# BIRDS OF POOLE HARBOUR

England & Wales · Charity number 1152615

## Details

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|---|---|
| **Status** | Registered |
| **Legal form** | CIO |
| **Registered** | 2013-06-27 |
| **Register** | View on the Charity Commission register |

## Contact

| | |
|---|---|
| **Address** | Carey House<br>Carey<br>Wareham<br>Dorset<br>BH20 7PG |
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| **Website** | www.birdsofpooleharbour.co.uk |

## Activities

**Objects:** THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE TO PROVIDE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ON THE BIRDS OF POOLE HARBOUR AND THEIR PROTECTION THROUGH AN INTERACTIVE WEBSITE, GUIDED WALKS, SCHOOL BOAT TRIPS, PUBLIC TALKS AND OTHER PROJECTS WITHIN POOLE HARBOUR AND SURROUNDING AREAS.

**Activities:** Our aim is to boost the profile of bird conservation, preservation and observation in and around Poole Harbour via our School Bird Boat Education Program, public monthly field trips, conservation work/projects, wildlife tours , specially commissioned surveys, utilising our Engagement Centre on Poole Quay to help promote our work and selling a small range of goods.

## Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Education/training, Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** Children/young People, The General Public/mankind

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## Geography

- Dorset

## Finances

| Period end | Income | Expenditure | Assets | Employees |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2025-03-31 | £360,044 | £346,726 | - | - |
| 2024-03-31 | £306,755 | £261,122 | - | - |
| 2023-03-31 | £252,643 | £245,170 | - | - |
| 2022-03-31 | £218,293 | £318,626 | - | - |
| 2021-03-31 | £183,812 | £256,050 | - | - |

## Trustees

| Name | Role | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| **PAUL MORTON** | Chair | 2013-05-10 |
| Ian Alexander | | 2022-12-13 |
| Margaret Joan Constantine | | 2023-03-21 |
| Sam Christopher Jolliffe | | 2023-04-05 |

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**BIRDS OF POOLE HARBOUR**

England & Wales - Charity number 1152615

# Accounts

Company registration number: CE000516

Charity registration number: 1152615

# Birds of Poole Harbour

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

## Annual Report and Financial Statements
## Year Ended 31 March 2025

Charity registration number: 1152615

# Birds of Poole Harbour

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# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable incorporated organisation for the year ended 31 March 2025.

### Objects:

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Birds of Poole Harbour is a CIO based in Dorset, dedicated to understanding, improving and interpreting the local birdlife through delivering local conservation and outreach projects with national impact. We became established as a charity in 2013, with the core objectives of:

• Delivering innovative and high-impact conservation projects focused on reversing ecological population decline as well as initiating habitat creation with project partners.

• Delivering a calendar of public engagement events, outreach programmes including school education programs, and improving engagement infrastructure across the Poole Harbour area.

• Developing a working knowledge of the bird populations and habitats within the Poole Harbour area through commissioning and conducting studies and surveys

### Introduction:

*From Paul Morton, Chair of Trustees, and Liv Elwood, Charity Manager*

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Once again, we have had our most successful year to date for Birds of Poole Harbour, thanks to our dedicated team and generous supporters. With our strengthened structure and increased size of our staff team, we have been able to build on previous years' successes and continue to grow, particularly in the scale of our public outreach. A testament to this success was the recognition we received at the Dorset Tourism Awards 2024/25, where we won the Gold Award for Experience of the Year for our Osprey Cruises.

The Osprey Project has had another fantastic year, with the pair at Careys Secret Garden successfully rearing four chicks, and another pair prospecting as a result of the translocation project. With improvements to the Osprey webcams, we have seen a fantastic number of people engaging with the nest at Careys' this year, benefiting also from upscaling the tours running in partnership with Careys Secret Garden.

We are also proud to have set up our new Young Birders Club, with support from the Cameron Bespolka Trust, to provide more free opportunities for young people to engage with nature and our local landscape. It has had excellent uptake and is a project we intend to grow year-on-year.

Looking ahead to 2025/26, we will be bringing on our seasonal Engagement and Projects Assistant, Mya, into our permanent team, helping us continue this growth in our engagement work and expand the impact of our conservation projects.

## Who we are:

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**Our Vision:**

***Inspiring hope for nature***

Our vision is simple: that we are able to inspire people through our project work and educational events, so that they feel hopeful for the future of nature in Poole Harbour and beyond. Local nature recovery projects and high-quality, informative events delivered with passion and enthusiasm are essential to achieving this vision.

**Our Mission:**

To innovate and deliver bold projects and educational events that benefit Poole Harbour's birdlife and local community.

**Our Values:**

*Authentic:* Birds of Poole Harbour (BoPH) was founded by people deeply passionate about Poole Harbour's birdlife, and this passion resonates throughout our team and volunteers. We value the individual personalities and opinions of each of our staff and what they bring to their roles. We speak up for what we care about and believe in.

*Kind:* We strive to always be kind, whether it's to our environment, employees or customers. We appreciate that everyone comes from different backgrounds, has various levels of experience and knowledge, and are joining our events for their own reasons. We seek to make everyone feel welcome and ensure that they get the most out of our events.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

*Ambitious:* Our ambition is two-fold. Firstly, we aim to be innovative and bold with the projects that we deliver to support our birdlife and the local environment. Secondly, we are driven to run our events to the highest possible standard, working hard to keep our information up to date, interesting, and engaging for all who attend.

*Effective:* We operate as a small team, so being effective is essential. We don't want to waste time or money getting tied up with unnecessary bureaucracy. We want to identify ways we can support our local environment and its community, and make it happen.

### Our Impact:

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**Conservation Projects:**

**Poole Harbour Osprey Project**

The 2024 Osprey breeding season was the best we could have possibly hoped for. For the first time ever, our resident breeding pair raised four chicks. This is an incredible achievement for the project as all four were male, meaning there's a high chance one or two will return to the Poole Harbour area to breed in future years. Not only did we achieve success here within Poole Harbour, we also learnt that another of our male Ospreys from the reintroduction program started setting up a territory at a new location. To aid the potential success of this new territory, we liaised with a sympathetic landowner who allowed us to build an Osprey platform on his land. This had an immediate effect as our male Osprey, ring number 374, immediately paired up with a Rutland female, ring number 1H1, and started nest building on the new nest during August 2024. Although this was too late for a breeding attempt, it's an incredibly positive sign that this pair may attempt to breed at this location in spring 2025.



Trustee Paul Morton ringing the 2024 Osprey chicks

## Trustees' Report

We also reached another milestone when our first ever wild fledged chick from the Carey Secret Garden nest, female 5H1, returned for the first time as she spent the summer roaming the country visiting Poole Harbour, the East Midlands and multiple sites in Wales. This is another great sign that she'll look to set up a territory somewhere in the country next spring, meaning that we could start to see multi-generational success within our project. We also saw success in Wales where three of our females from the reintroduction program nested at various sites, providing the connectivity between populations that we hoped would happen. We decided to hold off carrying out the Osprey translocation once again in 2024 due to the fact our local pair were raising 4 young so close to our original release site. We'll continue to monitor the situation because we may find ourselves in the position over the next few years that we have enough 'wild nests' within the landscape, producing enough youngsters to re-establish the population without having to collect more Osprey chicks from Scotland.



Female Osprey CJ7 protecting her first egg on the nest, taken via Birds of Poole Harbour livestream webcam



2024 Brood: L to R: 5R2, 5H6, 5R1 and 5R0 then 022 and CJ7

### Brittany's PhD

In 2024/25, Brittany made excellent progress towards her PhD, completing analysis for her first PhD chapter and writing up her results and methods. Her supervisors, Prof Richard Stillman, Prof Ross Hill, Dr Pippa Gillingham and Dr Tim Mackrill, were all pleased with her progress and were confident that she would be able to submit at least one paper to a journal in the next academic year, to disseminate the research.

Brittany also applied skills she has gained through her PhD to further our work in other areas of the charity, particularly in the population and habitat analysis for our Purbeck Chough Reintroduction Feasibility Study. Additionally, in November, she gave a presentation at the British Ornithologists Union (BOU) Conservation Translocation conference about the Poole Harbour Osprey Reintroduction Project: the first time the charity has given a talk at an official academic conference. This will help to build wider contacts within the sector and to raise greater awareness of the charity and our work nationally.

**Recovering Populations:**

**Dorset Swift Communities**

Introduction from 2023/24: In February 2023, the Dorset Swift Network was established to coordinate monitoring of Swift populations in Dorset and their conservation. The network comprises of conservation partners across Dorset, including BoPH, BCP Council, Dorset Council, Dorset Bird Club, Christchurch Harbour Ornithological Group, Purbeck and Swanage Swift Group, Dorchester Bird Club, Dorset Wildlife Trust, the Parks Foundation and Wimborne Swifts.

From 2024-2025, the Dorset Swift Network continued to provide an important opportunity for groups to share contacts and advice for Swift box installation, conservation, and public engagement. Back in 2023, we fundraised through the Aviva Save our Wild Isles Fund, raising £9,705. The funding criteria stated that the majority of the money must be spent in areas of higher deprivation, to benefit local communities. Data from Swift Mapper and Indices of Multiple Deprivation were used to produce priority postcodes.



Swift Boxes Installed on Poole Museum



Swift Network Partnership Image

Between 2024-2025, £1,218 was spent, primarily on engagement materials like 250 leaflets and 2 'Welcome back Swifts' banners for Swanage and Wareham Swifts. We also purchased 40 Swift boxes from John Stimpson for distribution to the network. The annual Swift Awareness Week provided an opportunity for Swift Groups to engage with their local communities through talks, walks, and surveying opportunities.

Looking ahead to 2025/2026, we plan to launch a free Swift box initiative, having purchased 100 boxes from John Stimpson for delivery over Autumn/Winter. Boxes and callers will be available free of charge for houses in priority areas and delivered by the relevant local Swift Group.

**Purbeck Chough Reintroduction Feasibility Study**

Since 2022, we have been working with the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation, Natural England and the National Trust to create a Purbeck Chough Reintroduction Feasibility Study. Throughout this financial year, we continued working on this document, particularly focusing on developing the methodology for the translocation of wild Chough. In June, Brittany and Liv visited the Kent Chough Reintroduction Project to see the captive rearing and release site facilities and learn from the husbandry approaches used there. We also sought other expert feedback, giving updates at the Southern England Steering Group and presenting our findings in online talks for the Welsh Chough Group, Scottish Chough Forum and a poster at the British Ornithological Union (BOU) Conservation Translocation conference. This also formed part of our efforts to establish contact with those monitoring potential source populations. Brittany and Sam visited Jane Hodges and Bob Haycock in Pembrokeshire and Tony Cross in Mid-Wales in March to see Chough in a suitable habitat and discuss the potential for sourcing birds from Wales.

**Surveys:**

**WeBS (Wetland Bird Survey)**

The Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) scheme is managed nationally by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), assessing the health of important wetland bird populations across the UK, including Poole Harbour, through volunteer-led surveys. The winter assemblage of wetland birds in Poole Harbour is a qualifying feature of the Poole Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA), and so it is important that WeBS is accurately coordinated and carried out each winter.

Birds of Poole Harbour manage these surveys, giving us the opportunity to also educate the public about the importance of WeBS and the impact of citizen science projects on protecting our local landscape. The surveys themselves are carried out by 32 dedicated volunteers, many of whom have been involved for over 10 years. Their contributions to the WeBS surveys directly contribute to Poole Harbour's ongoing protection and designation.

## Our Impact: Public Engagement and Education

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### School Bird Boat Project

We have been delivering the School Bird boat Project since the charity was founded, and view it as one of our most important pieces of engagement work. During the winter and early spring, we offer local primary schools free 2-hour harbour boat trips, including travel to and from Poole Quay. With an ever-improving landscape, we feel it's our duty to not only inspire and enthuse the general public, but to also inform and showcase this remarkable place to local school children. Over the last few years these trips have evolved dramatically as we're now able to show the children the direct results of various conservation projects including hunting Ospreys and fly-by White-tailed Eagles. This is now starting to change the baseline understanding for what local children consider as 'normal' within their home areas. White-tailed Eagles and Ospreys have been absent from this landscape for centuries. However, these children will now grow up having experienced these iconic species as being a part of their natural heritage, effectively re-setting a historic environmental injustice.



Local Primary School Children enjoying a School Bird Boat

## Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

On every trip this season we showed the children one or more of; White-tailed Eagle, Marsh Harrier, Peregrine Falcon or Osprey. These exciting and charismatic species will hopefully demonstrate nature recovery and the importance of conservation to all the children on these trips, with memories they will never forget.

Education is a significant part of these trips. Each child receives their own pair of binoculars for the duration of the trip, bringing them even closer to the birds. We demonstrate and discuss with all the children the bountiful nature of Poole Harbour, the important protections, and the busy human aspects of the area as well. Each child learns to identify a range of birds, interesting facts about the harbour and nature recovery, while also having the opportunity to complete worksheets after the trips. All of this works to give the children an engaging and inspiring outdoor education experience focused on nature and birds.

We were able to run these trips free of charge again this year thanks to generous sponsorship from cosmetics company Lush. This funding covered the cost of the boat and coach hire, allowing children from local schools to attend free of charge. Lush has kindly confirmed that they will continue to sponsor the School Bird Boat Project in 2025-26.

Over the 2024-25 School Bird Boat Season, we carried out a total of 23 trips, engaging with 1288 children as part of the funded project and ran a further 3 trips for schools outside of the project.

**Young Birders**

In September 2024, we launched a brand new project for young people, a Poole Harbour Young Birders Club. This club aims to bring together a community of like-minded 13-18-year-olds, interested in birding and conservation. Each month, we've put on an exciting event based around birding, nature recovery or conservation, all completely free to the young people.





Young Birders Events - Left: YB Ringing Demo in October 2024 Right: YB Winter Safari in January 2025

The project has been very kindly supported for 1 year by the Cameron Bespolka Trust, who do a huge amount of work with young people and nature. They have provided funding to allow us to run the project, host the events and provide equipment and transport.

We've hosted a whole range of events aimed at giving young people the opportunity to learn and access nature in a welcoming manner. These have included Bird Ringing Demonstrations, a Birds and Conservation Cruise, Wild Woodbury Rewilding site visit, Brownsea Island Visit and more guided bird walks

In the 2024/25 season, we had over 90 young people sign up, and we ran six young birders events. The project will continue to grow and develop, engaging with more young people and running more inspiring events.

**Our Event Schedule**

Our education and engagement events have expanded significantly over the past few years, educating and inspiring a wide range of people. We feel this is such an important part of nature conservation, by providing uplifting, educational engagement, we are hopefully encouraging more and more people to care about nature's recovery. Not only this, but also benefiting people's learning and mental wellbeing, providing connection and access to nature.

## Birds of Poole Harbour

### Trustees' Report

People are now travelling from across the country to see and learn about the pioneering nature recovery work taking place here, whether it be species reintroductions, rewilding projects, or landscape-scale nature recovery. Our events interpret this nature recovery in an inspiring, educational way by providing examples of species recovery in action, such as Osprey, White-tailed Eagle, and Spoonbill. We show people these charismatic species of conservation importance while interpreting identification, ecology and conservation in a relaxed and informative manner. We now know that a large proportion (around 51%) of people travel from outside Dorset to attend our events, and many stay for multiple nights in the local area, with the primary reason for travel being to attend a BoPH trip.



Top left: Holes Bay Pop Up Watch - January 2025. Top right: Autumn Safari - October 2024. Bottom left: White Tailed Sea Eagle - Mark Wright. Bottom right: Unringed Osprey spotted from Osprey Cruise - August 2024, Mark Wright.

In the 2024/25 season, we carried out more public engagement events than ever before, running a total of 305 paid events, including 113 boat trips, engaging with 8533 people. In addition to our paid public events, we think it's essential to offer a certain number of free events to make BoPH events accessible to all. This year (aside from all our youth engagement events), we held 13 free pop-up watches focused on Osprey and Eagle Watches or Winter Bird ID hotspots, as well as 9 free urban birding walks.

## Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

As our event programme has grown and the number of people we are engaging with, it has been excellent to receive awards for our work and events. In February 2025, we were awarded the Gold Award for Experience of the Year at the Dorset Tourism Awards. This is a testament to the hard work of the entire team, and to the impact our events are having, both on high-quality education and on ecotourism in our local area. We were also awarded the TripAdvisor Traveller's Choice award for the third year running.



### Online Engagement and Sightings

Through our website and social media, we keep the public informed about our project work and local bird news, and provide an opportunity for thousands of people to engage with wildlife via our webcams.

### Website & Sightings Blog

We aim for our website to be a hub of valuable information to a range of people interested in wildlife and birds. In addition to providing extensive information about local birding sites, it is regularly updated with blogs about the Osprey project, keeping the public up to date on the project's progress and the nesting pair.

Our sightings blog is completed daily, highlighting bird records from around the harbour in an accessible way and showing the importance of our local area for nature and as a birding destination. The blog is an essential part of public engagement, encouraging birders to report their local sightings and providing write-ups of the wildlife we experience during our events. It is also a valuable resource for revisiting historical accounts and comparing annual records of bird sightings. We plan to update the website in 2025 to make key information easier to find and better promote the charity.

## Birds of Poole Harbour

### Trustees' Report

Facebook continues to be a popular platform for us to storytell, with 14k+ followers actively engaging in our posts. We've also started utilising Instagram and TikTok, which has generated a new set of followers and audiences, which is being converted into new customers onto our events. On Jan 1st 2024, we decided to leave Twitter due to the negative change in content and algorithms that were being seen on our feed, and have since been using BlueSky, which is a much more welcoming platform and seems to be building in popularity.




White Tailed Sea Eagle - Harry McBride

**Livestream Webcams**

Our Osprey nest web cameras continued to be an important source of engagement, enjoyed by thousands of people online, and shown in schools, offices, libraries, shops, and hospital waiting rooms. We received lovely feedback about the well-being impact of the cameras from several members of the public, including several people who had been bedridden for several months and said that the livestreams had helped them through this challenging period. A teacher of students with Special Educational Needs also said that she played the footage to her class at the beginning of each day, and that it had such a calming influence on them that other teachers asked her what it was she was doing to help the students.

The Brownsea cameras were streamed throughout the year, but continue to suffer from dropouts due to power and network outages and the remote location. Both cameras were taken offline on several occasions between October and January whilst the Dorset Wildlife Trust carried out upgrades to their hide and path infrastructure on Brownsea Lagoon, and in February, they remained off due to essential electrical works taking place on the island.

The Carey feeder camera connection was lost during a storm, and we were unable to restore it, which likely caused damage to one or more pieces of equipment. This could not be fixed before the end of the winter. So this was a good opportunity to look for an alternative location for the feeding station and camera, which we will aim to set up in the next financial year, pending funding.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Our Team & Partnerships:

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#### Our Staff & Trustee Board

#### Staff

Mya Bambrick joined the team in April 2024 to support events, and later assisted with the Dorset Swift Communities Project. Mya brings a wealth of previous experience in youth engagement, including serving as a Youth Representative for the British Trust for Ornithology in Dorset and Sussex, a Council member of the Sussex Ornithological Society for over 6 years, and having shaped the Sussex Wildlife Trust's Youth Engagement Strategy. Over the Summer, she led many of the Carey Osprey Tours and assisted with all events, including our Young Birders Club.

