggest threats to nests. It is an ongoing issue for staff to educate the public.

Breeding bird, butterfly and moth, reptile and bat and rapid grassland assessment surveys were carried out in house in 2024.

Security is frequently reviewed and improved to counter the national prevalence of agricultural crime.

Events and Education

Through 2024 we have had a consistent and sustainable support for our preschool Nature Tots group and a home education group. School visits were regular, and bookings have increased for next year. Our full time Wilder Learning Officer (WLO) is supported by an area trainee intern and an increasing number of volunteers. The summer of 2024 saw a take up rate of nearly 60% across events representing a growth in volume and variety of events.

FINANCIAL REVIEW OF THE CHARITY

This funding of Thameside Nature Park Limited (TNP) is secured through the investment of an original fund of over £2.3m, which is under the control of Mucking Charitable Trust, to cover the length of the lease of Thameside Nature Park, which started in 2012 and covers a period of 99 years.

In 2024 MCT made funding contributions for the financial year of 2024 of £134,488.

The funding received from MCT covers the management and maintenance of the site and is managed through a restricted fund in the accounts.

TNP has additional income sources from Agricultural Grants, and has been in receipt of grants from National Highways to deliver additional project work on the site.

Financial reserves policy

Reserves are needed to provide sufficient funds to create a safeguard against unexpected costs that arise outside of usual budgeting processes and for the working capital requirements of the charity.

The Reserves Policy has been updated during the year and identifies the level of reserves needed, whilst it is not usual to include restricted funds in this calculation, the funding stream for core work at Thameside Nature Park is accounted for within a restricted fund for the maintenance and management of the site and therefore forms part of the calculation for reserves.

The minimum level of Reserves needed to ensure continuity of work under the Management and Maintenance Grant from MCT has been calculated under the Reserves Policy to be £96K. This figure

is calculated on a risk basis, to cover the timing of the payment of the Grant, working capital and any unpredicted spending needed for exceptional costs. The actual value at year end is calculated as the total value of the MCT Fund, which currently equates to £195K (2023: £94K) above the minimum level.

The Unrestricted free reserves are calculated by deducting the value of designated funds, less amounts tied up as fixed assets from the total unrestricted funds of the charity. The calculated amount required under the reserves policy is £96K, the current actual level of free reserves is £209K (2023: £255K). These excess funds will be spent on future projects developing the site as part of the overall vision and purpose for Thameside Nature Park.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The charity leases at a peppercorn rent, approximately 240 acres (97 hectares) of land from Enover and we are continuing to negotiate transfers of further land, increasing our area of managed land, and increasing the areas accessible to the public. Transfer of Areas 5 and 6 is on hold due to an ongoing substantial reptile translocation project that Enover is undertaking. Work has also begun, contracted by Enover, to plant 37,000 trees and shrubs in an effort to kick start successional growth seen elsewhere on site. Enover will install a new Nature Park entrance and road in this area at some point in the future. We have drawn up detailed plans of how we need the land to be. Some of this will be part of the agreed section 106 commitments. We have regular meetings with Enover, at least every three months, and we are building a strong partnership.

Work on the new site plan is progressing, a workshop to develop a 50-100 years vision for the habitat development of the site was held in Q3, findings are being formulated to enable a management plan to be written. Once the habitat plan is ratified a vision for the visitors can be put together, ensuring that Nature and Wildlife is at the heart of future plans.

Maintaining the existing Nature Park

We will continue regular maintenance of the habitats and infrastructure as set out by the site management plan. This will achieve benefits for the important flora and fauna of the site and for people visiting the Nature Park. This involves looking after boundaries, paths, tracks, hides, buildings, and their security.

Conservation Work

We will continue to manage the grassland through grazing, cutting, and haying, to create a diverse sward, controlling invasive species. We will continue to manage our translocation areas to provide optimum conditions. This will include adding logs and aggregate to hibernacula and planting thorny hedgerow shrubs to keep cattle from trampling piles. This will also improve the security of the site.