#### Trustees

There were no changes to the trustee board in 2024/25. Thank you to all of our trustees for the time they give to support Birds of Poole Harbour.

#### Volunteers

Much of the work that we do as a charity is achieved with the support of our generous volunteers, including on our Osprey Project, School Bird Boat Project and Young Birders Club. We are extremely grateful for the huge effort made this year, with the following hours given by our team of volunteers:

- Osprey project
    - Monitoring: 508 hours
    - Events: 759 hours including Osprey Tours (492 hours), Pop-ups (33 hours) and Cruises (234 hrs)
- School Bird Boat and Young Birders hours
    - 144 hours

## Trustees' Report

### Partnership Working

Developing strong partnerships is an essential part of our charity's work, ensuring we work towards a common goal with organisations to benefit both wildlife and people in the local area. We have highlighted some of the key partnerships that have played an essential role in our work this year.

***Greenslade Pleasure Boats*:** We strengthened our relationship with our boat providers this year, with Greenslade Pleasure Boats continuing to deliver our public trips, and taking on our School Bird Boat delivery for the 2024-25 season. We are continually grateful for the high standard of service that Greenslades deliver, allowing us to take pride in the way we run our events with them.

***Wareham Arc*:** Birds of Poole Harbour have sat on the PACEE and Species Recovery sub-groups for the Wareham Arc Landscape Recovery Project planning phase. We are very supportive of this ambitious initiative and look forward to being involved in 2025-26.

***Careys Secret Garden*:** We delivered several events in partnership with Careys Secret Garden this year, including our new Carey Osprey Tours, as well as ringing demonstrations and Osprey-themed events for their Migration Festival in January. *(Image: Ringing Demo for National Trust at Careys Secret Garden)*

***Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation*:** The Foundation is a long-standing partner of Birds of Poole Harbour, being key partners in the Osprey Project. This year, our relationship has further developed through our work on the Purbeck Chough feasibility study.

***Stour Ringing Group*:** We delivered our Sunnyside Ringing Demos in partnership with Stour Ringing Group again this year, with the group receiving a share of the profit made from these educational events. We're grateful for their support with these events, which wouldn't be possible without them.

***Forestry England:*** The White-tailed Eagle reintroduction has been a huge success already, galvanising people's excitement for nature recovery. The project was a joint project between Forestry England and the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation. During the course of the year we welcome the Eagle Project team, Steve Eggerton-Read and Imogen Lloyd onto our cruises to talk about the project and how their work complements ours here in Poole Harbour.

## Birds of Poole Harbour

### Trustees' Report

***The National Trust:*** The National Trust Purbeck team are responsible for a whole range of great projects in and around the Purbeck landscape. They're also significant landowners in this area; therefore, we've decided to partner with the NT Purbeck team for our proposed chough reintroduction. We've worked closely with their team to identify suitable release sites and to help build relationships with the Cornish NT teams.

**Financial Overview:**

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**Summary of Income**

With growing public interest in the charity and our events, we've had a hugely successful year, allowing us to make a greater impact than ever before. This year marked our best performance to date in terms of engagement and event income, with a 66% increase in gross profit from events compared to the previous year.

The growth was primarily driven by a 40% increase in public boat income compared to the prior financial year. We also saw a significant rise in attendance and public interest in our guided Carey Osprey Tours, run in partnership with Careys Secret Garden, resulting in a 157% increase in revenue. We aim to continue offering these tours as interest in the nesting Ospreys grows, providing a unique opportunity for people to learn about these special birds in the setting of Careys Secret Garden.

Our corporate event offering also expanded, delivering a 55% increase in revenue compared to last year. Paid talks proved increasingly popular, generating a 106% rise in income. Additionally, changes in staff availability allowed us to run more courses and Nightjar walks this year, which contributed to an average revenue increase of 109%.

Income from donations and fundraising decreased by 15%, but this had minimal impact due to the substantial increase in event revenue. Birds of Poole Harbour does not employ professional fundraisers for its activities; as a result, with a busy event schedule, it can be challenging to allocate time to fundraising research and applications.

| Data for Chart | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Report Categories** | **2024/2025** | **2023/2024** |
| Public Cruises | £204,926 | £146,838 |
| Carey Osprey Tours | £27,202 | £10,568 |
| Corporate & Private Events | £12,460 | £7,662 |
| All Other Events | £8,216 | £7,544 |
| Merchandise and Other | £4,012 | £257 |
| | £256,816 | £172,869 |

**Summary of Expenditure**

The most significant cost increase was due to staff salaries. This has resulted in a 42% increase in salary costs from £116,833 in 23/24 to £165,397 in 24/25. However, this was a sound investment for BoPH as without the team and all their knowledge, expertise and hard work, we wouldn't have been able to deliver such an extensive events and engagement schedule, and maintain a high quality of project work. Our cost of sales for events increased by nearly 23% compared to the previous year, primarily due to the delivery of more boat trips, which led to higher boat-hire costs.

To mitigate some of these increased costs, we increased our cruise ticket prices at the start of 2025, keeping them still at excellent value for money, as was shown in our customer feedback.

Our office spaces continue to be generously provided to us as a gift in kind, which means our overheads remain low. Despite the cost increases, the overall retained earnings (profit) from our events still increased by 66% compared to 2023/24, and our financial position continues to strengthen year on year.

| **Expenditure** | **2024/2025** |
|---|---|
| Salaries | £165,937 |
| Cost of Sales | £76,978 |
| Project Costs | £25,804 |
| General Expenses | £53,268 |
| Professional Fees | £11,918 |
| Other (Bank Fees and Depreciation) | £13,001 |
| **Total** | **£346,726** |

**Retrospective VAT Registration**

Due to a misunderstanding of the complex VAT rules governing taxable supplies for charities, including the Tour Operators Margin Scheme (TOMS), we mistakenly relied on historical advice indicating that a significant proportion of our supplies were outside the scope of VAT.

Our external auditors identified this error during their examination of the 2023–24 annual accounts. We acted promptly to clarify our position and provide full disclosure to HMRC. The correct effective date of registration was determined to be 1 September 2023.

Given the complexity of the TOMS rules, we engaged specialist third-party advisors to assist with the VAT calculations for our initial return.

We subsequently wrote to HMRC to explain our circumstances and to request that any penalties be waived. HMRC formally advised us that they did not intend to take any action against BoPH in this matter.

To ensure ongoing compliance, we will annually review our VAT position with the support of specialist advisors.

## Fundraising & Reserves

### Fundraising

Our most significant fundraising income is generated online, primarily through our website using JustGiving Checkout, and via specific campaigns hosted on the JustGiving Fundraising platform. We also fundraise at our events using donation buckets and portable card machines, all of which are optional and entirely donor-led.

In 2024/25, we ran multiple fundraisers throughout the year via JustGiving, alongside our JustGiving Checkout, which allows supporters to make either regular or one-off donations.

For our Osprey Project fundraiser, donors could contribute through our public JustGiving page or directly via the JustGiving Checkout on our website. Thanks to their generosity, we raised £2,615 in total.

We also launched a public JustGiving campaign in December to raise funds for new optics for our Schools' Birds Boat Project, which successfully generated £1,645 for the charity.

In addition, our General Appeal through JustGiving Checkout raised £7,890 in unrestricted funds.

Through Gift Aid, we reclaimed a total of £15,058 this year. Please note that this figure does not necessarily relate solely to fundraising activities undertaken in 2024/25, as Gift Aid claims can take a significant amount of time to process and be received.

Birds of Poole Harbour does not employ professional fundraisers and does not operate a membership scheme.

### Reserves Statement

Birds of Poole Harbour has established a reserves policy whereby unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets should be maintained at a level sufficient to address the red flag risks identified in our Risk Register. This amount is currently set at £47,287.

## Trustees' Report

Looking ahead to 2025/26, as our team continues to grow, we aim to increase our reserves to cover approximately 3 months of staff salaries, thereby enhancing the charity's financial resilience.

### Acknowledgements

Thank you to all our supporters who have donated to the charity or attended our events this year. Special thanks to the following people and organisations for their donations and support this year.

- The Beryl Evetts & Robert Luff Animal Trust
- Lush Cosmetics Ltd
- Love it Local
- Mark and Mo Constantine
- Mike Allen
- BTO
- Greenslades Pleasure Boats
- Excelsior Coaches
- Stour Ringing Group
- Dorset Tourism Awards
- Careys Secret Garden
- DeterTech
- Dorset Bird Club
- Dorset Police
- Dorset Wildlife Trust
- Lord Rockley Trust
- Roy Dennis Foundation
- National Trust
- Natural England
- Fundación Vida Silvestre Mediterránea (FVSM)
- Wild Justice
- The Cameron Bespolka Trust
- Opticron
- Osprey Europe
- BCP Council

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

**Small companies provision statement**
This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 8 January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Paul Morton
Chairman

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

## Reference and Administrative Details

| | |
|---|---|
| **Chairman** | Paul Morton |
| **Trustees** | Ian Alexander<br>Margaret Constantine<br>Sam Jolliffe |
| **Charity Registration Number** | 1152615<br><br>The charity is incorporated in England and Wales. |
| **Principal Office** | Carey House<br>Carey<br>Wareham<br>Dorset<br>BH20 7PG |
| **Independent Examiner** | PKF Francis Clark<br>Accountants and Statutory Auditors<br>Towngate House<br>2 - 8 Parkstone Road<br>Poole<br>Dorset<br>BH15 2PW |
| **Bankers** | Co-Operative Bank<br>1 Baloon Street<br>Manchester<br>M4 4BE<br><br>Metro Bank<br>One Southampton Row<br>London<br>WC1B 5HA |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

**Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Birds of Poole Harbour for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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 incorporated organisation and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable incorporated organisation for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable incorporated organisation 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.

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

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 8 January 2026 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Paul Morton
Chairman

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Birds of Poole Harbour ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2025.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of Birds of Poole Harbour (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Birds of Poole Harbour are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Birds of Poole Harbour as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

.....
Adrian Way FCA (a Director of) PKF Francis Clark
Accountants and Statutory Auditors

Towngate House
2 - 8 Parkstone Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2PW

8 January 2026

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Statement of Financial Activities

## Year Ended 31 March 2025
## (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

| | Note | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income and Endowments from:** | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 59,596 | 42,439 | 102,035 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 256,816 | - | 256,816 |
| Investment income | 4 | 1,193 | - | 1,193 |
| Total income | | 317,605 | 42,439 | 360,044 |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | (317,809) | (28,917) | (346,726) |
| Total expenditure | | (317,809) | (28,917) | (346,726) |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (204) | 13,522 | 13,318 |
| Net movement in funds | | (204) | 13,522 | 13,318 |
| **Reconciliation of funds** | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 100,962 | 28,347 | 129,309 |
| Total funds carried forward | 15 | 100,758 | 41,869 | 142,627 |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Statement of Financial Activities

## Year Ended 31 March 2025
## (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

| | Note | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income and Endowments from:** | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 98,406 | 34,747 | 133,153 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 172,869 | - | 172,869 |
| Investment income | 4 | 733 | - | 733 |
| Total Income | | 272,008 | 34,747 | 306,755 |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | (231,008) | (30,114) | (261,122) |
| Total Expenditure | | (231,008) | (30,114) | (261,122) |
| Net income | | 41,000 | 4,633 | 45,633 |
| Transfers between funds | | (2) | 2 | - |
| Net movement in funds | | 40,998 | 4,635 | 45,633 |
| **Reconciliation of funds** | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 59,964 | 23,712 | 83,676 |
| Total funds carried forward | 15 | 100,962 | 28,347 | 129,309 |

The funds breakdown for 2024 is shown in note 15.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

(Registration number: CE000516)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2025

| | Note | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Fixed assets** | | | |
| Tangible assets | 11 | 26,606 | 33,516 |
| **Current assets** | | | |
| Stocks | 12 | 834 | - |
| Debtors | 13 | 4,732 | 3,736 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 213,797 | 160,066 |
| | | 219,363 | 163,802 |
| **Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year** | 14 | (103,342) | (68,009) |
| **Net current assets** | | 116,021 | 95,793 |
| **Net assets** | | 142,627 | 129,309 |
| **Funds of the charity:** | | | |
| **Restricted income funds** | | | |
| Restricted funds | | 41,869 | 28,347 |
| **Unrestricted income funds** | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | 100,758 | 100,962 |
| **Total funds** | 15 | 142,627 | 129,309 |

The financial statements on pages 24 to 39 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 8 January 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Paul Morton
Chairman

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

### 1 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**
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

**Basis of preparation**
Birds of Poole Harbour meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

**Going concern**
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

**Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement**
The charity adopted Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statemenet in these financial statements.

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

***Donations***

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

***Deferred income***

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

***Investment income***

Bank interest is recognised when it is received.

***Charitable activities***

Engagement centre sales are recognised when goods are sold.

Boat trips and tour income is recognised when the trips take place.

**Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

**Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

**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.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

**Depreciation and amortisation**
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

| Asset class | Depreciation method and rate |
|---|---|
| Office equipment and website | 3 and 5 years straight line |
| Furniture and fixtures | 5 years straight line |
| Conservation assets | 3 and 5 years straight line |
| HQ equipment | 3 years straight line |

**Trade debtors**
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

**Cash and cash equivalents**
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

**Trade creditors**
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity 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. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**Fund structure**
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

**Pensions and other post retirement obligations**
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

## 2 Income from donations and legacies

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations and legacies; | | | | |
| Donations from individuals | 44,538 | 42,439 | 86,977 | 118,817 |
| Gift aid reclaimed | 15,058 | - | 15,058 | 14,336 |
| | 59,596 | 42,439 | 102,035 | 133,153 |

## 3 Income from charitable activities

| | Unrestricted funds Designated £ | Total 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Product Sales | 939 | 939 |
| Public Bird Boat Income | 204,926 | 204,926 |
| Other income | 50,951 | 50,951 |
| | 256,816 | 256,816 |

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Product Sales | 257 | 257 |
| Public Bird Boat Income | 146,838 | 146,838 |
| Other income | 25,774 | 25,774 |
| | 172,869 | 172,869 |

## 4 Investment income

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Interest receivable and similar income; | | | |
| Interest receivable on bank deposits | 1,193 | 1,193 | 733 |

## 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

| | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Purchases | - | 41 |
| Delivery charges | 15 | - |
| Books | 18 | - |
| Light, heat and power | - | 45 |
| Insurance | 4,571 | 3,610 |
| School boat trip costs | 16,359 | 9,430 |
| Surveys | 6,111 | 8,036 |
| Conservation work | 2,199 | - |
| Repairs, renewals and equipment | 1,961 | 548 |
| People engagement | 1,701 | 1,508 |
| Telephone costs | 1,022 | 1,457 |
| Travel and subsistence | 1,819 | 892 |
| Computer costs | 6,790 | 5,661 |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 675 | 871 |
| Training | 2,343 | 4,408 |
| Refreshments | 938 | 493 |
| Equipment hire | 1,272 | 1,860 |
| Public boat trip costs | 72,338 | 65,612 |
| Other costs | 11,837 | 6,097 |
| Publicity | 3,081 | 1,344 |
| Consultancy | 1,135 | 40 |
| Recruitment cost | 555 | 504 |
| Student Grant costs | 2,163 | 2,163 |
| Wages and Salaries | 165,937 | 116,833 |
| Bank charges | 265 | 282 |
| Credit card charges | 4,640 | 3,814 |
| Governance costs ( see note 6) | 11,918 | 8,342 |
| Depreciation | 12,736 | 17,231 |
| VAT adjustment relating to prior period | 12,327 | - |
| | 346,726 | 261,122 |

## 6 Analysis of governance and support costs

### Governance costs

| | Unrestricted General £ | Total 2025 £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Independent examiner fees | | | |
| Examination of the financial statements | 5,940 | 5,940 | 5,400 |
| Accountancy Fees | 5,978 | 5,978 | 2,942 |
| | 11,918 | 11,918 | 8,342 |

## 7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming resources for the year include:

| | 2025 £ | 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Depreciation of fixed assets | 12,736 | 17,231 |
| Independent Examination Fee | 5,940 | 5,400 |
| Accountancy Fees | 5,978 | 2,942 |

## 8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

## 9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

| | 2025<br>£ | 2024<br>£ |
|---|---|---|
| **Staff costs during the year were:** | | |
| Wages and salaries | 151,962 | 108,158 |
| Social security costs | 8,693 | 5,171 |
| Pension costs | 5,282 | 3,504 |
| | 165,937 | 116,833 |

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

| | 2025<br>No | 2024<br>No |
|---|---|---|
| Average number of employees | 6 | 4 |

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

## 10 Taxation

Birds of Poole Harbour is a registered charity and its activities are therefore exempt from taxation.

### 11 Tangible fixed assets

| | Office equipment and website £ | Motor vehicles £ | Furniture and fixtures £ | Conse |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Cost** | | | | |
| At 1 April 2024 | 54,372 | 12,500 | 1,034 | 1 |
| Additions | - | - | - | |
| At 31 March 2025 | 54,372 | 12,500 | 1,034 | 1 |
| **Depreciation** | | | | |
| At 1 April 2024 | 54,372 | 104 | 1,034 | |
| Charge for the year | - | 1,250 | - | |
| At 31 March 2025 | 54,372 | 1,354 | 1,034 | |
| **Net book value** | | | | |
| At 31 March 2025 | - | 11,146 | - | |
| At 31 March 2024 | - | 12,396 | - | |

## 12 Stock

| | 2025<br>£ | 2024<br>£ |
|---|---|---|
| Stocks | 834 | - |

## 13 Debtors

| | 2025<br>£ | 2024<br>£ |
|---|---|---|
| Trade debtors | 932 | 280 |
| Prepayments | 3,800 | 3,456 |
| | 4,732 | 3,736 |

## 14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | 2025<br>£ | 2024<br>£ |
|---|---|---|
| Trade creditors | 10,368 | 7,565 |
| Other taxation and social security | 11,983 | - |
| Pension scheme creditor | 889 | 834 |
| Accruals | 20,428 | 14,366 |
| Deferred income | 59,674 | 45,244 |
| | 103,342 | 68,009 |

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

### 15 Funds

| | Balance at 1 April 2024 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Balance at 31 March 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | |
| ***General*** | | | | |
| General Funds | 100,962 | 317,605 | (317,809) | 100,758 |
| **Restricted funds** | | | | |
| Osprey Infrastructure | 7,039 | 2,936 | (5,692) | 4,283 |
| Swift City Project | 9,610 | - | (1,436) | 8,174 |
| PHD - Osprey | 9,487 | - | (2,161) | 7,326 |
| School Bird Boats | 2,211 | 15,044 | (17,017) | 238 |
| Gull Survey | - | 350 | (350) | - |
| Young Birders Club | - | 2,464 | (616) | 1,848 |
| Holesbay Platform | - | 20,000 | - | 20,000 |
| School Binocular Fundraiser | - | 1,645 | (1,645) | - |
| **Total restricted funds** | 28,347 | 42,439 | (28,917) | 41,869 |
| **Total funds** | 129,309 | 360,044 | (346,726) | 142,627 |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

| | Balance at 1 April 2023 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | | |
| ***General*** | | | | | |
| General Funds | 59,964 | 272,008 | (231,008) | (2) | 100,962 |
| **Restricted** | | | | | |
| Osprey Infrastructure | 6,469 | 12,531 | (12,696) | 735 | 7,039 |
| Swift City Project | - | 9,610 | - | - | 9,610 |
| PHD - Osprey | 11,650 | - | (2,163) | - | 9,487 |
| Chough Reintroduction Project | 2,436 | - | (2,436) | - | - |
| Nature Heals Project | 365 | - | (365) | - | - |
| Eagle Nest Infrastructure | 867 | 516 | (650) | (733) | - |
| School Bird Boats | 1,925 | 12,090 | (11,804) | - | 2,211 |
| **Total restricted funds** | 23,712 | 34,747 | (30,114) | 2 | 28,347 |
| **Total funds** | 83,676 | 306,755 | (261,122) | - | 129,309 |

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

**Osprey Project -** A pioneering 5-year reintroduction program, trying to restore Osprey, a large fish eating bird of prey, to its former breeding grounds after a 200-year absence. The project see's 6 week old Osprey chicks brought down from Scotland and raised and released here in Poole Harbour, in the hope they'll eventually breed here. As part of this project we have launched a fundraiser to cover the cost of some of the infrastructure to help us monitor and engage with the public in the future. Part of this is our Osprey cameras.

**Osprey Cameras -** A public fundraiser campaign was started to raise funds for SMS trail cameras to be bought and placed on our Osprey nest platforms around Poole Harbour to monitor Osprey activity and behaviour on our nests.

**The Swift City Project -** Swifts are summer visitors to the UK, returning in late April to nest in crevices of older buildings. Sadly, their population has declined by more than 50% in the past 20 years, primarily due to reduced food supply (insects) and loss of suitable nesting sites. Modern building designs no longer provide the cavities swifts need.In response, Birds of Poole Harbour partnered with Saltwater Stone in 2019 to launch the "Swift City" project, installing nest boxes across Old Town Poole and other key sites.

In 2024, this initiative was expanded through the Dorset Swift Communities Project, supported by the Aviva "Save Our Wild Isles Community Fund." Funds raised were used to purchase and install swift boxes in priority areas across Dorset, identified by the Dorset Swift Network-a partnership including Birds of Poole Harbour, Dorset Bird Club, Swanage Swift Group, Christchurch Harbour Ornithological Group, BCP Council, and Dorset Council. Through this project, 150 nest boxes will be made and offered free of charge for homeowners and building owners in targeted areas, while also encouraging communities to take ownership of local swift populations through engagement, monitoring, and long-term protection efforts.

**Osprey PHD placement -** For the first time, we have been able to provide funding for a local student to pursue a postgraduate degree in avian biology. Brittany Maxted is a member of the Birds of Poole Harbour team, who has been involved in the Osprey Project since its inception and has managed the translocations for the last three years. The funding we provide covers the costs of her research and tuition fees, whilst she remains employed full-time at Birds of Poole Harbour, dividing her time between work and research, and allowing her to maintain her current role as Osprey Project Officer alongside her studies.

**School Bird Boat Project -** Our School Bird project continues to go from strength to strength, and is designed to connect local school children with their local environment. Poole Harbour is an important habitat for a range of species but also for industry and tourism. The focus of the trips is to highlight the link between all of the harbours important dynamics and how those relationships are managed in.

**Young Birders Club -** At Birds of Poole Harbour, we recognise the importance of inspiring the next generation of conservationists. Our Young Birders Club, for ages 13-18, provides a welcoming community for young people passionate about wildlife. The club runs free events throughout the year, including guided bird ID walks, bird ringing demonstrations, wildlife cruises, and talks from conservationists. Members also gain insights into ecology, bird identification, and conservation practices. No prior experience is required from our members, and we provide assistance with local transport to ensure inclusivity. This initiative has been made possible thanks to the generous support of the Cameron Bespolka Trust.

**Holes Bay Platform -** We are in early discussions with BCP Council regarding the installation of a new public viewing platform overlooking Holes Bay, one of the most important areas of the harbour for birdlife, especially in winter. Similar to the Ham Common Viewpoint, the structure would provide an accessible way for the local community to connect with the area's wildlife. Costs are estimated between £18,000-£30,000. We are grateful to a generous member of the public who has pledged £20,000 towards this project.

**School Bird Boat Binoculars Fundraiser -** For the past 11 years, our charity has run School Bird Boats, giving up to 1,200 local primary school children each winter the chance to explore and learn about the unique wildlife of Poole Harbour. These trips are provided free of charge thanks to the generous sponsorship of local cosmetics company Lush. Each two-hour trip, run in partnership with Greenslades Pleasure Boats from Poole Quay, takes children across the harbour's diverse habitats. Led by our staff and volunteers, the experience introduces pupils to topics such as bird migration, species adaptations, human livelihoods, and the harbour's designation as a Special Protection Area (SPA).

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

In recent years, sightings of White-tailed Eagles, Marsh Harriers, and Peregrine Falcons have become highlights of the School Bird Boats. These encounters not only inspire young people but also demonstrate the reality of species recovery and reintroduction projects, bringing conservation to life for the next generation.To ensure every child has the best experience, we provide each participant with a pair of binoculars. After more than a decade of use, many of our school optics had become damaged or worn. While Opticron kindly replaced nearly half of the binoculars free of charge in 2023, we still needed to update the remainder.

In December 2024, we ran a public fundraiser to replace the remaining sets. Thanks to the generosity of supporters, we were able to secure new, high-quality binoculars well-suited to young birders. Any of our usable older binoculars have since been donated to schools for use in classrooms, lessons, and holiday birdwatching kits.

### 16 Analysis of net assets between funds

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds at 31 March 2025 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tangible fixed assets | 26,606 | - | 26,606 |
| Current assets | 177,494 | 41,869 | 219,363 |
| Current liabilities | (103,342) | - | (103,342) |
| Total net assets | 100,758 | 41,869 | 142,627 |

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds at 31 March 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tangible fixed assets | 33,516 | - | 33,516 |
| Current assets | 135,456 | 28,346 | 163,802 |
| Current liabilities | (68,009) | - | (68,009) |
| Total net assets | 100,963 | 28,346 | 129,309 |

### 17 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

**BIRDS OF POOLE HARBOUR**

England & Wales - Charity number 1152615

# Accounts

Company registration number: CE000516

Charity registration number: 1152615

# Birds of Poole Harbour

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

## Annual Report and Financial Statements
## Year Ended 31 March 2024

Charity registration number: 1152615

# Birds of Poole Harbour

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# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable incorporated organisation for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### Objects:

Birds of Poole Harbour is a CIO based in Dorset, dedicated to understanding, improving and interpreting the local birdlife through delivering local conservation and outreach projects with national impact. We became established as a charity in 2013, with the core objectives of:

• Delivering innovative and high impact conservation projects focused on reversing ecological population decline as well as initiating habitat creation with project partners.

• Delivering a calendar of public engagement events, outreach programmes including school education programs, and improving engagement infrastructure across the Poole Harbour area.

• Developing a working knowledge of the bird populations and habitats within the Poole Harbour area through commissioning and conducting studies and surveys

### Introduction

*From Paul Morton, Chair of Trustees & Liv Elwood, Charity Manager*

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2023/24 has been the most successful year for Birds of Poole Harbour to date, marking our 10-year anniversary as a charity with pride and hope for the future. The Osprey project took another significant step forward when the local breeding pair produced and fledged three healthy youngsters, and we were able to show these special birds to the public for the first time at Careys Secret Garden. The impact of our public engagement work increased dramatically by delivering more events than ever before and streaming our new Osprey webcams, meaning that we were able to inspire and educate new audiences, including many people from outside of Dorset.

It's been a privilege to see our charity grow and develop over the last decade, establishing a brilliant reputation for high quality education and ambitious conservation projects. With our growth has come new challenges, and so this year also meant the introduction of a new staffing structure to strengthen our team, helping to guide the charity forward and ensure we continue to be as effective as possible.

With this new structure, we took the opportunity to review our charity's vision, mission and values with our trustees and staff, ensuring that their passion for our work remained at the forefront of our direction. Now looking ahead to the next ten years of the charity, we are laying the foundations to ensure that we continue to innovate and deliver education and conservation projects which have high impact, and there's no doubt that our dedicated team and generous supporters are key in ensuring that we achieve our mission in this time.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Who we are

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**Our Vision:**

***Inspiring hope for nature***

Our vision is simple; that through our project work and educational events we are able to inspire people, so that they feel hopeful for the future of nature in Poole Harbour and beyond. Local nature recovery projects and high quality, informative events delivered with passion and enthusiasm are essential for us to deliver this vision.

**Our Mission:**

To innovate and deliver bold projects and educational events that benefit Poole Harbour's birdlife and local community.

**Our Values:**

*Authentic:* Birds of Poole Harbour (BoPH) was founded by people who are deeply passionate about Poole Harbour's birdlife, and this resonates throughout our team and volunteers. We value the individual personalities and opinions of each of our staff and what they bring to their roles. We speak up for what we care about and believe in.

*Kind:* We strive to always be kind, whether it's to our environment, employees or customers. We appreciate that everyone comes from different backgrounds, has different levels of experience and knowledge, and are joining our events for their own reasons. We seek to make everyone feel welcome and ensure that they get the most out of our events.

*Ambitious:* Our ambition is two-fold. Firstly, we aim to be innovative and bold with the projects that we deliver to support our birdlife and the local environment. Secondly, we are driven to run our events at the highest possible standard, working hard to keep our information up-to-date, interesting and engaging for all who attend.

*Effective:* We operate as a small team, so being effective is essential. We don't want to waste time or money getting tied up with unnecessary bureaucracy. We want to identify ways we can support our local environment and its community and make it happen. *(Image: Osprey CJ7 - Mark Wright)*



# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Our Impact: Conservation Projects

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## Poole Harbour Osprey Project

**Having seen the landmark first breeding as a result of the project in 2022, 2023 saw the return of Osprey pair CJ7 and 022 to their Poole Harbour nest at Careys Secret Garden, this time rearing three young successfully.**

In March 2023, we finalised the installation of a new dual camera set-up on the nest, allowing us to monitor any developments on the nest throughout the season and ensure the protection of the breeding birds and their chicks. The cameras were also streamed online, providing the public with the experience of watching the Osprey nest in high definition from home. The chicks, ringed 5H3 (male), 5H4 (male) and 5H5 (female), all left safely on migration, and we hope to see their return back to the UK in 2025.

**Translocation Project**

We had scheduled to resume our delivery of the translocation project over the summer of 2023, after the decision was made to not translocate chicks in 2022 due to the uncertainty surrounding avian influenza (HPAI). Unfortunately, the virus remained heavily prevalent across the UK over the spring and summer of 2023, including a significant outbreak on Brownsea Lagoon, located within a close proximity to the Osprey release site.

After consultation with the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation and all involved parties, we made the decision not to translocate in 2023, to stop the risk of infection to any translocated individuals, as well as to the wild Osprey nest which is situated at the release site. We decided to review this annually to ensure we are appropriately assessing the risks and benefits of delivering the translocation project, against monitoring the potential for continued growth of the local breeding population.



*Webcam Image of Osprey CJ7*

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Osprey Project: Wider Success

#### Other Translocation Success

In 2022, two of our translocated females, 014 and 019, bred in the Glaslyn Valley in North Wales. We were delighted to hear that both pairs successfully bred again, each rearing three young. We were also excited to see the return of three other translocated individuals (ringed 372, 374 and 379), all released in 2021. Both of the females 372 and 379 were seen in Wales, with 372 even spending time on an available nest with a male - a promising sign for the following season.

Excitingly, male 374 was photographed in Wiltshire on the 13th May and spent the summer exploring the local area, including spending a substantial amount of time in Poole Harbour, showing interest in multiple artificial nest sites. We are therefore hopeful that 374 could play a prominent role in establishing the second pair of Osprey breeding in the South.

#### Careys Secret Garden

Despite the disappointment of not being able to translocate for another year, we were pleased to be able to strengthen our partnership with Careys Secret Garden, who manage the site where the Osprey pair are nesting, and made the decision to announce the location to the public. Due to the sensitive nature of the nest and Ospreys being a Schedule 1 species, this was carefully managed to prevent any disturbance to the breeding birds caused by visitors to the site. We worked with Dorset Police and used surveillance systems as part of the protections for the nest, as well as daily monitoring of the nest by our team of dedicated volunteers.



Once the breeding pair had settled into the season, our partnership provided the opportunity to invite the public to Careys Secret Garden for the first time, delivering our new Carey Osprey Tours. These events allowed guests to attend pre-booked guided tours up to a viewing platform to watch the nest, learn more about Ospreys and the translocation project, and enjoy visiting the gardens. It was fantastic to see guest's reactions to seeing the birds in person, after watching them online and following their story over the last few years. *(Webcam Image of CJ7 & 022)*

"*What an amazing season! Such a privilege to be able to follow this family's journey so far. Thank you to all at BoPH for your fantastic cameras which enabled us to do this & for all your hard work to make this project a huge success*" - Mandy Pullinger, Osprey Webcam Viewer

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Expanding our Understanding

**Since September 2019 our Species Recovery Coordinator, Brittany Maxted, has been working towards her PhD in Osprey breeding ecology at Bournemouth University, fully funded by Birds of Poole Harbour.**

The research aims to investigate the drivers of nesting decisions and range expansion in the British Osprey population, and to provide a management framework for the species in the future.

"*I hope to utilise this new understanding of their ecology to inform the design and implementation of more effective conservation measures for Ospreys across the UK and Western Europe, whilst also answering broader evolutionary questions about the mechanisms of dispersal and population dynamics in long-lived species. My key findings thus far include the importance of so-called 'pioneering' pairs for spatial recovery and the key influence of nearby intertidal mudflats on nest site selection.*" - Brittany Maxted

The project helps to strengthen and establish ties with other organisations, and provides opportunities for publication of peer-reviewed scientific research, all of which help to raise the charity's status within conservation and scientific communities. Brittany's research may also provide practical applications, potentially with identifying priority areas for future reintroductions and artificial nest installation.



Brittany is undertaking the PhD part-time, while continuing to work on our conservation projects, including the management of the Poole Harbour Osprey Project, and supporting with the delivery of our events. Her PhD is supervised by Professor Richard Stillman, Dr Pippa Gillingham, and Professor Ross Hill at Bournemouth University. The Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation has provided the main dataset for her research, alongside additional supervision from Dr Tim Mackrill.

Funding for her tuition and research costs were generously donated to Birds of Poole Harbour in full in 2019. *(Right: Image of Brittany helping with Osprey ringing in 2022)*

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Recovering Populations

#### Dorset Swift Communities

In February 2023 the Dorset Swift Network was set up, aiming to coordinate the monitoring of Swift populations within Dorset and their conservation. The network comprises of conservation partners across Dorset including BoPH, BCP Council, Dorset Council, Dorset Bird Club, Christchurch Harbour Ornithological Group, Purbeck and Swanage Swift Group, Dorchester Bird Club, Dorset Wildlife Trust, the Parks Foundation and Wimborne Swifts.

As one of the network partners, we launched our Dorset Swift Communities fundraiser in November via Crowdfunder through the Saving Our Wild Isles Community Fund. The fundraiser raised a total of £9,610 for the Dorset Swift Network, providing funds to connect communities across Dorset with Swifts and their decline, and provide important nesting habitat by funding the installation of nest boxes in priority areas. Birds of Poole Harbour plan to use a portion of these funds for the nest boxes in Poole and Wareham during the winter and early spring of 2024/25. *(Above: Image of Swift Boxes)*



#### Purbeck Chough Reintroduction Feasibility Study

In 2022, we started the first phase of a feasibility study for the reintroduction of Chough to Purbeck in partnership with the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation, which was partially funded by Natural England. The initial findings, including habitat analysis, showed South Purbeck and the Isle of Portland to be highly suitable for re-establishing a population of Chough, with a potential release site for a reintroduction identified. Local support for the future of the project, including from the National Trust, has been beneficial in progressing the plans for the reintroduction further.

As part of the feasibility preparations for the project, we are working on establishing a new methodology for the wild translocation of Chough, as an alternative to using captive-reared birds, as have been used in prior reintroduction projects. Birds of Poole Harbour sit on the Chough Southern England Steering Group and aim for the project to form part of a national recovery plan for Chough. We aim for the project to begin in spring 2025.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Surveys

#### WeBS (Wetland Bird Survey)

The Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) scheme is managed nationally by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), assessing the health of important wetland bird populations across the UK, including Poole Harbour, through volunteer-led surveys. The winter assemblage of wetland birds in Poole Harbour is a qualifying feature of the Poole Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA), and so it is important that WeBS is accurately coordinated and carried out each winter.

From 2011-2022, the Poole Harbour surveys had been coordinated independently by one of our trustees, Paul Morton. However, the decision was made this year for Birds of Poole Harbour to help manage these surveys, giving us the opportunity to also educate the public about the importance of WeBS and the impact of citizen science projects on protecting our local landscape.

#### Breeding Gulls of Poole Harbour Survey

In 2022 and 2023 the UK experienced a tragic outbreak of avian influenza (HPAI), which impacted colonial breeding birds, such as seabirds most significantly, with their close proximity allowing the rapid spread of the virus. This sadly led to entire populations of terns, auks and gulls being lost. In response to the 2022 outbreak, we commissioned a repeat Breeding Gulls of Poole Harbour study, allowing us to compare data from our original 2016 survey and determine the impact of bird flu may have had on our local populations.

Poole Harbour hosts a nationally important population of Mediterranean Gulls, which are a feature of the Poole Harbour Special Protection Area. Both Herring Gull and, more recently, Great Black-backed Gulls are on the RSPB Red List of threatened breeding birds in the UK, highlighting the importance of monitoring these species. The survey concluded that, despite the risk of bird flu, populations of all gull species surveyed had increased since the 2016 study. However, it is worth noting that the breeding surveys were completed prior to the 2023 outbreak of bird flu on the Brownsea Lagoon, which caused significant losses particularly of young gulls and terns. *(Above image: Holton Gull Islands - Paul Morton)*



# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Our Impact: Public Engagement and Education

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### School Bird Boat Project

**We have been delivering the School Bird boat Project since the charity was founded and view it as one of our most important pieces of engagement work. During the winter and early spring, we offer local primary schools free 2-hour harbour boat trips, including travel to and from Poole Quay.**

With so much natural heritage on their doorsteps, these trips give pupils the opportunity to explore their area and experience the fantastic wildlife it has on offer from a new perspective. Often, these trips are the first time that pupils have encountered being out on the water, and are a great way to inspire and excite young people about Poole Harbour.