We will manage the trees and scrub on site to create a mosaic of age structures that will support a diverse range of species.

Access for all

As we take on new leased areas, we will install way-marker posts to ensure that visitors can make the most of the newly accessible areas. We will continue to maintain the amenity areas around the site to encourage visitors to use the picnic and play areas. Plans are underway to install a new picnic area and car park facilities adjacent to Golden Gates Lake on site.

Health and Safety

This will continue to be a priority at the site; checks are programmed throughout the year in accordance with the Site Audit, the Operations Manual, and Risk assessment procedures. As a result of the 2023 Health and Safety Audit, the recommendations were implemented.

Events

We will work to engage with the public where possible through events. The Rangers will continue to lead a varied programme of walks throughout the year to ensure visitors leave the site with a better understanding of its ecological importance. The Rangers will continue to support the delivery of the Nature Discovery Centre events programme to encourage greater use of the site, particularly by our biggest customer group, the local community.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also directors of Thameside Nature Park for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these 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 2019 (FRS 102);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the

prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

So far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware. Additionally, the trustees have taken all the necessary steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of all relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

Following a review of audit services at the end of 2024, Moore Kingston Smith LLP were appointed as auditors for the accounts of 2024, at the Emergency General Meeting of Essex Wildlife Trust in February 2025.

In accordance with the company's articles, a resolution proposing that Moore Kingston Smith LLP be re-appointed as auditors will be put at a General Meeting.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies entitled to the small companies exemption.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD:

R Yates - Chair



Date: 31/07/2025

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Thameside Nature Park

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Thameside Nature Park (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 December 2024 which comprise the Statement of Income and Expenditure, the Balance Sheet, and 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2024, and of its 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 company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC'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 company'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 other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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.

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 course of 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 themselves. 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.

Opinions on other matters 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- 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 company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' 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 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;
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies' exemption in preparing the trustees' report and from the requirement to prepare a strategic report

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 13, the trustees 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 company'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 company or to.

Auditor 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 aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purposes of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to

events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered 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.

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the company.

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the company and considered that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, Charities Act 2011, UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council, and UK taxation legislation.
- We obtained an understanding of how the company complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk

of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.

- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, 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 or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the 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 for no purpose other than to draw to the attention of the company's members those matters which we are required to include in an auditor's report addressed to them. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to any party other than the company and company's members as a body, for our work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Moore Kingston Smith LLP

Paul Springfield (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP, Statutory Auditor

Orbital House
20 Eastern Road
Romford, Essex
RM1 3PJ

13 August 2025

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

Statement of Financial Activities including Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31st December 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME					
Charitable Activities	2	2,703	361,127	363,830	303,814
Other		2,675	3,895	6,570	3,700
Total Income		5,378	365,022	370,400	307,514
EXPENDITURE					
Charitable Activities	4	13,199	146,716	159,915	135,141
Total Expenditure		13,199	146,716	159,915	135,141
NET INCOME		(7,821)	218,306	210,485	172,373
Transfer between funds		(238,255)	238,255	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(246,076)	456,561	210,485	172,373
Balance Brought forward at 1 st January 2024		520,692	144,193	664,885	492,512
Balance carried forward at 31 st December 2024	12	274,616	600,754	875,370	664,885

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

The notes on pages 22 to 31 form part of these financial statements

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2024

Company registration number: 07151955

		2024 £	2023 £
	Notes		
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	7	472,670	245,388
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	8	361,195	387,053
Cash at bank and in hand		46,195	43,396
Total Current Assets		407,390	430,449
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	9	(4,690)	(10,952)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		402,700	419,497
TOTAL NET ASSETS		875,370	664,885
CAPITAL AND RESERVES			
Unrestricted Funds		254,616	255,304
Designated Funds		20,000	265,388
Restricted Funds		600,754	144,193
TOTAL FUNDS	12	875,370	664,885

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

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

R Yates – Chair

 Date: 31/07/2025

J Dagley – Director

 Date: 31/07/2025

Approved and authorised for issue by the Board on

The notes on pages 21 to 30 form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Company information

Thameside Nature Park Limited is a limited company domiciled and incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Abbots Hall Farm, Great Wigborough, Colchester, Essex, CO5 7RZ.