Ahead of delivering the boats this year, we reviewed our learning activities onboard the trips, and now engage the pupils with a citizen science project, encouraging them to help us survey the birds we see during the trip, which we then log the data onto eBird afterwards. The pupils enjoyed using the new ID sheets to identify the birds we could see from the boat, as well as helping to count each of the species. Our team also cover topics such as harbour industry and jobs, bird migration, and nature recovery and reintroductions. Schools are then sent follow-up resources to reinforce topics covered during the trip.

We were very pleased to be able to deliver 18 boat trips this season (two of which had to be postponed to April 2024 due to poor weather), working with 12 schools from the local area. We were able to run these trips free of charge again this year thanks to generous sponsorship from cosmetics company Lush. This funding covered the cost of the boat and coach hire, allowing children from local schools to attend free of any cost. Lush have kindly confirmed that they will continue to sponsor the School Bird Boat Project in 2024-25. (*Image provided by Livingston Road Primary*)



“It was the best trip ever”

“We have some definite keen birders now and our class birdwatching kit was in high demand for the Easter holidays” - Livingstone Road Primary

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Our Event Schedule

**Our events provide the opportunity to inspire and educate a wide range of people about Poole Harbour's important landscape and birdlife, showcasing the local nature recovery projects that are making Dorset one of the most exciting areas for conservation in the UK.**

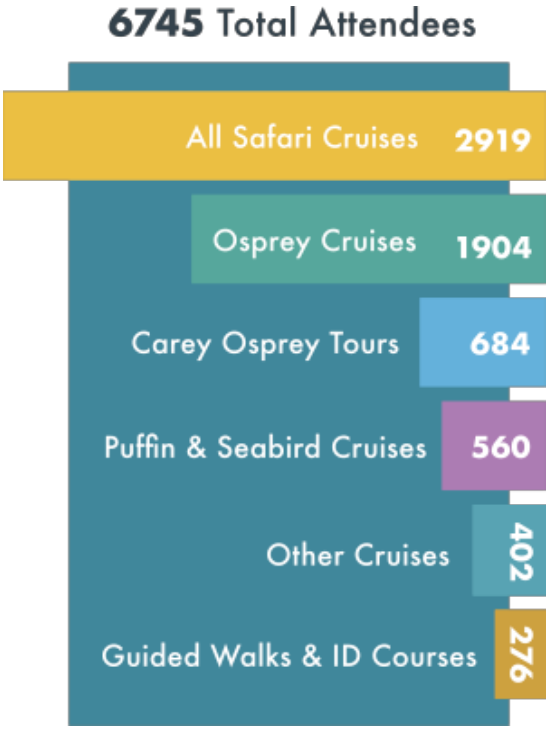
During 2023/24 we delivered more events than ever before, engaging our highest number of people with this special area to date. We delivered a total of 234 booked public events, spanning a range of event types from cruises to guided walks, with additional trips delivered for private and corporate groups, as well as free pop-up events.

Interest in our events has been gradually increasing each year, and we saw huge uptake in 2023/24, allowing us to increase the number we delivered and grow our engagement impact, with our events running at an average of 82% capacity across the year.

With additional staffing this year, we were able to resume our popular free winter guided walks at Holes Bay and Poole Quay. Delivering free events is an important part of our charity's aims, making our schedule more accessible, and helping newcomers grow their interest and confidence in birding. We were pleased to be able to bring these events back, and will be increasing the number of our free events in forthcoming years.

We were proud to be awarded a Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice Award 2023, placing within the top 10% of things to do worldwide based on reviews for our events.

*"The cruise was inspirational and emotional! The BoPH team are so passionate and knowledgeable, it's infectious. We saw sea eagles, an osprey, a marsh harrier, kingfishers and many other birds. We came away from the cruise absolutely buzzing with excitement and positivity about the natural world. And also proud to live in Purbeck where so much good work is going on to help nature recover.."* - @Clewis172 on Tripadvisor



# Trustees' Report

## Online Engagement and Sightings

**Through our website and social media, we keep the public informed about our project work and local bird news, and provide an opportunity to engage thousands of people with wildlife via our webcams.**

### Website & Sightings Blog

We aim for our website to be a hub of information that is useful to a range of people with an interest in wildlife and birds. As well as providing extensive information about local birding sites, it is regularly updated with blogs about the Osprey project, keeping the public up-to-date with the progress of the project and the nesting pair.

Our sightings blog is completed daily, highlighting bird records from around the harbour in an accessible way and showing the importance of our local area for nature and as a birding destination. The blog is an important piece of public engagement, encouraging birders to report their local sightings, and providing a write-up of the wildlife we experience during our events. It is also a useful resource for revisiting historical accounts and comparing annual records of bird sightings.

We plan for updates to be made to the website in 2025 to make key information easier to find and to better promote the charity.

### Livestream Webcams

We continued to stream our livestream wildlife webcams online through 2023-24, including our Brownsea Lagoon and Osprey nest cameras. The new Osprey webcam set-up, which was installed in March 2023 at the Careys Secret Garden nest site, attracted thousands of views throughout the breeding season, engaging a large online community with the Poole Harbour Osprey Project and breeding pair CJ7 and 022. These webcams are a great way of connecting people with wildlife from within their homes, and have attracted people from across the world to enjoy the birdlife in Poole Harbour. The webcams were also featured on Springwatch this year, which was being hosted at RSPB Arne, helping us to reach new audiences.

In the autumn of 2023, we also installed a new live birdfeeder-cam in partnership with Careys Secret Garden. This was enjoyed by many viewers over the winter but sadly encountered some technical problems in early 2024, which we hope to resolve in the coming year.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Nature Recovery & Eco-tourism

**With the growth in our events and the number of people attending, we've also seen an interesting shift in our customer-base this year, with a significant increase in event attendees travelling from outside of Dorset to join our events.**

We've recognised that part of this shift is likely to be attributable to the breeding Ospreys and new presence of White-tailed Eagles in Poole Harbour, both of which have re-established in the area due to local reintroduction projects.

We have delivered Osprey-specific events since 2017, but we first started seeing White-tailed Eagles during our boat trips in 2022. These birds were young individuals that had dispersed from the Isle of Wight as a result of the translocation project led by the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation and Forestry England, which started in 2019. In the spring of 2023, two birds from the project (ringed G463 and G466) paired up and formed a territory in Poole Harbour, meaning that views became even more regular, attracting more people to visit the area and attend our events specifically to see these birds. This was noticeable even during winter, out of the typical tourist season; our feedback survey for our Winter Safari Cruises found that over 55% of those that responded had travelled from outside of the county.

The uptake of our Osprey-focused events has also grown substantially, with the nest webcams engaging new audiences with the project, both locally and from further afield. We delivered a record 30 Osprey Cruises between August and early September in 2023, compared to the three that we originally hosted in 2017, with over 1500 tickets sold. Our new Carey Osprey Tours, delivered in partnership with Careys Secret Garden, were also extremely well received, with people travelling from well beyond Dorset to attend.

We are excited to be seeing the impact that reintroductions can play on eco-tourism firsthand, broadening the audiences engaging with nature and Poole Harbour, and having a positive impact on our local industry. Along with the landscape-scale recovery projects and rewilding initiatives being delivered by conservation bodies in South Dorset, this area is fast-becoming one of the best destinations for people to enjoy wildlife in the UK, and learn about the importance of proactive nature restoration. *(Image: White-tailed Eagle - Mark Wright)*



# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Our Team & Partnerships

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## Our Staff & Trustee Board

**Staff**

With our growth, we established a new staff structure this year in order to best support our expanding team and ensure we remain effective. In May 2023, Liv Elwood started a new role as our Charity Manager, shaping our charity's direction and strategy, and providing new management support for staff. Laura Timms joined Birds of Poole Harbour full-time from November 2023 as our Operations Manager, working closely with Liv to put in place new systems to help the charity progress, and updating our financial management processes to make our operations more efficient.

We sadly said goodbye to our Events Manager Joe Parker in May, who has been a fantastic asset to the charity since 2019. Sam Ryde joined the engagement team in July, providing excellent support in leading our events and our School Bird Boat project. Georgie Briers also joined us in July as our new Customer Service Assistant, and has helped us continue to provide a high standard of customer care, despite our significant growth in bookings and enquiries.



Brittany Maxted has continued to manage the Osprey Project and worked on the Purbeck Chough reintroduction feasibility study, as well as helping with the delivery of our events. She is progressing well with her PhD part-time and moved into the role of Species Recovery Coordinator at the end of the year, better reflecting the breadth of work she has been undertaking for the charity.

The dedication and passion of all of our staff has once again made our year a success and helped us to achieve our mission, with the support of our trustee board. *(Image: Liv & Brittany watching the Osprey Webcam)*

**Trustees**

In early April 2023, Sam Jolliffe joined our trustee board, offering substantial experience in finance and management accounts, who has been working closely with Laura, our Operations Manager, in her new role. Thanks to all of our trustees for the time they give to support Birds of Poole Harbour.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Volunteers

This year, our generous volunteers have given the highest number of hours to support the charity to date, with 27 volunteers giving 1266 hours of their time to our project work and events. The support our volunteers provide is incredibly important to the charity, both in terms of public engagement and our conservation work, and we are grateful to have such a dedicated team.

Our Osprey Project volunteers have given a total of 996 hours monitoring and protecting the nest of CJ7 and 022 at Careys Secret Garden, whilst also supporting with the delivery of our Carey Osprey Tours and providing information about the birds to the general public.

A further 192 hour were given by volunteers to help with the running our other events, assisting with the delivery of our free Pop-Up Watch Points at Studland, Holes Bay and Ham Common, as well as being spotters on our Osprey Cruises and helping to deliver Pop-Up Watch Points across the harbour.

Over the 18 School Bird Boats we delivered this year, our volunteers gave 90 hours of their time to provide support, helping the pupils to use their binoculars to spot birds and to learn about the local birdlife, including their migrations.

In addition to these logged hours, countless time was also spent by one of our volunteers, Alison Copland, as our YouTube moderator on our Osprey nest livestream, answering watcher's questions about the breeding birds and ensuring that the online chat remained friendly. We are extremely grateful for Alison's support, and we know that many online watchers will also have learned a lot about the Ospreys from her throughout the season.

We were also very pleased to have a volunteer placement student from Bournemouth University over the summer, Judith Kay, who helped monitor the Osprey nest and provide additional support on our Osprey events.

Finally, thanks to all volunteers who are involved with delivering the WeBS surveys, who preserve and protect the harbour through the important monitoring of the wetland species that overwinter in this area.

*"Volunteering with Birds of Poole Harbour is wonderful. In 2023, I thoroughly enjoyed monitoring our local Osprey pair as they raised their second brood. I also loved engaging with visitors to the nest site, moderating the YouTube livestream chat, and helping on the Osprey Cruises."* - Alison Copland, BoPH Volunteer

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Partnership Working

**Developing strong partnerships form an important part of our charity's work, ensuring that we are working towards a common goal with organisations to benefit both wildlife and people in the local area. We have highlighted some of the key partnerships that have played an important role in our work this year.**

*Greenslade Pleasure Boats*: We strengthened our relationship with our boat providers this year, with Greenslade Pleasure Boats continuing to deliver our public trips, and taking on our School Bird Boat delivery for the 2023-24 season. We are continually grateful for the high standard of service that Greenslades deliver, allowing us to take pride in the running of our events with them.

*Wareham Arc*: Birds of Poole Harbour have sat on the PACEE and Species Recovery sub-groups for the Wareham Arc Landscape Recovery Project planning phase. We are very supportive of this ambitious initiative and look forward to being involved in 2024-25.



*Careys Secret Garden*: We delivered several events in partnership with Careys Secret Garden this year, including our new Carey Osprey Tours, as well as ringing demonstrations and Osprey-themed events for their Migration Festival in January. *(Image: Ringing Demo for National Trust at Careys Secret Garden)*

*Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation*: The Foundation is a long-standing partner of Birds of Poole Harbour, being key partners in the Osprey Project. This year, our relationship has further developed through our work on the Purbeck Chough feasibility study.

*Stour Ringing Group*: We delivered our Sunnyside Ringing Demos in partnership with Stour Ringing Group again this year, with the group receiving a share of the profit made from these educational events. We're grateful for their support with these events, which wouldn't be possible without them.

## Financial Overview

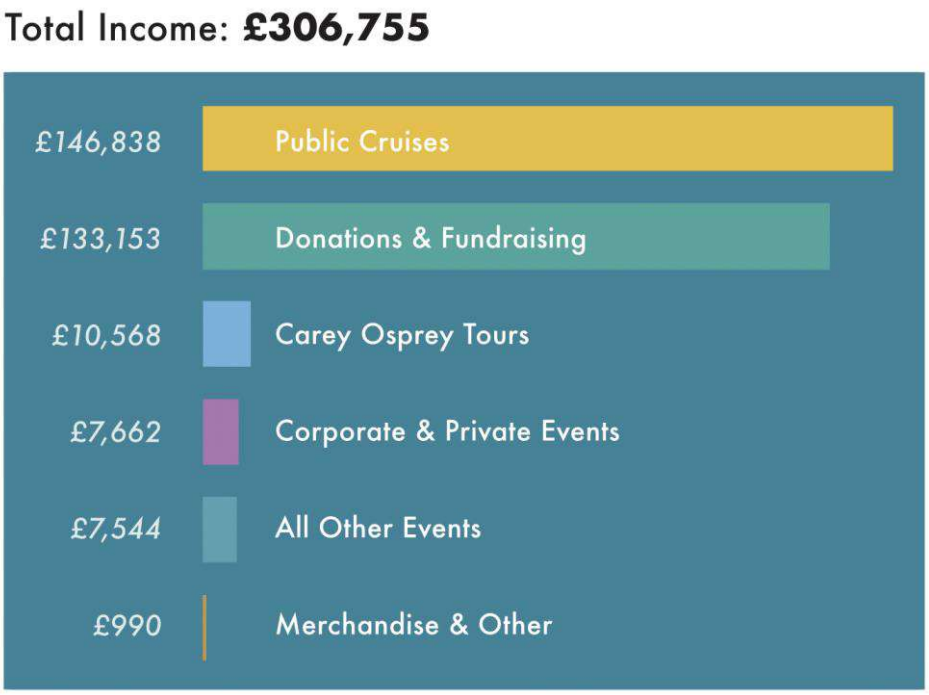
### Summary of Income

**With growing interest in the charity and our events, we've had a very successful year, allowing us to have a higher impact than ever before. The charity saw its best year to date for engagement and event income, with a 39% increase in gross profit from our events compared to the previous year.**

This growth was most significantly impacted by an increase in our public boat income by 32% compared to the previous financial year. We also introduced our guided Carey Osprey Tours in partnership with Careys Secret Garden, which generated a new income stream for BoPH, and had high public interest. We hope to continue to deliver these tours as public interest in the nesting pair of Ospreys grows, providing a unique opportunity for people to learn about these special birds in the setting of Careys Secret Garden.

We built our corporate event offering and saw a 20% increase in income compared to the previous year. Our paid talks also proved very popular, seeing a 140% increase in income. Due to changes in staff and time availability, we were not able to run as many courses and ringing demonstrations this year.

Our income from donations and fundraising remained consistent with the previous year, seeing only a 2% drop in donations overall.



# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Summary of Expenditure

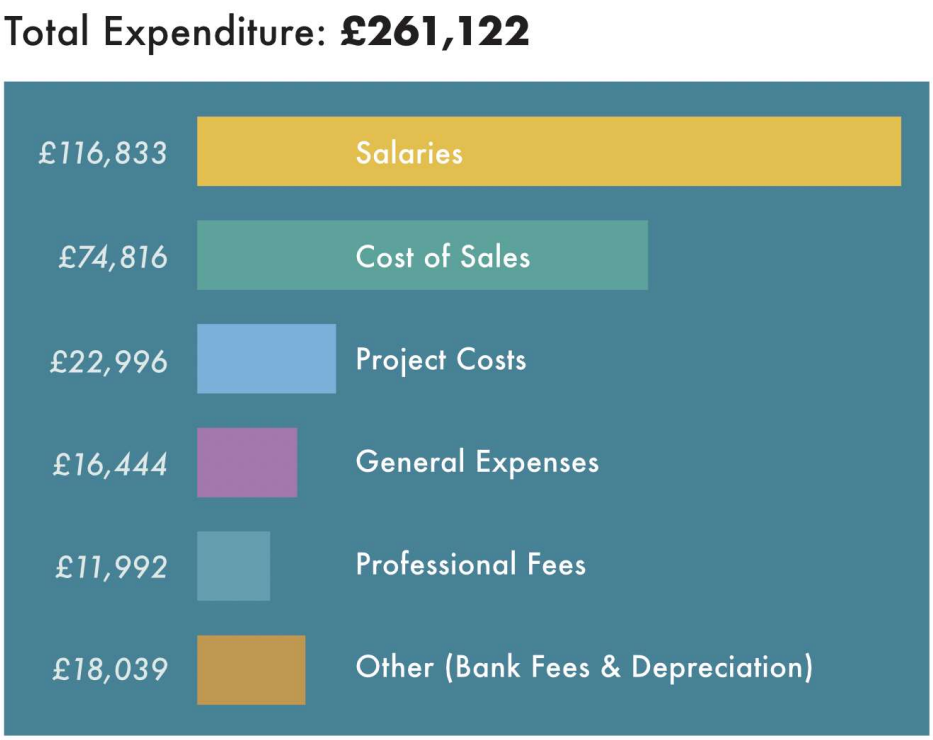
**With the growth of our team and increased costs, our total expenditure increased by 34% compared to 2022/23.**

The most significant cost increase came from staff salaries, with new management roles created, and two additional members of staff joining the team part way through the year. This has led to a 36% increase in salary costs, and it also led to a higher equipment and training costs.

Our cost of sales for events increased by nearly 30% compared to the previous year, for several reasons. Firstly, we delivered more boat trips than the prior year, which resulted in higher costs for boat hire, as well as the price of boat hire increasing. To mitigate some of these increased costs, we increased our cruise ticket prices at the start of 2024. We also delivered Carey Osprey Tours for the first time, and the profit from these events were split with Careys Secret Garden.

Our office spaces were continued to be generously provided to us as a gift in kind, which means outgoings for our overheads remain low.

Despite the cost increases, the overall retained earnings from our events still increased by 39% compared to 2022/23, and our financial position continues to strengthen year on year.



# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Fundraising & Reserves

#### Fundraising

Our most significant fundraising income is generated online, either through our website, using Just Giving Checkout, or through specific fundraisers hosted on platforms including Just Giving and Crowdfunder. We are also able to fundraise at our events, using donation buckets and portable card machines, all of which are optional and donor led.