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of listed investments which are included at their market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the 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 effective 1 January 2019 (The FRS 102 Charities SORP), the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest pound.

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Going concern

Having reviewed the company's financial forecasts and expected future cashflows, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and for a period of at least 12 months following the approval of these financial statements. Thus, the going concern basis has been adopted in preparing the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Funds

Unrestricted Funds are those which can be used for the general advancement of the objectives of Thameside Nature Park Limited. Designated Funds when shown are those designated for a specific purpose by the Trustees. Restricted Funds are those whereby the use is restricted by the donor.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life. As part of an overall review of fixed asset classifications and depreciation rates the following rates have been updated to represent a more accurate reflection of the underlying assets.

External works	10% on cost p.a.
Vehicles & attachments	20% on cost p.a.

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

Fixtures & fittings	20% on cost p.a.
Plant & equipment	20% on cost p.a.
Computer equipment	33.33% on cost p.a.
Office equipment	33.33% on cost p.a.

Assets under construction are included at cost value and are not depreciated until the point of completion is reached.

Grants receivable

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

Expenditure

Expenditure is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) on an accruals basis.

Charitable expenditure comprises direct costs in the deliverance of its activities and services in view of the small size of the charity all support costs relate to this activity.

Taxation

The Charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand and deposits held at call with banks.

Financial Instruments

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charitable company's accounting policies, the Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount 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.

Useful economic lives of tangible fixed assets

The annual depreciation charge for tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 7 for the carrying amount of the tangible fixed assets and note 1 for the useful economic lives for each class of asset.

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Grants and donations received						
The Mucking Charitable Trust	-	134,488	134,488	-	131,210	131,210
Agricultural Grants	2,703	-	2,703	9,503	-	9,503
Donations	-	-	-	6,312	-	6,312
National Highways Grant	-	-	-	-	156,789	156,789
SEEParks Grant	-	14,928	14,928	-	-	-
Golden Gates Grant	-	209,711	209,711	-	-	-
Coryton Grant	-	2,000	2,000	-	-	-
Total	2,703	361,127	363,830	15,815	287,999	303,814

Golden Gates grant was given to develop the site around the Golden Gates Lake, include bird hides, picnic area and car park.

SEEParks grant was given to a project connecting landscapes in south Essex from Coalhouse Fort to Fobbing Marshes. The project is a collaboration between adjoining land owners and Thurrock Council with the purpose of creating an accessible path through the Central Thames Marshes.

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

3. STAFF COSTS

	<u>2024</u> £	<u>2023</u> £
Wages & Salaries	65,130	55,443
Social Security costs	6,008	4,667
Other pension costs	2,686	2,798
Additional labour costs	-	(610)
	<u>73,824</u>	<u>62,298</u>

No employee earned in excess of £60,000 in the year (2023: none) The average number of employees during the year was 2.6 (2023: 2.1).

4. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestrict ed Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Direct Costs						
Salaries & related costs	12,467	61,357	73,824	-	62,298	62,298
Other staff costs	-	569	569	-	821	821
Property costs including Crown Cottage	-	6,418	6,418	-	4,324	4,324
Reserve maintenance and materials	-	12,278	12,278	-	13,663	13,663
Vehicle costs	-	6,411	6,411	-	814	814
Depreciation	732	40,433	41,165	183	34,311	34,494
Total Direct Costs	<u>13,199</u>	<u>127,466</u>	<u>140,665</u>	<u>183</u>	<u>116,231</u>	<u>116,414</u>
Support costs						
Administration expenses	-	292	292	1,154	146	1,300
Bank charges	-	106	106	-	50	50
Professional Fees	-	3,478	3,478	-	1,119	1,119
Intercompany recharges	-	10,712	10,712	-	11,736	11,736
Audit Fees	-	4,662	4,662	-	4,522	4,522
Total Support Costs	<u>-</u>	<u>19,250</u>	<u>19,250</u>	<u>1,154</u>	<u>17,573</u>	<u>18,727</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>13,199</u>	<u>146,716</u>	<u>159,915</u>	<u>1,337</u>	<u>133,804</u>	<u>135,141</u>

All support costs are in furtherance of the Charitable Activities.
Governance costs included above amount to £4,662 (2023: £4,522).