For our Osprey Project fundraising, we offer donors the opportunity to donate either through our public Just Giving page, or via Just Giving Checkout on our website. In total, our generous supporters contributed £12,531 towards the Osprey Project.

We also ran a public Just Giving fundraiser in aid of our 10th Anniversary, which launched in June, raising a total of £2,307 for the charity. In November, we also hosted our first fundraiser through Crowdfunder, sponsored by the Aviva the Save our Wild Isles Community Fund. Through fantastic public support and the scheme's match funding, we raised £9,610 for the Dorset Swift Network.

Through Gift Aid this year, we reclaimed a total of £14,336. This total does not necessarily relate solely or completely to fundraising activities that took place in 2023-24, due to the significant processing time that Gift Aid donations can take to be received.

Birds of Poole Harbour do not employ any professional fundraiser to carry out any fundraising activities and we do not operate a membership scheme.

#### Reserves Statement

Birds of Poole Harbour has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the Charity should be equal to the amount required to address the red flags as determined by the Risk Register, which is £39,246.

This year this figure was increased due to additional staff coming onboard, ensuring that we are able to cover three months of staff salaries. In 2024-25, we aim to increase this figure to be able to cover four months of staff salaries, working towards a longer term aim of being able to cover six months of staff salaries through our reserves.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Acknowledgements

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**Thank you to all our supporters who have donated to the charity or attended our events this year. Special thanks to the following people and organisations for their donations and support this year.**

Anna Hamilton Art

Benefact Group

The Beryl Evetts & Robert Luff Animal Trust

BTO

Careys Secret Garden

DeterTech

Dorset Bird Club

Dorset Police

Dorset Wildlife Trust

Kent Wildlife Trust

Lord Rockley Trust

Lush

Mark and Mo Constantine

Mark Wright

National Trust

Natural England

Nick Hopper

Poole Bobbin Lace Circle

Rambling Artist

Ryan Martin

RSPB

Springwatch

Wild Justice

Wildwood Trust

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

**Small companies provision statement**
This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 24 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Paul Morton
Chairman

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

## Reference and Administrative Details

**Chairman**

Paul Morton

**Trustees**

Ian Alexander

Margaret Constantine

Kerry Fletcher

Sam Jolliffe

**Secretary**

Kerry Fletcher

**Charity Registration Number**

1152615

The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.

**Principal Office**

Carey House
Carey
Wareham
Dorset
BH20 7PG

**Independent Examiner**

PKF Francis Clark
Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Towngate House
2 - 8 Parkstone Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2PW

**Bankers**

Barclays
100 High Street
Poole
Dorset
BH15 1BL

Metro Bank
One Southampton Row
London
WC1B 5HA

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

**Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Birds of Poole Harbour for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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 incorporated organisation and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable incorporated organisation for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable incorporated organisation 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.

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

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 24 January 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....

Paul Morton
Chairman

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Birds of Poole Harbour ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2024.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of Birds of Poole Harbour (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Birds of Poole Harbour are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Birds of Poole Harbour as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

.....

Adrian Way FCA (a Director of)
Accountants and Statutory Auditors

Towngate House
2 - 8 Parkstone Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2PW

24 January 2025

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Statement of Financial Activities

## Year Ended 31 March 2024
## (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

| | Note | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income and Endowments from:** | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 98,406 | 34,747 | 133,153 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 172,869 | - | 172,869 |
| Investment income | 4 | 733 | - | 733 |
| Total income | | 272,008 | 34,747 | 306,755 |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | (231,008) | (30,114) | (261,122) |
| Total expenditure | | (231,008) | (30,114) | (261,122) |
| Net income | | 41,000 | 4,633 | 45,633 |
| Transfers between funds | | (2) | 2 | - |
| Net movement in funds | | 40,998 | 4,635 | 45,633 |
| **Reconciliation of funds** | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 59,964 | 23,712 | 83,676 |
| Total funds carried forward | 14 | 100,962 | 28,347 | 129,309 |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Statement of Financial Activities

## Year Ended 31 March 2024
## (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

| | Note | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income and Endowments from:** | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 84,141 | 36,592 | 120,733 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 131,830 | - | 131,830 |
| Investment income | 4 | 80 | - | 80 |
| Total Income | | 216,051 | 36,592 | 252,643 |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | (204,466) | (40,704) | (245,170) |
| Total Expenditure | | (204,466) | (40,704) | (245,170) |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | 11,585 | (4,112) | 7,473 |
| Net movement in funds | | 11,585 | (4,112) | 7,473 |
| **Reconciliation of funds** | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 48,379 | 27,824 | 76,203 |
| Total funds carried forward | 14 | 59,964 | 23,712 | 83,676 |

The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 14.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

(Registration number: CE000516)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

| | Note | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Fixed assets** | | | |
| Tangible assets | 11 | 33,516 | 27,748 |
| **Current assets** | | | |
| Debtors | 12 | 3,736 | 8,413 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 160,066 | 119,881 |
| | | 163,802 | 128,294 |
| **Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year** | 13 | (68,009) | (72,366) |
| **Net current** assets | | 95,793 | 55,928 |
| **Net** assets | | 129,309 | 83,676 |
| **Funds of the charity:** | | | |
| **Restricted income funds** | | | |
| Restricted funds | | 28,347 | 23,712 |
| **Unrestricted income funds** | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | 100,962 | 59,964 |
| **Total funds** | 14 | 129,309 | 83,676 |

The financial statements on pages 24 to 38 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 24 January 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Paul Morton
Chairman

## 1 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**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

**Basis of preparation**

Birds of Poole Harbour meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

**Going concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

**Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement**

The charity adopted Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statemenet in these financial statements.

**Income and endowments**

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

***Donations***

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

***Deferred income***

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

***Investment income***

Bank interest is recognised when it is received.

***Charitable activities***

Engagement centre sales are recognised when goods are sold.

Boat trips and tour income is recognised when the trips take place.

**Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

**Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

**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.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

**Depreciation and amortisation**
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

| Asset class | Depreciation method and rate |
|---|---|
| Office equipment and website | 3 and 5 years straight line |
| Furniture and fixtures | 5 years straight line |
| Conservation assets | 3 and 5 years straight line |
| HQ equipment | 3 years straight line |

**Trade debtors**
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

**Cash and cash equivalents**
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

**Trade creditors**
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity 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. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**Fund structure**
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

**Pensions and other post retirement obligations**
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

## 2 Income from donations and legacies

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2024 £ | Total 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations and legacies; | | | | |
| Donations from individuals | 84,070 | 34,747 | 118,817 | 108,179 |
| Gift aid reclaimed | 14,336 | - | 14,336 | 12,554 |
| | 98,406 | 34,747 | 133,153 | 120,733 |

## 3 Income from charitable activities

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Product Sales | 257 | 257 |
| Public Bird Boat Income | 146,838 | 146,838 |
| Other income | 25,774 | 25,774 |
| | 172,869 | 172,869 |

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Product Sales | 172 | 172 |
| Public Bird Boat Income | 111,295 | 111,295 |
| Other income | 20,363 | 20,363 |
| | 131,830 | 131,830 |

## 4 Investment income

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2024 £ | Total 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Interest receivable and similar income; | | | |
| Interest receivable on bank deposits | 733 | 733 | 80 |

## 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

| | Total 2024 £ | Total 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Purchases | 41 | 121 |
| Osprey tags | - | 1,646 |
| Light, heat and power | 45 | - |
| Insurance | 3,610 | 3,196 |
| School boat trip costs | 9,430 | 17,505 |
| Surveys | 8,036 | 13,391 |
| Conservation work | - | 11,500 |
| Repairs, renewals and equipment | 548 | 5,016 |
| People engagement | 1,508 | 3,343 |
| Telephone costs | 1,457 | 1,621 |
| Travel and subsistence | 892 | 1,648 |
| Computer costs | 5,661 | 6,086 |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 871 | 1,969 |
| Training | 4,408 | 384 |
| Refreshments | 493 | 386 |
| Equipment hire | 1,860 | 6,146 |
| Public boat trip costs | 65,612 | 51,750 |
| Other costs | 6,097 | (745) |
| Publicity | 1,344 | 2,581 |
| Consultancy | 40 | 2,069 |
| Recruitment cost | 504 | 182 |
| Student Grant costs | 2,163 | 2,163 |
| Wages and Salaries | 116,833 | 85,892 |
| Bank charges | 282 | 253 |
| Credit card charges | 3,814 | 2,925 |
| Governance costs ( see note 6) | 8,342 | 6,806 |
| Depreciation | 17,231 | 17,336 |
| | 261,122 | 245,170 |

**6**

| | |
|---|---|
| Independent examiner fees | |
| Examination of the financial statements | |
| Accountancy Fees | |

**7**

Net incoming resources for the year include:

| | 2024<br>£ | 2023<br>£ |
|---|---|---|
| Depreciation of fixed assets | 17,231 | 17,336 |
| Independent Examination Fee | 5,400 | 5,300 |
| Accountancy Fees | 2,942 | 1,506 |

**8 Trustees remuneration and expenses**

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

**Paul Morton**
£Nil (2023: £71) of expenses were reimbursed to Paul Morton during the year.
No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

## 9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

| | 2024<br>£ | 2023<br>£ |
|---|---|---|
| **Staff costs during the year were:** | | |
| Wages and salaries | 108,158 | 80,500 |
| Social security costs | 5,171 | 2,652 |
| Pension costs | 3,504 | 2,740 |
| | 116,833 | 85,892 |

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

| | 2024<br>No | 2023<br>No |
|---|---|---|
| Average number of employees | 4 | 3 |

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

## 10 Taxation

Birds of Poole Harbour is a registered charity and its activities are therefore exempt from taxation.

### 11 Tangible fixed assets

| | Office equipment and website £ | Motor vehicles £ | Furniture and fixtures £ | Conse |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Cost** | | | | |
| At 1 April 2023 | 54,372 | - | 1,034 | |
| Additions | - | 12,500 | - | |
| At 31 March 2024 | 54,372 | 12,500 | 1,034 | 1 |
| **Depreciation** | | | | |
| At 1 April 2023 | 51,045 | - | 707 | |
| Charge for the year | 3,327 | 104 | 327 | |
| At 31 March 2024 | 54,372 | 104 | 1,034 | |
| **Net book value** | | | | |
| At 31 March 2024 | - | 12,396 | - | |
| At 31 March 2023 | 3,327 | - | 327 | |

### 12 Debtors

| | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Trade debtors | 280 | 5,552 |
| Prepayments | 3,456 | 2,861 |
| | 3,736 | 8,413 |

### 13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | 2024 £ | 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Trade creditors | 7,565 | 27,851 |
| Pension scheme creditor | 834 | 457 |
| Accruals | 14,366 | 21,399 |
| Deferred income | 45,244 | 22,659 |
| | 68,009 | 72,366 |

### 14 Funds

| | Balance at 1 April 2023 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | | |
| ***General*** | | | | | |
| General Funds | 59,964 | 272,008 | (231,008) | (2) | 100,962 |
| **Restricted funds** | | | | | |
| Osprey Infrastructure | 6,469 | 12,531 | (12,696) | 735 | 7,039 |
| Swift City Project | - | 9,610 | - | - | 9,610 |
| PHD - Osprey | 11,650 | - | (2,163) | - | 9,487 |
| Chough Reintroduction Project | 2,436 | - | (2,436) | - | - |
| Nature Heals Project | 365 | - | (365) | - | - |
| Eagle Nest Infrastructure | 867 | 516 | (650) | (733) | - |
| School Bird Boats | 1,925 | 12,090 | (11,804) | - | 2,211 |
| **Total restricted funds** | 23,712 | 34,747 | (30,114) | 2 | 28,347 |
| **Total funds** | 83,676 | 306,755 | (261,122) | - | 129,309 |

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2024

| | Balance at 1 April 2022 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Balance at 31 March 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | |
| ***General*** | | | | |
| General Funds | 48,379 | 216,051 | (204,466) | 59,964 |
| **Restricted** | | | | |
| Osprey Infrastructure | 5,031 | 9,415 | (7,977) | 6,469 |
| PHD - Osprey | 13,813 | - | (2,163) | 11,650 |
| House Martin Project | 4,169 | - | (4,169) | - |
| Chough Reintroduction Project | - | 3,747 | (1,311) | 2,436 |
| Nightjar Walk | 3,502 | 1,800 | (5,302) | - |
| Feed The Birds Project | 237 | - | (237) | - |
| Nature Heals Project | - | 2,230 | (1,865) | 365 |
| Eagle Nest Infrastructure | 142 | 900 | (175) | 867 |
| School Bird Boats | 930 | 18,500 | (17,505) | 1,925 |
| **Total restricted funds** | 27,824 | 36,592 | (40,704) | 23,712 |
| **Total funds** | 76,203 | 252,643 | (245,170) | 83,676 |

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Osprey Project - A pioneering 5-year reintroduction program, trying to restore Osprey, a large fish eating bird of prey, to its former breeding grounds after a 200-year absence. The project see's 6 week old Osprey chicks brought down from Scotland and raised and released here in Poole Harbour, in the hope they'll eventually breed here. As part of this project we have launched a fundraiser to cover the cost of some of the infrastructure to help us monitor and engage with the public in the future. Part of this is our Osprey cameras.

Osprey Cameras - A public fundraiser campaign was started to raise funds for SMS trail cameras to be bought and placed on our Osprey nest platforms around Poole Harbour to monitor Osprey activity and behaviour on our nests.

Osprey PHD placement - For the first time, we have been able to provide funding for a local student to pursue a postgraduate degree in avian biology. Brittany Maxted is a member of the Birds of Poole Harbour team, who has been involved in the Osprey Project since its inception and has managed the translocations for the last three years. The funding we provide covers the costs of her research and tuition fees, whilst she remains employed full-time at Birds of Poole Harbour, dividing her time between work and research, and allowing her to maintain her current role as Osprey Project Officer alongside her studies.

House Martin Tower Project - Funds are being raised to build and erect a House Martin nesting tower in Upton, Poole in an effort to help build Poole's struggling House Martin population.

Nightjar Walks - Each summer we carry out guided walks on National Trust land at Slepe Heath, Wareham. When we began these walks several years ago, we agreed with the National Trust that funds raised through these events would be spent on specific projects on National Trust land within the Purbeck/Poole Harbour region. The current project proposal is for a wading bird protection zone on Shell Beach, Studland which is currently in it's design phase and being organised by the National Trust.

Feed the Birds - To keep the bird cam feeders topped for public viewing on our website, we host regular online fundraisers to purchase bird food for the feeders. Will also received a donation from a member of the public specifically for bird food and new feeders for our webcam. We only purchase the food as and when we need to.

School Bird Boat Project - Our School Bird project continues to go from strength to strength, and is designed to connect local school children with their local environment. Poole Harbour is an important habitat for a range of species but also for industry and tourism. The focus of the trips is to highlight the link between all of the harbours important dynamics and how those relationships are managed in. During the 2022/23 School bird boat season we took out and engaged with 1293 school children.

Chough reintroduction - Chough is rare species of corvid (crow) which used to breed in Dorset several centuries ago. They were wiped out by humans and have failed to regain their populations across their historic range. Just like our Osprey translocation, we are exploring the possibility of carrying out a Chough translocation (reintroduction) here along the Purbeck coast, to see if we can see Chough recolonise this historic landscape.

Eagle nest infrastructure - White-tailed Eagles were once widespread across the UK but were wiped out by humans around 240 years ago. In 2019 a White-tailed Eagle reintroduction was started on the Isle of Wight and as a result a pair are now seemingly setting up a territory here in Poole Harbour. To help speed up the process and to see if we can encourage them to nest in a safe area, we've begun working with landowners to build eagle nest platforms around the harbour.

Nature heals project - Nature Heals is an event concept developed by the Fine Family Foundation, to help provide support and wellbeing through nature for vulnerable groups and individuals. We were given funding to to carry out a series of events which we successfully did during the summer of 2022. We had more events planned for the summer of 2023, but sadly the groups we wanted to work with pulled out, meaning we still have some funding left to carry out some events in the coming months.

### 15 Analysis of net assets between funds

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds at 31 March 2024 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tangible fixed assets | 33,516 | - | 33,516 |
| Current assets | 135,456 | 28,346 | 163,802 |
| Current liabilities | (68,009) | - | (68,009) |
| Total net assets | 100,963 | 28,346 | 129,309 |

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds at 31 March 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tangible fixed assets | 27,748 | - | 27,748 |
| Current assets | 104,582 | 23,712 | 128,294 |
| Current liabilities | (72,366) | - | (72,366) |
| Total net assets | 59,964 | 23,712 | 83,676 |

### 16 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

**BIRDS OF POOLE HARBOUR**

England & Wales - Charity number 1152615

# Accounts

Company registration number: CE000516

Charity registration number: 1152615

# Birds of Poole Harbour

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

## Annual Report and Financial Statements
## Year Ended 31 March 2023

Charity registration number: 1152615

PKF Francis Clark
Towngate House
2 - 8 Parkstone Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2PW

# Birds of Poole Harbour

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# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

The trustees present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable incorporated organisation for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**Introduction:**

'Birds of Poole Harbour' was set up originally as a conservation group with the aim of promoting Poole Harbour as a popular place to come and watch birds. Within the first six months of operating, it became clear that our ideas and focus were far more charitable and in 2013 we applied for charity status. The application was successful, which allowed us to progress further with our ideas. As a charity, we aim to boost the profile of bird conservation, preservation and education in and around Poole Harbour using a number of platforms with which to achieve this. This report introduces and describes each of the projects carried out by 'Birds of Poole Harbour' over the last year, our donations received and how our funds have been distributed.

**Objects:**

The objects of the CIO are to provide environmental education on the birds of Poole Harbour and their protection through an interactive website, guided walks, school boat trips, public talks and other projects within Poole Harbour and surrounding areas.

**Activities Undertaken in Relation to Objects:**

In setting out our objects and planning our activities, we, as Trustees, have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, and during the period have undertaken activities in relation to the objects including:

Running our School Bird Boat Program; 24 hour live webcams; carrying out conservation work and projects; commissioned surveys for public use; the fifth phase of a 6-year Osprey translocation project; hosting varied guided walks; developing our public bird boat schedule; and regularly updating public information.

**Financial review:**

Trustees oversaw the charity’s income and expenditure and received financial reports that described monthly income and expenditure, cashflow forecast and financial risk profile.

Income for 2022/23 was £252,643 (2021/22: £218,293) and expenditure for 2022/23 was £245,170 (2021/22: £318,626).

**Reserves Policy**
The Board of Trustees has examined the Charity’s requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the Charity should be equal to the amount required to address the red flags as determined by the Risk Register which is £24,000.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Staffing & Trustees

Following the turbulence of 2020-2021, we were pleased to offer permanent positions to all of our full-time members of staff in 2022, which have now formed the basis of a new structure for Birds of Poole Harbour that will be sustained into the future. Our team continues to deliver their roles to the highest possible standards, which is reflected in our events feedback and project work.