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

5. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
	£	£
Fees payable to the company's auditors for the audit of the company's annual accounts		
Auditors' remuneration - (Moore Kingston Smith) Audit	-	522
Auditors' remuneration - (Price Bailey) Audit	4,662	4,000
	<u>4,662</u>	<u>4,522</u>

6. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEMES

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for all qualifying employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund.

The charge to profit and loss in respect of defined contribution schemes was £2,686 (2023: £2,798). The pension costs are allocated to direct costs.

7. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	External Works	Plant and Equipment	Vehicles and Attachments	TOTAL
COST	£	£	£	£
At 1st January 2024	362,180	23,663	16,913	402,756
Additions	266,807	-	1,920	268,727
Disposals	-	-	(1,399)	(1,399)
At 31st December 2024	628,987	23,663	17,434	670,084
DEPRECIATION				
At 1st January 2024	139,865	5,281	12,222	157,368
Charge for year	33,607	4,310	3,248	41,165
Disposals	-	-	(1,119)	(1,119)
At 31st December 2024	173,472	9,591	14,351	197,414
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31st December 2024	455,515	14,072	3,083	472,670
At 31st December 2023	222,315	18,382	4,691	245,388

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

8. DEBTORS

	<u>2024</u> £	<u>2023</u> £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Amounts owed by Group Undertakings	342,509	373,852
Other debtors	<u>18,686</u>	<u>13,201</u>
	<u>361,195</u>	<u>387,053</u>

9. CREDITORS

	<u>2024</u> £	<u>2023</u> £
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade Creditors	259	2,672
Other creditors	<u>4,431</u>	<u>8,280</u>
	<u>4,690</u>	<u>10,952</u>

10. CONTINGENT LIABILITY

The company is part of a group VAT registration and is therefore potentially liable for VAT liabilities of the other members of the VAT group, which consist of the parent company and its subsidiaries. As at 31 December 2024, the VAT liability of the group was £12,977 (2023: £18,108), Thameside Nature Park had a year end debtor balance of £3,567 (2023: £4,943).

11. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

At 31st December 2024, the charity had contracted capital commitments of £277,390 (2023:£nil) relating to the SEEParks project.

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

12. ANALYSIS OF FUNDS

2024

	Balance 01 January 2024	Increases in funds	Decreases in funds	Transfers	Balance 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>					
Free reserves	255,304	5,378	(12,467)	(38,939)	209,276
General fixed assets reserve	-	-	(732)	46,072	45,340
Total Unrestricted Funds	255,304	5,378	(13,199)	7,133	254,616
<u>Designated Funds</u>					
Opportunity reserve	20,000	-	-	-	20,000
General fixed assets reserve	7,133	-	-	(7,133)	-
MCT funded fixed assets	91,419	-	-	(91,419)	-
National Highways funded fixed assets	146,836	-	-	(146,836)	-
Total Designated Funds	265,388	-	-	(245,388)	20,000
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
MCT reserves	94,193	138,383	(103,782)	(5,371)	123,423
MCT funded fixed assets	-	-	(25,457)	96,790	71,333
Golden Gates grant	-	209,711	-	(209,711)	-
Golden Gates fixed assets	-	-	-	209,711	209,711
Coryton grant	-	2,000	(2,000)	-	-
SEEParks grant	-	14,928	(500)	(14,428)	-
SEEParks fixed assets	-	-	-	14,428	14,428
National Highways funded fixed assets	-	-	(14,977)	146,836	131,859
Road Repair Reserve	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Total Restricted Funds	144,193	365,022	(146,716)	238,255	600,754
Total Reserves	664,885	370,400	(159,915)	-	875,370

THAMESIDE NATURE PARK LIMITED

2023	Restated balance 01 January 2023	Increases in funds	Decreases in funds	Transfers	Balance 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
<u>Unrestricted Funds</u>					
Free reserves	307,467	16,315	(1,154)	(67,324)	255,304
Total Unrestricted Funds	307,467	16,315	(1,154)	(67,324)	255,304
<u>Designated Funds</u>					
Opportunity reserve	-	-	-	20,000	20,000
General fixed assets reserve	-	-	(183)	7,316	7,133
MCT funded fixed assets	-	-	-	4,589	91,419
National Highways funded fixed assets	86,830	-	-	146,836	146,836
Total Designated Funds	86,830	-	(183)	178,741	265,388
Total Unrestricted Funds	394,297	16,315	(1,337)	111,417	520,692
<u>Restricted Funds</u>					
MCT Reserves	59,276	131,210	(120,651)	24,358	94,193
Road repair reserve	38,939	-	-	11,061	50,000
National Highways fixed assets	-	159,989	(13,153)	(146,836)	-
Total Restricted Funds	98,215	291,199	(133,804)	(111,417)	144,193
Total Reserves	492,512	307,514	(135,141)	-	664,885

Unrestricted Funds are available for general allocation to Thameside Nature Park works and projects not covered by any specific restricted funds.

Designated Funds are set and managed by the Trustees to allocate funds towards future work or areas of activities.

Opportunity Reserve allocation of funds readily available to investigate new ventures that might be explored during the year.

The **MCT Restricted Fund** represents the balance of funds provided for the management and maintenance of the Nature Park. The funds are received through annual grant funding from Mucking Charitable Trust, who manage the long-term fund.

Other Restricted Funds relate to grants received for specific projects on the site that support work that falls outside of the management and maintenance work covered by MCT funding.

13. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

2024

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Tangible fixed assets	45,340	427,330	472,670
Current assets	229,276	178,114	407,390
Current liabilities	-	(4,690)	(4,690)
Total net assets	274,616	600,754	875,370

2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
Tangible fixed assets	245,388	-	245,388
Current assets	275,304	155,145	430,449
Current liabilities	-	(10,952)	(10,952)
Total net assets	520,692	144,193	664,885

14. ULTIMATE PARENT COMPANY

The Trustees regard Essex Wildlife Trust Limited, a company (00638666) and charity (210065) registered in England and Wales, to be the ultimate parent company.

The principal activity of Essex Wildlife Trust Limited is to advance, promote and further the conservation, maintenance and protection of nature reserves across the county of Essex.

The smallest and largest group of undertakings for which group accounts have been drawn up is that headed by Essex Wildlife Trust Limited.

Copies of the consolidated financial statements of Essex Wildlife Trust Limited are available from Abbots Hall Farm, Great Wigborough, Colchester, Essex, CO5 7RZ.

15. COMPANY STATUS

The charity is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital. In the event of the winding up, under the terms of the Memorandum of Association each member guarantees to contribute a sum not exceeding £10.

16. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND GROUP TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

During the year charges of £10,712 (2023: £11,736) were made to the charity by Essex Wildlife Trust Limited, the parent charity. Included in debtors is £342,509 (2022: £373,852) due from Essex Wildlife Trust Limited.

17. PRIOR PERIOD STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2023 £
INCOME				
Charitable Activities	2	15,815	287,999	303,814
Investments		-	-	-
Other		500	3,200	3,700
Total Income		16,315	291,199	307,514
EXPENDITURE				
Charitable Activities	4	1,337	133,804	135,141
Total Expenditure		1,337	133,804	135,141
NET INCOME		14,978	157,395	172,373
Transfer between funds		111,417	(111,417)	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		126,395	45,978	172,373
Balance Brought forward at 1 st January 2023 (restated)		394,297	98,215	492,512
Balance carried forward at 31 st December 2023	10	520,692	144,193	664,885