With the charity approaching 10 years old, we've learnt a lot about what the public think of our work and how and where we can be most effective. We've been overwhelmed by the kindness and solidarity we've received from the general public which encouraged us to strengthen our team and especially our Trustee Board. We sought to strengthen the board by looking to bring more knowledge and expertise into the charity based on skill sets we're looking to develop. Therefore we looked to bring on a candidate with a strong and well respected natural history background, a candidate with a qualified financial background and a candidate with a strong acumen business background. We're thrilled to state that we were able to find suitable candidates for each of these roles and have now strengthened our board to 5 individuals.

### Public Engagement & Outreach Projects

### Public Events

The success of the 2021/22 winter safari cruises coupled with frequent White-tailed Eagle activity in the harbour developed into a regular series of twice weekly safari trips, beginning from late March 2022. This evolved into our most ambitious events schedule to date and saw a huge boost to our engagement and output. Approximately 140 events were delivered through the 2022/23 financial year - ranging from public boat trips, ringing demonstrations, guided walks and ID courses - which saw the charity engage with over 5,500 people. See table below for overview of the charity's events schedule.

A record-breaking number of Osprey Cruises were delivered during peak autumn migration. The number of trips increased 150% on last year with 3-hour cruises departing Poole Quay twice a day for 15 consecutive days. Incredibly, every single trip encountered Ospreys, with fledged osprey 5H1 even making a historic appearance and White-tailed Eagles seen at least once most days!

Our Sunnyside Nocturnal Winter Wader Ringing Demonstrations were another flying success and continue to be one of our fastest-selling events. Although all the demos were well received this year, we will consider running four dates in November and December next year when catch rates are higher, and events are more likely to avoid the harsh frosts during the depths of winter.

An unprecedented eight Puffin & Seabird Cruises were postponed due to poor weather, predominantly rough sea state. A period of sustained southerly winds meant conditions at sea were unsafe for visiting the colony. Most trips were rescheduled and prompted streamlining of booking protocols.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

**Boat Trip Schedule 2022/23**

| Event | Dates | Engagement |
|---|---|---|
| Spring Safari Cruises | 12 trips between April and May | 656 guests |
| Up With The Lark Cruises | 4 trips in late April and mid-May | 131 guests |
| Puffin & Seabird Cruises | 9 trips ran between late May and early July. | 734 guests |
| Summer Safari Cruises | 7 trips between June and early August | 265 guests |
| Osprey Cruises | 30 cruises from mid-August to early September | 1,531 guests |
| Autumn Safari Cruises | 10 trips between mid-September and October | 396 guests |
| Low Tide Cruises | 8 trips between October and early March | 396 guests |
| Winter Safari Cruises | 19 trips from mid-November and February | 845 guests |
| Christmas Special Bird Boat Bonanza | 1 in late December | 37 guests |
| Year-list Kick-starter Cruises | 3 trips in early January | 117 guests |
| Spring Safari Cruises | 5 trips in March | 134 guests |
| Private Charters | 2 trips in early February | LUSH staff |

**Guided Walks, Bird Ringing Demonstrations and ID Courses 2022/23**

| Event | Dates | Engagement |
|---|---|---|
| Morden Bog Dawn Chorus ID Courses | 5 dates in May | 48 guests |
| Nightjar Experience Walks | 8 dates between June-July | 121 guests |
| Bearded Tit Ringing Demonstrations | 3 dates between late September and October | 78 guests |
| Sunnyside Nocturnal Winter Wader Ringing Demonstrations | 4 dates between November and February around the new moon | 80 guests |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

**Events in partnership with Careys Secret Garden**

| Event | Dates | Engagement |
|---|---|---|
| Introduction To Birding Course | 1 course in early April; 3 courses September to November | 39 guests |
| Birds of Poole Harbour Children's Workshop | 2 workshop - mid April and early June | 27 guests |
| Early Autumn Migrants Bird Ringing ID Courses | 2 demonstrations in early August | 28 guests |
| Birds of Poole Harbour Children's Bird Ringing Workshop | 2 workshops during October half-term | 24 guests |
| Winter Birds ID Course | 1 course in mid-February | 13 guests |

**School Bird Boat Project**

Each year, Birds of Poole Harbour delivers a winter bird boats project, connecting 1,200 local primary school children with the harbour and its important birdlife at no cost to the school or pupil. This is a very rewarding and high-impact educational project, and Birds of Poole Harbour would like to thank Poole-based cosmetics company LUSH, who kindly sponsored this project for a second consecutive year, funding the coach travel and the 2-hour cruises around the harbour with commentary provided by Birds of Poole Harbour staff.

These trips provide an invaluable opportunity for school children to explore and learn about the importance of their local environment from a unique perspective. Winter in Poole Harbour is spectacular for birds, and the project allows the charity to showcase truly magical wildlife spectacles to a young audience. These range from counting vast flocks of overwinter wetland birds, experiencing Peregrine and Merlin chases, and spotting Common Seals, to even watching White-tailed Eagles re-establishing thanks to a translocation project being conducted on the Isle of Wight! As well as studying Poole Harbour's important birdlife, the trips tie in natural history, local history and industry, and marine pollution, highlighting how important the harbour is for both people and wildlife.

As the impacts of Covid-19 have significantly reduced, it was fantastic to welcome the return of binoculars during the trips. Handing out a pair of binoculars to every student vastly increases the value of the cruise and experiences that are taken back to the classroom. In total, 23 boat trips were run across 15 different local primary schools. Of the six school bird boat trips that were postponed due to the weather, three were rescheduled into April 2023.

**Feedback received from primary schools:**

*It was my first experience of the trip and I can honestly say, both the children and I thoroughly enjoyed it! Massive thank you and we look forward to it again next year.*
- Haymoor Junior School

*Brilliant - many children had never been on a boat before.*
- Talbot Primary

*We think the knowledge and expertise of the staff presenting is excellent. Thank you. Links with our Science project on Evolution, Adaptation and Inheritance where we study how birds have adapted to their environment - based on Charles Darwin's finches. We then look at Oystercatchers and Spoonbills*.
- Longfleet Primary

*It was invaluable to learn about conservation and ecology, which also coincided with our science topic about animal habitats. It really extended our learning and understanding of marine habitats. Thank you so much. I can't believe such trips are free for the children.*
- Bishops Aldhelm's Primary

**Nature Heals Project**

We were delighted to be granted funding by the Fine Family Foundation to carry out a Nature Heals project, aimed at connecting more people with nature who would find it valuable to their mental health or haven't been able to previously access the outdoors. In the summer of 2022, we carried out our first sessions for this project with attendees from WISE Ability, an employment support service, to deliver the sessions. We delivered our free Nature Heals sessions over 3 days for the group, which included a bird ringing demonstration, moth trapping, forest bathing (with Dorset Forest Bathing) and a mindfulness workshop, all at Careys Secret Garden, ending with a boat trip around Poole Harbour. We were very pleased with the outcome of these sessions, and the feedback from attendees was very positive. Further plans are being made to continue the project in 2023/24. Thank you to the Fine Family Foundation for their support and for enabling us to fund this project.

**Poole Museum**

The charity's temporary exhibition in Poole Museum remained open through the Easter holidays before deinstallation began on 25th April 2022. Our chapter with Poole Museum offered an exciting opportunity to communicate our stories and project work to a new and larger audience. We are delighted to have worked with Poole Museum, bringing Poole's important natural history to life right in the heart of town. We look forward to working closely with the museum in the future, helping to guide and support future interpretation during their redevelopment, restoration and re-opening scheduled for Spring/Summer 2024.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Webcams

The much-loved Brownsea Lagoon webcams returned back online on 18th November 2022. After a prolonged period of being offline due to various technical issues, a completely new system was installed, complete with higher definition cameras. This project was delivered in partnership with Dorset Wildlife Trust and National Trust to livestream focus on winter waders and the breeding tern islands. We also like to thank the Ewan Brodie memorial fund for contributing towards the project and have acknowledged the kind contribution by naming the Avocet Hide livestream “Brodie Cam”. Between mid-November and March, the Brownsea livestreams received 30,000 unique views.

### Ham Common Lookout

In spring 2022, we developed plans for the installation of a new fully-accessible raised viewing platform to be installed at BCP Ham Common, in partnership with BCP Council and Haven Holidays. The platform was purpose-built for watching Osprey and White-tailed Eagle in the Wareham Channel, one of the areas in the harbour that they most regularly frequent. The platform, referred to as the Ham Common Lookout, was funded between the three organisations, including through a private donation to Birds of Poole Harbour, and was installed in early September 2022. The platform has since been used regularly by the general public, with educational interpretation boards offering additional information about the site. The platform will also be used during our free pop-up Osprey Watches at Ham Common during the late summer each year, improving the viewing experience and accessibility of our events. A locally carved wooden sculpture of an Osprey is also a special addition to the viewpoint.

***Ham Common Lookout (Credit: BCP Council)***



# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Conservation Projects

### Poole Harbour Osprey Project

### Overview

Our Osprey Project reached its most significant milestone so far in 2022, with the first successful breeding of Ospreys in Southern England since 1847!

Resident female CJ7 returned on April 5th, choosing to settle on a different artificial nest to that she used the previous two years, this time on the Carey Estate near Wareham. She was joined by translocated male 022 on April 10th, and the pair immediately began courtship to re-enforce the bond they'd established the previous year and prepared the nest for breeding. Once both birds had returned and their move to this new nest site was unequivocal, we publicly launched the new livestream camera (installed March 2022). However, given the Ospreys' sensitivity to human disturbance and the importance of their success to the future local population, we worked hard alongside the landowners, business Carey Secret Garden and Dorset Police to keep the location of the nest site secret and well protected throughout the season.

CJ7 laid three eggs, each three days apart on April 23rd, 26th and 29th. Then followed a long incubation period during which CJ7 carried out most of the duties whilst 022 hunted to provide food for her and remained otherwise close by. The first chick hatched on June 1st, closely followed by the second on June 3rd, whilst the third egg (suspected to be the first laid) did not hatch: not uncommon during a first time breeding attempt. The chicks grew rapidly, fed diligently by CJ7 on 3-4 fish per day caught by 022. On July 4th the two chicks were removed from the nest under licence and ringed by the Birds of Poole Harbour and Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation teams. Based on biometric measurements the chicks, ringed 5H1 (eldest) and 5H2 (youngest), were both determined to be female. 5H1 fledged on 21st July, followed closely by 5H2 on July 23rd. Both young remained close to the nest, where they continued to regularly receive food from both parents.

***CJ7, 022 and their chicks 5H1 and 5H2 on the livestream nest in July 2022***



## Trustees' Report

On the evening of August 5th, the youngest chick 5H2 was attacked by a juvenile female Goshawk (a natural predator of Osprey) whilst perched on the edge of the nest, and despite instant retaliation from CJ7 who was perched nearby she was pulled from the nest. She was found injured but alive at the base of the tree, where she was collected by the team and taken to the emergency Vets Now practice in Wimborne who cared for her overnight, before she was transferred to raptor specialist John Chitty and his colleagues at the Anton Vets practice in Andover. Sadly, despite initial signs of recovery and surviving more than 48 hours in care, she died on the morning of August 8th. We remain incredibly grateful to both organisations for their hard work and to Dr Tim Mackrill for his guidance and expertise during that challenging period.

Thankfully the eldest chick 5H1 continued to survive well, benefiting from the full attention of both parents. She began exploring further afield and was photographed in the main harbour on multiple occasions during late August, including from our public Osprey Cruise on the 24th. The last sighting of her before she departed on migration was at RSPB Arne on August 28th. CJ7 departed the same day but 022 remained in the area until September 10th, making multiple visits to various other artificial nest sites around the harbour, possibly demonstrating his territory to passage birds.

***Osprey chick 5H1 over Coombe Heath at RSPB Arne on August 28th 2022 (Credit: Kate Plater)***



Further success was also celebrated for two of our translocated females, 014 and 019, who both bred with Welsh males on nests less than 1 km apart in the Glaslyn Valley in North Wales. 014 bred for her second season and produced two chicks, whilst 019 bred for the first time and successfully raised a single chick, all of which survived to migration. Therefore a total of four chicks were produced to individuals from the Poole Harbour Translocation Project in 2022. No new two-year-olds were seen returning to the UK, as the translocation project did not go ahead in 2020.

**Cameras**

Thanks to a generous donation from Natural England we were able to purchase a new 4K nest camera to enhance the existing livestream setup following the success of the 2022 season. Public donations were also combined with a contribution from BBC Springwatch to fund a new power cable and installation of camera equipment by FPCR in late February and early March 2023. Maintenance of all deployed camera traps and their associated artificial nests was also carried out during this period in preparation for the spring migration period. The original livestreamed nest occupied by CJ7 and 022 until late 2021 was also decommissioned and dismantled during the winter period, as it was deemed that they had abandoned the site due to disturbance factors and it was no longer an appropriate area in which to encourage breeding Ospreys to settle.

**Translocation**

Unfortunately the fifth and penultimate year of the Osprey Translocation Project had to be postponed in 2022 due to the rapidly developing epidemic of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) across the UK. Of specific concern was the high prevalence of the disease in the region of Scotland from which Osprey chicks are collected for translocation and the uncertainty around the disease's prevalence within the population. Whilst Ospreys are likely to be at lower risk of transmission than scavenging or colonial species for example, their susceptibility to the disease was ultimately unknown and safe procedures for husbandry had not been established. The decision was therefore made collectively between Birds of Poole Harbour and our partners at the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation that it would be irresponsible to go ahead with the translocation and thus, the project was postponed until the following year, in the hope that by this time the bird flu risks would be significantly reduced.

**Nest Platform Installations**

Over the winter period we were pleased to install 2 more Osprey nest platforms on private sites in the Poole Harbour area, one of which is situated on Middlebere Farm and so is visible from the RSPB Arne Lookout hide. Both nests were fitted with motion-sensitive cameras so that we are able to monitor activity during the Osprey season. The cost of installing the nests and cameras were generously covered through private donations.

**Engagement**

The huge success of the Osprey Project was celebrated across media platforms, with features on BBC Breakfast, BBC Springwatch, BBC Radio Solent, and even across the Atlantic on CBC Radio in Canada. During the early part of the Osprey season when activity was high on the nest, we also hosted weekly Q & A sessions on the YouTube livestream chat, engaging many people with the project and answering their questions.

## Trustees' Report

We hosted 30 Osprey Cruises in the summer, taking out over 1,500 people to view Ospreys around the harbour, which received excellent feedback. Unlike previous years we did not host any free Pop-up Osprey Watches at the Ham Common during the Osprey migration period in August, as the site was under construction to build our Osprey and White-tailed Eagle viewing area, in partnership with BCP Council and Haven Rockley Caravan Park. The viewpoint opened on September 1st and was enjoyed by hundreds of visitors throughout the Autumn and Winter.

We gave online Osprey Project talks to Oxford Ornithological Society, RSPB South Wilts, and RSPB Richmond & Twickenham. An in-person talk was also provided to Poole Bobbin Lace Circle in January 2023 to thank them for selecting us as their chosen charity for the year and raising a £600 donation for the Charity. In July 2022, we were also invited to host a stall and speak at Hen Harrier Fest in Cheshire. We also invited international Osprey expert Alan Poole to give an online talk through the charity in June, which was well received.

**Purbeck Chough Reintroduction Feasibility Study**

During 2022, Birds of Poole Harbour began preparations for conducting a feasibility study for the reintroduction of Chough to Purbeck, with support from the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation. Already sitting on the Chough Southern England Steering Group, we also sought advice from Kent Wildlife Trust, Wildwood and Paradise Park, who are running the Kent Chough Reintroduction Project. Potential release sites were identified within Purbeck, with support from the National Trust.

The first phase of a feasibility study was carried out in early 2023 by staff Liv Cooper and Brittany Maxted, and Dr Tim Mackrill on behalf of the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation, partially funded by Natural England. The initial findings, including habitat analysis, showed South Purbeck and the Isle of Portland to be highly suitable for a Chough reintroduction, with a potential release site confirmed. BopH presented the habitat analysis results at Chough Southern England Steering Group Meeting at Marwell Zoo on March 24th 2023. The next phase of the feasibility study, including methodology development, will be undertaken later in 2023.

**Dorset Swift Network**

In February 2023, we had the first meeting for the newly established Dorset Swift Network, aiming to monitor and bolster Common Swift populations within Dorset. From the initial meeting, we had representatives from BoPH, Dorset Council, BCP Council, Dorset Bird Club, Christchurch Harbour Ornithological Group and Swanage Swift Group. The network is now seeking funding to install nest boxes in areas with existing populations of Swifts, and galvanise community support within those areas.

**Hobby Nests**

We were approached by a local donor who offered to fund two Hobby nest installations and cameras at two private sites in and around the harbour. A donation of £2,500 was received in February 2021. The first nest and camera were installed during early spring 2021 but unfortunately no Hobby took to the nest. The second nest was installed later in the summer and a pair of Hobby took to the nest cam. Things were looking good and the Hobby pair were making the nest their home until unfortunately lightning struck the tree one night and they deserted the nest and the equipment was destroyed! We’re working with the landowner to see how we can hopefully get Hobby nesting back on their land again over the coming summers.

# Trustees' Report

### Natural England Sunnyside Scrapes

In March 2022, we helped manage the re-creation of the Sunnyside scrapes in order to restore the habitat we had created back in 2018. The work involved getting a digger on site to open up the area and free it from invasive juncus so that wading birds could begin using the site again. To date three pairs of Lapwing bred on the new scrape this spring producing 7 chicks in total. In the autumn the area was also used by passage migrants such as Yellow Wagtail, Wheatear, Wood Sandpiper, Little Ringed Plover and Green Sandpiper. It also became an important refuge for over-wintering species such as Jack Snipe and Common Snipe which then allowed us to host our winter ringing sessions at this site.

### Wader Fencing at NT Studland

In September, we collaborated with the National Trust Studland team to install a wader-protection fenced area in Shell Bay, with funding from our Nightjar Walks going towards the installation costs. This project is a trial aiming to provide a secure area for birds to roost, undisturbed by people and dogs also using the beach, which has proven to be successful in Christchurch at Hengistbury Head. Unfortunately the fencing has seen some initial damage due to movement of the sand dunes, requiring re-instalment, and so we are looking into options for further securing the fencing in the future.

***Wader Fencing at NT Studland (Credit: National Trust)***



### Partnerships and Sponsorship

### Osprey Europe

Osprey Europe continues to be a supportive partner in our Osprey reintroduction program by continuing to share news stories on their social media platforms, each of which have a large public outreach. They also kindly donated a new water-resistant travel case for our transportation of binoculars onto our cruises, which has been extremely useful.

# Trustees' Report

### Careys Secret Garden

We've continued to develop our partnership with Careys Secret Garden this year, hosting ringing demonstrations, guided walks and ID courses at the gardens. Our first two Nature Heals sessions were also hosted at the gardens. Plans were developed over the winter of 2022/23 for delivering guided Osprey nest viewing sessions in partnership with the Gardens, following the successful return of the nesting pair. Careys Secret Garden shares our vision for opening access to view the nest site, carefully balancing the protection and privacy of the breeding birds, while optimising public engagement with the project.

### Surveys and Scientific Projects

As a charity, we aim to obtain high quality data on populations and status of birds and other wildlife that are relevant to our wider conservation values.

### Breeding Raptors of Poole Harbour Survey

As part of our ongoing assessment of understanding bird populations across the harbour, we commissioned a "Breeding Raptors and Raven of Poole Harbour Survey" this year, which was carried out by Nick Hopper. This was a large undertaking having never been done before and with focus being on 9 different species, it was an incredibly in depth and varied piece of work. The study focused on the breeding populations of Common Buzzard, Honey Buzzard, Common Kestrel, Eurasian Hobby, Peregrine Falcon, Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Northern Goshawk, Western Osprey and Common Raven, each of which has it's own unique and specialist breeding ecology. The aim of the study was to identify the breeding locations of each species and gauge a baseline population status for each species. This was done by initially monitoring suitable habitat at the relevant times of year and observing displaying and courtship behaviour. Later in the season this was followed up with some visits to assess breeding productivity. Overall the study was a huge success and we were able to categorically state the true population totals for each of the species named above. It was exciting to be able to include breeding Osprey within the report as this was the first breeding of this species in southern Britain for nearly 200 years, which was a direct result of our Osprey translocation Project.

### Big Poole Harbour Bird Count

We continued hosting our Big Poole Harbour Bird Count events this year, with our first ever spring count on the 25th May 2022, and our third winter count on the 19th January 2023. Engagement was higher during the winter count with 60+ participants versus 30+ on the spring count.

### Poole Harbour WeBS counts

We continue to manage the Poole Harbour WeBS (Wetland Birds Surveys), which is a national scheme run by the BTO (British Trust for Ornithology). The survey involves a team of 30 volunteers distributed across the harbour to conduct a monthly count in September through to March. This is a hugely important survey, as the collective data affords Poole Harbour much of its designated protection. At the end of March, we coordinated an additional quick-response survey to assess the impact of the Poole Harbour Oil Spill. Fortunately, our survey found that there was minimal impact on the birdlife across the harbour, with the vast majority of overwintering birds having left the area in the weeks prior.

# Trustees' Report

A particular thanks goes out to Rod Brummitt for his collection of the survey data and coordination of the volunteers across all of the WeBS counts.

**Student Grant**

**PhD Funding**

This year we continued to provide financial support towards Brittany Maxted's part-time PhD research. The grant covers her tuition and research costs, whilst she remains employed full-time by Birds of Poole Harbour and divides her time between work and studies. The funding has already been donated to the charity in full and is ring-fenced for this purpose.

Brittany has been involved in the charity since 2015 and is responsible for managing our Osprey Translocation Project. She began her part-time PhD at Bournemouth University in September 2019, supervised by Professor Richard Stillman, Dr Pippa Gillingham, and Professor Ross Hill. The Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation has provided the main dataset for her research, alongside additional supervision from Dr Tim Mackrill. The research aims to investigate the drivers of nesting decisions and range expansion in the British Osprey population, and to provide a management framework for the species in the future.

The project helps to strengthen and establish ties with other organisations, and also provides opportunities for publication of peer-reviewed scientific research, all of which help to raise the charity's status within conservation and scientific communities.

Brittany submitted her Major Review Briefing Document in May 2022, and later attended and passed her Major Review in July 2022. The Major Review is a compulsory assessment conducted from 36 months after enrolment, where the academic standard of the student and their work is evaluated and approval to continue studying at the doctoral level is given. Brittany provided written and verbal evidence of her research progress to date, intended further work and a proposed timeline to completion, which were independently assessed by Professor Rick Stafford from Bournemouth University and Dr Sean Walls from Lotek Ltd UK.

Additionally, Brittany has made substantial progress with her analysis for the first two chapters of her thesis, which respectively explore the drivers of nest site selection and breeding productivity of the Scottish Osprey population. Brittany plans to write up these findings during winter 2023/24 and begin her data analysis for later chapters.

**Fundraising**

We continued our fundraising activities this year for the Osprey Project through Just Giving. Through the year, we raised a total of £8,662 through Just Giving, more than doubling our Osprey Project donations from the prior year. The funds raised have helped support the improvement of our Osprey nest webcam, as well as additional infrastructure maintenance across the harbour.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

**Volunteer Contribution**

A total of 23 volunteers committed an outstanding 898 hours to assisting with our Osprey Project during the 2022 season, predominantly helping to monitor and protect the nesting Ospreys.

Similarly, it was brilliant to get volunteer support on our School Bird Boat Project after being unable to run the project in 2021-2022. Our School Bird Boat volunteers contributed a total of 62 hours to the project this year.

Without the work and dedication of our volunteers, the charity would not have been able to achieve the level of engagement and project work that we have this year. As always, we are extremely grateful for their input and would like to recognise how invaluable their support is.

**Small companies provision statement**
This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 10 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Kerry Fletcher
Trustee

.....
Paul Morton
Trustee

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

## Reference and Administrative Details

| | |
|---|---|
| **Chairman** | Paul Morton |
| **Trustees** | Ian Alexander<br>Margaret Constantine<br>Kerry Fletcher<br>Sam Jolliffe |
| **Secretary** | Kerry Fletcher |
| **Charity Registration Number** | 1152615 |
| | The charity is incorporated in England and Wales. |
| **Principal Office** | Carey House<br>Carey<br>Wareham<br>Dorset<br>BH20 7PG |
| **Independent Examiner** | PKF Francis Clark<br>Towngate House<br>2 - 8 Parkstone Road<br>Poole<br>Dorset<br>BH15 2PW |
| **Bankers** | Barclays<br>100 High Street<br>Poole<br>Dorset<br>BH15 1BL |
| | Metro Bank<br>One Southampton Row<br>London<br>WC1B 5HA |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

**Statement of trustees' responsibilities**

The trustees (who are also the directors of Birds of Poole Harbour for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

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 incorporated organisation and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable incorporated organisation for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable incorporated organisation 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.

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

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 10 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Paul Morton
Chairman

.....
Kerry Fletcher
Company Secretary and Trustee

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Birds of Poole Harbour ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

**Responsibilities and basis of report**

As the trustees of Birds of Poole Harbour (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Birds of Poole Harbour are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Birds of Poole Harbour as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

.....
Anne-Marie Gates FCCA FCA (a partner of)
PKF Francis Clark

Towngate House
2 - 8 Parkstone Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2PW

22 November 2023

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Statement of Financial Activities

## Year Ended 31 March 2023
## (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

| | Note | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income and Endowments from:** | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 84,141 | 36,592 | 120,733 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 131,830 | - | 131,830 |
| Investment income | 4 | 80 | - | 80 |
| Total income | | 216,051 | 36,592 | 252,643 |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | (204,466) | (40,704) | (245,170) |
| Total expenditure | | (204,466) | (40,704) | (245,170) |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | 11,585 | (4,112) | 7,473 |
| Net movement in funds | | 11,585 | (4,112) | 7,473 |
| **Reconciliation of funds** | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 48,379 | 27,824 | 76,203 |
| Total funds carried forward | 14 | 59,964 | 23,712 | 83,676 |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Statement of Financial Activities

## Year Ended 31 March 2023
## (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

| | Note | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income and Endowments from:** | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 93,662 | 13,995 | 107,657 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 110,625 | - | 110,625 |
| Investment income | 4 | 11 | - | 11 |
| Total Income | | 204,298 | 13,995 | 218,293 |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | (304,179) | (14,447) | (318,626) |
| Total Expenditure | | (304,179) | (14,447) | (318,626) |
| Net expenditure | | (99,881) | (452) | (100,333) |
| Transfers between funds | | 525 | (525) | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (99,356) | (977) | (100,333) |
| **Reconciliation of funds** | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 147,735 | 28,801 | 176,536 |
| Total funds carried forward | 14 | 48,379 | 27,824 | 76,203 |

The funds breakdown for 2022 is shown in note 14.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

(Registration number: CE000516)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023

| | Note | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Fixed assets** | | | |
| Tangible assets | 11 | 27,748 | 22,068 |
| **Current assets** | | | |
| Debtors | 12 | 8,413 | 4,440 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 119,881 | 93,412 |
| | | 128,294 | 97,852 |
| **Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year** | 13 | (72,366) | (43,717) |
| **Net current assets** | | 55,928 | 54,135 |
| **Net assets** | | 83,676 | 76,203 |
| **Funds of the charity:** | | | |
| **Restricted income funds** | | | |
| Restricted funds | | 23,712 | 27,824 |
| **Unrestricted income funds** | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | 59,964 | 48,379 |
| **Total funds** | 14 | 83,676 | 76,203 |

The financial statements on pages 18 to 33 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 10 November 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

| | |
|---|---|
| ..... | ..... |
| Paul Morton | Kerry Fletcher |
| Chairman | Company Secretary and Trustee |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### 1 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**
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 (FRS 102)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

**Basis of preparation**
Birds of Poole Harbour meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

**Going concern**
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

**Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement**
The charity adopted Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statemenet in these financial statements.

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

***Donations***

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

***Deferred income***

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

***Investment income***

Bank interest is recognised when it is received.

***Charitable activities***

Engagement centre sales are recognised when goods are sold.

Boat trips and tour income is recognised when the trips take place.

**Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

**Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

**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.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

**Depreciation and amortisation**
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

| Asset class | Depreciation method and rate |
|---|---|
| Office equipment and website | 3 and 5 years straight line |
| Furniture and fixtures | 5 years straight line |
| Conservation assets | 3 and 5 years straight line |
| HQ equipment | 3 years straight line |

**Trade debtors**
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

**Cash and cash equivalents**
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

**Trade creditors**
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity 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. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**Fund structure**
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

**Pensions and other post retirement obligations**
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

## 2 Income from donations and legacies

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2023 £ | Total 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations and legacies; | | | | |
| Donations from individuals | 71,587 | 36,592 | 108,179 | 89,441 |
| Gift aid reclaimed | 12,554 | - | 12,554 | 18,216 |
| | 84,141 | 36,592 | 120,733 | 107,657 |

## 3 Income from charitable activities

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Product Sales | 172 | 172 |
| Public Bird Boat Income | 111,295 | 111,295 |
| Other income | 20,363 | 20,363 |
| | 131,830 | 131,830 |

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Product Sales | 28,086 | 28,086 |
| Public Bird Boat Income | 49,512 | 49,512 |
| Swift Boxes | 200 | 200 |
| Other income | 32,827 | 32,827 |
| | 110,625 | 110,625 |

## 4 Investment income

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2023 £ | Total 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Interest receivable and similar income; | | | |
| Interest receivable on bank deposits | 80 | 80 | 11 |

## 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

| | Total 2023 £ | Total 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Purchases | 121 | 23,085 |
| Osprey tags | 1,646 | 2,770 |
| Rent and rates | - | 13,928 |
| Light, heat and power | - | 2,570 |
| Insurance | 3,196 | 2,682 |
| Cleaning | - | 232 |
| School boat trip costs | 17,505 | 8,474 |
| Surveys | 13,391 | 7,271 |
| Conservation work | 11,500 | 2,500 |
| Repairs, renewals and equipment | 5,016 | 10,883 |
| People engagement | 3,343 | 4,207 |
| Telephone costs | 1,621 | 542 |
| Travel and subsistence | 1,648 | 746 |
| Computer costs | 6,086 | 3,573 |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 1,969 | 1,943 |
| Training | 384 | 4,114 |
| Refreshments | 386 | 225 |
| Equipment hire | 6,146 | 1,269 |
| Public boat trip costs | 51,750 | 22,300 |
| Other costs | (745) | 36 |
| Publicity | 2,581 | 507 |
| Consultancy | 2,069 | 9,200 |
| Recruitment cost | 182 | 210 |
| Student Grant costs | 2,163 | 2,162 |
| Wages and Salaries | 85,892 | 87,154 |
| Bank charges | 253 | 313 |
| Credit card charges | 2,925 | 2,416 |
| Loss on the disposal of Fixed Assets | - | 54,066 |
| Governance costs ( see note 6) | 6,806 | 6,500 |
| Depreciation | 17,336 | 42,748 |
| | 245,170 | 318,626 |

## 6 Analysis of governance and support costs

### Governance costs

| | Unrestricted General £ | Total 2023 £ | Total 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Independent examiner fees | | | |
| Examination of the financial statements | 5,300 | 5,300 | 5,050 |
| Accountancy Fees | 1,506 | 1,506 | 1,450 |
| | 6,806 | 6,806 | 6,500 |

## 7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year include:

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Loss on disposal of fixed assets held for the charity's own use | - | 54,066 |
| Depreciation of fixed assets | 17,336 | 42,748 |
| Independent Examination Fee | 5,300 | 5,050 |
| Accountancy Fees | 1,506 | 1,450 |

## 8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

**Paul Morton**
£71 (2022: £192) of expenses were reimbursed to Paul Morton during the year.

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

## 9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

| | 2023<br>£ | 2022<br>£ |
|---|---|---|
| **Staff costs during the year were:** | | |
| Wages and salaries | 80,500 | 77,725 |
| Social security costs | 2,652 | 6,759 |
| Pension costs | 2,740 | 2,670 |
| | 85,892 | 87,154 |

The monthly average number of persons (including senior management / leadership team) employed by the charity during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

| | 2023<br>No | 2022<br>No |
|---|---|---|
| Average number of employees | 3 | 3 |

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

## 10 Taxation

Birds of Poole Harbour is a registered charity and its activities are therefore exempt from taxation.

## 11 Tangible fixed assets

| | Office equipment and website £ | Furniture and fixtures £ | Conservation assets £ | HQ equipment £ | Total £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Cost** | | | | | |
| At 1 April 2022 | 54,372 | 1,034 | 74,408 | 7,471 | 137,285 |
| Additions | - | - | 23,016 | - | 23,016 |
| At 31 March 2023 | 54,372 | 1,034 | 97,424 | 7,471 | 160,301 |
| **Depreciation** | | | | | |
| At 1 April 2022 | 42,473 | 500 | 66,988 | 5,256 | 115,217 |
| Charge for the year | 8,572 | 207 | 6,342 | 2,215 | 17,336 |
| At 31 March 2023 | 51,045 | 707 | 73,330 | 7,471 | 132,553 |
| **Net book value** | | | | | |
| At 31 March 2023 | 3,327 | 327 | 24,094 | - | 27,748 |
| At 31 March 2022 | 11,899 | 534 | 7,420 | 2,215 | 22,068 |

## 12 Debtors

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Trade debtors | 5,552 | 166 |
| Prepayments | 2,861 | 2,509 |
| Accrued income | - | 362 |
| Other debtors | - | 1,403 |
| | 8,413 | 4,440 |

## 13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | 2023 £ | 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Trade creditors | 27,851 | 17,841 |
| Pension scheme creditor | 457 | 457 |
| Accruals | 21,399 | 7,389 |
| Deferred income | 22,659 | 18,030 |
| | 72,366 | 43,717 |

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

### 14 Funds

| | Balance at 1 April 2022 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Balance at 31 March 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | |
| ***General*** | | | | |
| General Funds | 48,379 | 216,051 | (204,466) | 59,964 |
| **Restricted funds** | | | | |
| Osprey Infrastructure | 5,031 | 9,415 | (7,977) | 6,469 |
| PHD - Osprey | 13,813 | - | (2,163) | 11,650 |
| House Martin Project | 4,169 | - | (4,169) | - |
| Chough Reintroduction Project | - | 3,747 | (1,311) | 2,436 |
| Nightjar Walk | 3,502 | 1,800 | (5,302) | - |
| Feed The Birds Project | 237 | - | (237) | - |
| Nature Heals Project | - | 2,230 | (1,865) | 365 |
| Eagle Nest Infrastructure | 142 | 900 | (175) | 867 |
| School Bird Boats | 930 | 18,500 | (17,505) | 1,925 |
| **Total restricted funds** | 27,824 | 36,592 | (40,704) | 23,712 |
| **Total funds** | 76,203 | 252,643 | (245,170) | 83,676 |

## Birds of Poole Harbour

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

| | Balance at 1 April 2021 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | | |
| ***General*** | | | | | |
| General Funds | 147,735 | 204,298 | (304,179) | 525 | 48,379 |
| **Restricted** | | | | | |
| Osprey Translocation Project | 1,894 | - | - | - | 1,894 |
| Osprey Infrastructure | 453 | 2,684 | - | - | 3,137 |
| Swift City Project | 346 | - | (346) | - | - |
| PHD - Osprey | 20,186 | 389 | (6,762) | - | 13,813 |
| House Martin Project | 169 | 4,000 | - | - | 4,169 |
| Sunnyside Farm Project | 264 | 250 | (43) | (471) | - |
| Contactless Donation Station | 359 | - | (359) | - | - |
| Pergins Island Nest Cam | 750 | - | (750) | - | - |
| Chough Reintroduction Project | 350 | - | (296) | (54) | - |
| Nightjar Walk | 1,489 | 2,045 | (32) | - | 3,502 |
| Hobbie Nest Project | 2,500 | - | (2,500) | - | - |
| Feed The Birds Project | 41 | 827 | (631) | - | 237 |
| Eagle Nest Infrastructure | - | 700 | (558) | - | 142 |
| School Bird Boats | - | 3,100 | (2,170) | - | 930 |
| **Total restricted funds** | 28,801 | 13,995 | (14,447) | (525) | 27,824 |
| **Total funds** | 176,536 | 218,293 | (318,626) | - | 76,203 |

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Osprey Project - A pioneering 5-year reintroduction program, trying to restore Osprey, a large fish eating bird of prey, to its former breeding grounds after a 200-year absence. The project see's 6 week old Osprey chicks brought down from Scotland and raised and released here in Poole Harbour, in the hope they'll eventually breed here. As part of this project we have launched a fundraiser to cover the cost of some of the infrastructure to help us monitor and engage with the public in the future. Part of this is our Osprey cameras.

Osprey Cameras - A public fundraiser campaign was started to raise funds for SMS trail cameras to be bought and placed on our Osprey nest platforms around Poole Harbour to monitor Osprey activity and behaviour on our nests.

Osprey PHD placement - For the first time, we have been able to provide funding for a local student to pursue a postgraduate degree in avian biology. Brittany Maxted is a member of the Birds of Poole Harbour team, who has been involved in the Osprey Project since its inception and has managed the translocations for the last three years. The funding we provide covers the costs of her research and tuition fees, whilst she remains employed full-time at Birds of Poole Harbour, dividing her time between work and research, and allowing her to maintain her current role as Osprey Project Officer alongside her studies.

House Martin Tower Project - Funds are being raised to build and erect a House Martin nesting tower in Upton, Poole in an effort to help build Poole's struggling House Martin population.

Nightjar Walks - Each summer we carry out guided walks on National Trust land at Slepe Heath, Wareham. When we began these walks several years ago, we agreed with the National Trust that funds raised through these events would be spent on specific projects on National Trust land within the Purbeck/Poole Harbour region. The current project proposal is for a wading bird protection zone on Shell Beach, Studland which is currently in it's design phase and being organised by the National Trust.

Feed the Birds - To keep the bird cam feeders topped for public viewing on our website, we host regular online fundraisers to purchase bird food for the feeders. Will also received a donation from a member of the public specifically for bird food and new feeders for our webcam. We only purchase the food as and when we need to.

School Bird Boat Project - Our School Bird project continues to go from strength to strength, and is designed to connect local school children with their local environment. Poole Harbour is an important habitat for a range of species but also for industry and tourism. The focus of the trips is to highlight the link between all of the harbours important dynamics and how those relationships are managed in. During the 2022/23 School bird boat season we took out and engaged with 1293 school children.

Chough reintroduction - Chough is rare species of corvid (crow) which used to breed in Dorset several centuries ago. They were wiped out by humans and have failed to regain their populations across their historic range. Just like our Osprey translocation, we are exploring the possibility of carrying out a Chough translocation (reintroduction) here along the Purbeck coast, to see if we can see Chough recolonise this historic landscape.

Eagle nest infrastructure - White-tailed Eagles were once widespread across the UK but were wiped out by humans around 240 years ago. In 2019 a White-tailed Eagle reintroduction was started on the Isle of Wight and as a result a pair are now seemingly setting up a territory here in Poole Harbour. To help speed up the process and to see if we can encourage them to nest in a safe area, we've begun working with landowners to build eagle nest platforms around the harbour.

Nature heals project - Nature Heals is an event concept developed by the Fine Family Foundation, to help provide support and wellbeing through nature for vulnerable groups and individuals. We were given funding to to carry out a series of events which we successfully did during the summer of 2022. We had more events planned for the summer of 2023, but sadly the groups we wanted to work with pulled out, meaning we still have some funding left to carry out some events in the coming months.

### 15 Analysis of net assets between funds

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds at 31 March 2023 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tangible fixed assets | 27,748 | - | 27,748 |
| Current assets | 104,582 | 23,712 | 128,294 |
| Current liabilities | (72,366) | - | (72,366) |
| Total net assets | 59,964 | 23,712 | 83,676 |

### 16 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

**BIRDS OF POOLE HARBOUR**

England & Wales - Charity number 1152615

# Accounts

Company registration number: CE000516

Charity registration number: 1152615

# Birds of Poole Harbour

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

## Annual Report and Financial Statements
## Year Ended 31 March 2022

Charity registration number: 1152615

# Birds of Poole Harbour

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# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

The trustees, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable incorporated organisation for the year ended 31 March 2022.

**Introduction:**

'Birds of Poole Harbour' was set up originally as a conservation group with the aim of promoting Poole Harbour as a popular place to come and watch birds. Within the first six months of operating, it became clear that our ideas and focus were far more charitable and in 2013 we applied for charity status. The application was successful, which allowed us to progress further with our ideas. As a charity, we aim to boost the profile of bird conservation, preservation and education in and around Poole Harbour using a number of platforms with which to achieve this. This report introduces and describes each of the projects carried out by 'Birds of Poole Harbour' over the last year, our donations received and how our funds have been distributed.

**Objects:**

The objects of the CIO are to provide environmental education on the birds of Poole Harbour and their protection through an interactive website, guide walks, school boat trips, public talks and other projects within Poole Harbour and surrounding areas.

**Activities Undertaken in Relation to Objects:**

In setting out our objects and planning our activities, we, as Trustees, have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, and during the period have undertaken activities in relation to the objects including:

Running a School Bird Boat Program; 24 hour live webcams; conservation work/projects; commissioned surveys for public use; the fourth phase of a 6-year Osprey translocation project; running an Engagement Centre style HQ for members of the public on Poole Quay; varied guided walks and public bird boat schedule; and regularly updating public information.

**Financial review:**

**Finance**
Trustees oversaw the charity's income and expenditure and received financial reports that described monthly income and expenditure, cashflow forecast and financial risk profile.

Income for 2021/22 was £218,293 (2020/21: £183,812) and expenditure for 2021/22 was £318,626 (2020/21: £256,050).

**Reserves Policy**
The Board of Trustees has examined the Charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the Charity should be equal to the amount required to address the red flags as determined by the Risk Register which is £24,000.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Achievements and performance

### Staff

After the challenges of 2020 and early 2021, it was hoped that the charity could bounce back and continue to build in strength during the 2021/22 financial year. All Birds of Poole Harbour staff were kept on full salary during this full financial year, but some job roles did change slightly based on our new and ambitious business plan and events schedule. With our Birds of Poole Harbour HQ on Poole Quay due to close in September 2021, the HQ manager role would change to an events focused role which would seek to increase the number of events we could carry out during the 2021/22 winter and early spring period. This had the potential to significantly increase our income solely through public events whilst engaging with a much larger audience. Both these aims were successful and saw a whole new range of boat trips and events begin from November 2021 to March 2022, most of which were sold out. When it came to contract reviews in June 2021, we decided that because of the long-term uncertainty surrounding Covid, to only extend each staff member's contract by another 12 months, meaning we could re-evaluate the situation in summer 2022 when hopefully the Covid situation had improved. This meant that during the 2021/22 financial year, we employed three full time staff on 12 month contracts and also one member of staff on a 2-month contract who supported the Osprey project team. Each staff member carried out their job roles to the highest standard possible and were an integral part of the charity's growth during the 2021/22 financial year.

### School Bird Boat Project

Each year, Birds of Poole Harbour fund and deliver winter bird boats for primary schools within the local catchment area, allowing up to 1,500 children to explore the harbour at no cost to the school or pupil. This is a very rewarding educational project and Birds of Poole Harbour would like to thank Poole-based cosmetics company LUSH who kindly sponsored the project this year, funding the school coach travel to and from Poole Quay and the 2-hour cruises around the harbour with commentary provided by Birds of Poole Harbour staff. The Covid-19 pandemic put the project on hold last year, so we were keen to get the project back up and running again this season. To minimise risks of Covid-19 transmission between schools, staff and volunteers, we restricted the use of binoculars for the pupils this year.

These trips provide an invaluable opportunity for school children to explore and learn about the importance of their local environment from a unique perspective. Winter in Poole Harbour is spectacular, and the project allows the charity to showcase truly magical wildlife spectacles. These range from counting vast flocks of waders, experiencing Peregrine and Merlin chases, and spotting Common Seals, to even watching a White-tailed Sea Eagle over Brownsea Lagoon. As well as studying Poole Harbour's important birdlife, the trips tie in natural history, local history and industry, and marine pollution, highlighting how important the harbour is for both people and wildlife.

With Covid-19 still preventing a few trips from running during the winter and spring terms, as well as postponements due to poor weather, we rescheduled a series of 6 trips for the summer term. These trips will focus on different topics to the winter series, with topics largely about local conservation projects, including the Osprey Reintroduction Project. Through the 2021/2022 project, we will have worked with 14 schools, including approximately 1000 pupils.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Poole Harbour Osprey Project

### Overview

2021 saw the return of CJ7 back to Poole Harbour, appearing on the Poole Harbour Osprey Livestream on the 1st April. Just as she did in 2020, she went on to lay unfertilised eggs due to her readiness to breed, this time laying 5 in total. Excitingly, her wait was rewarded with the return of a new translocated male Osprey, ringed 022, who arrived back in Poole Harbour for the first time on 18th May.

022 was translocated during the 2019 season, and his appearance back in Poole Harbour in May was the first time he had been seen since he left on migration in 2019. The pair immediately bonded and set up together on the livestreamed nest, regularly mating and building up the nest. It was slightly too late in the season for them to breed, but the pair spent the summer bonding, also visiting other nesting platforms across the harbour. 022 was regularly seen displaying over several sites in the harbour towards the end of the season. Over the winter of 2021/2022, we therefore ensured the maintenance of the motion-sensitive cameras stationed on nest platforms around the harbour area, as well as maintenance and the installation of a new livestream camera on a second nest platform that the pair had been preferencing towards the end of the 2021 season. Prior to these activities, 2 members of the team underwent Level 2 training in Tree Climbing and Aerial Rescue, working with a local business FPCR to install and maintain the cameras.




***CJ7 and 022 on the livestreamed nest together in May 2021***

There was success for the project elsewhere too, with 014, a female translocated in the 2018 cohort, returning to Wales and establishing a nest at Pont Croesor with a local Welsh male, Z2 (Aeron). The pair raised one young chick together, a male later ringed as 494. This was the first successful breeding attempt from any of the translocated Ospreys from the project, which was a real milestone to be celebrated. Another translocated female, 019, returned to the UK for the first time since her release in 2019. She also ventured to Wales, first being seen intruding on the nest at Glaslyn in June, before further exploring different sites in Wales. 019 had previously been sighted in her wintering grounds at Gunjur Quarry in The Gambia on several occasions, so hearing of her safe return to the UK was brilliant.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Translocation

We were pleased to be able to run the translocation project again in 2021, after being required to miss a year in 2020 due to the poor Osprey breeding season in Scotland. In 2021, we translocated 10 young Ospreys, working in partnership with the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation and Wildlife Windows. The 10 birds were ringed with the Darvic ring numbers of 370-379, with a 50/50 split of males to females. 9 of the 10 individuals successfully fledged in August before their subsequent migration in early September. Unfortunately, one female (ringed 378) experienced health problems identified prior to her release, which sadly led to her death despite swift action and veterinary treatment. Otherwise, we were really pleased with the season, and are looking forward to delivering the two remaining years of the project.



***5 of the translocated juveniles from the 2021 cohort***

### Engagement

We were pleased to be able to deliver 4 new Osprey Project Cruises in early summer 2021, focused on sharing more detailed insights into the Osprey Project, with the potential to view CJ7. We also delivered 13 Osprey Cruises in August and early September, including a fundraising cruise sponsored by Osprey Europe. The cruises were a great success, and it was fantastic to engage so many people with the story of the return of Ospreys in Poole Harbour.

During August we resumed our Osprey Pop-Up Watches at Ham Common, scanning the Wareham Channel for Ospreys making their autumn migrations back through the harbour, attracting c.50 people per event. With the success of these events, we have developed plans to install an Osprey Viewing Platform at Ham Common with BCP Council, which will hopefully be built in June 2022.

We continued to run regular live Q & As through our YouTube Channel on the livestream camera, interpreting the latest Osprey action and answering questions from the public about recent updates. The team also delivered several online Osprey Project talks to groups and organisations including the Scottish Wildlife Trust, Bournemouth Natural Sciences Society, Avon Wildlife Trust, RSPB, Poole Museum and the Irish Raptor Study Group. In March 2022, we delivered our own Osprey Project talk streamed via YouTube, raising over £400 in donations for the charity and reaching over 2,000 views.

To compliment the school bird boat project and to celebrate World Osprey Week, Birds of Poole Harbour teamed up with children's author Gill Lewis to deliver a free workshop on the Poole Harbour Osprey Reintroduction Project and Gill's award-winning book *Sky Hawk*, a story centred around this brilliant bird of prey and their protection. With 2022 potentially seeing the first breeding Ospreys on the South Coast in nearly 200 years thanks to the reintroduction project, it was the perfect time to work with local pupils to understand this lost species and its return to our landscape.

## Trustees' Report

Five local primary schools attended the workshop which provided the opportunity to learn about the great progress that has been made in Osprey conservation at Poole Harbour since Sky Hawk was first published 2011, as well as listen to readings from the book from Gill herself.




***Osprey Drawing - Longfleet C of E Primary School***

**Public Engagement**

**Engagement Centre**

The Birds of Poole Harbour HQ, an interactive engagement centre nestled in the heart of Poole, opened in 2018 with the aim of interpreting the rich birdlife and showcase Poole Harbour's ecological importance to a wide audience. Kitted out with touchscreen maps, a nocturnal bird sound listening station, a quayside hide streaming exclusive wildlife webcams and mini documentaries, the centre functioned as an important focal point for the charity.

The coronavirus pandemic significantly impacted the operations of the centre and a decision was made to move out of Enefco House, bringing a close to the centre on 25th September 2021. Following discussions with Poole Museum, we quickly transitioned into their temporary exhibition space, launching the Birds of Poole Harbour Poole Museum Gallery Takeover on Saturday 9 October 2021 which ran until April 24th 2022.

Birds of Poole Harbour would like to take this opportunity to thank our fantastic volunteer base for the invaluable time and effort offered in helping us deliver the highest quality engagement from the centre. Thanks to our volunteers, our presence on Poole Quay over the last 3 years helped establish the charity in the community.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

Our new chapter in partnership with Poole Museum offers an exciting opportunity to communicate our stories more effectively to a much larger audience. Poole Museum has a great reputation for bringing Poole's history to life and we hope that by including information about the harbour's important birdlife, it provides an extra learning journey for visitors to the museum. We're at a really interesting crossroads locally with multiple exciting, new and bold conservation projects either taking place already or being planned for the future. All of which seek to restore habitats, increase biodiversity and educate the public on the richness of Poole Harbour. Our new partnership with Poole Museum provides a great platform to continue telling these stories right in the heart of town.

**Events**

Ongoing uncertainties surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic continued to impact the ability of the charity to plan and deliver public-facing events. As government guidelines gradually eased, Birds of Poole Harbour were able to begin resuming a public boat cruise schedule with reduced capacity to ensure safe social distancing measures.

Eight Puffin cruises took place between May and July, with earth scientist Dr Anjana Khatwa invited to join on three dates, complimenting the seabird cruises with fascinating insights and commentary into the geology of the Purbeck coastline. To celebrate the return of 2-year old male Osprey *022* and the upcoming Osprey translocation, Birds of Poole Harbour ran a series of four new Osprey Project Tour boats in June-July offering an overview of the project and its progress while cruising along the Wareham Channel in search of the new pair, *022* and *CJ7*. As in recent years, a two week run of daily Osprey cruises ran between mid-August and early-September, totaling 12 trips. The charity increased the number of ID courses on offer, running nine events focusing on early autumn migrants at Sunnyside and Middlebere, late autumn migrants at Ballard Down and winter birds at Studland. The popular Slepe Heath Nightjar Experience walks resumed in June and July, running nine dates in total. In autumn, in partnership with Stour Ringing Group, Birds of Poole Harbour delivered an exciting new opportunity to attend Bearded Tit ringing demonstrations at Lytchett Bay. With thanks to Dorset Wildlife Trust (DWT) and Amphibian & Reptile Conservation (ARC) for access permissions, guests were offered a unique insight into the bird ringing scheme and monitoring of this elusive reedbed-specialist. The demos also gave the chance for attendees to familiarise themselves with other common autumn migrants such as Reed Bunting, Reed, Sedge and Cetti's Warblers.

Poor weather resulted in the cancellation of one Bearded Tit Ringing Demo session on 1st Oct, but the remaining three sessions (24th Sept, 8th & 15th Oct) were highly successful and showcased a stunning array of species, resulting in a total of 139 new birds ringed and featured 10 new and 8 retrap Bearded Tit. Other species highlights from the demos included Firecrest, Redwing, Water Rail and Treecreeper! The sold out sessions welcomed 85 attendees.

Birds of Poole Harbour also partnered with Careys Secret Garden to deliver a new set of events aiming to bring Poole Harbour birding to life with exclusive access to the walled garden. The four-hour courses focused on the different aspects of birding in Poole Harbour, encompassing a private bird ringing demonstration and a tour around the private Carey Estate aimed at learning identification techniques ranging from vocalisations, behaviours and in flight. Seven courses were scheduled between October and March, although the last date was postponed into early April due to poor weather conditions.

Popularity of the winter boat trips continues, running seven Wareham Channel and Harbour Cruises and eight Low Tide Cruises, as well as the launch of a new series of four Winter Safari Cruises. The Sunnyside Winter Ringing Demonstrations continue to complement our winter events scheduled, with a monthly session run from November through February. The success of the trial winter safari cruises coupled with semi-resident White-tailed Eagle activity in the harbour developed into a run of bi-weekly Spring Safari Cruises, beginning from late March.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report



**Bearded Tit Ringing Demonstration (Credit: Alex King)**

**Talks**

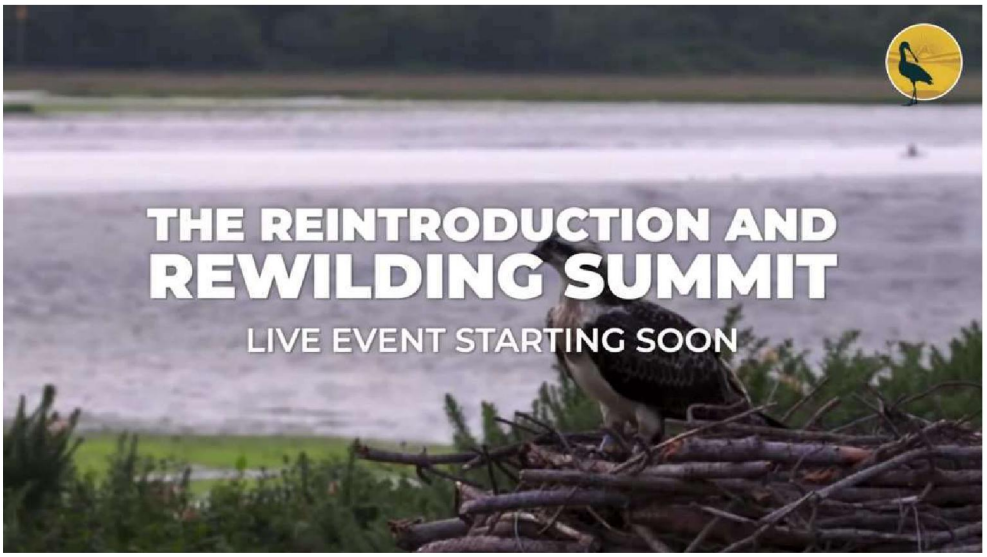
The coronavirus pandemic resulted in the mass uptake of online engagement platforms. Historically, Birds of Poole Harbour would run various in-person talks to local groups. Transitioning over to online talks is a far more efficient, accessible, and environmentally-friendly way of communicating with a wide audience. This year, Birds of Poole Harbour delivered talks to nine groups including Wildlife Trust, RSPB and Natural History groups.

To celebrate the new partnership with our friends at Poole Museum, Birds of Poole Harbour delivered a free, online public talk about the Osprey Project hosted through the museum and saw 125 people register on to the event on 8th December.

Following the excellent Winter Big Poole Harbour Bird Count, a harbour-wide, citizen-birding project, we delivered a round-up livestream talk through the charity's YouTube channel on February 10th which has been watched by over 930 viewers to date. Then, in the run up to spring Osprey migration, we delivered an Osprey Translocation Talk, again via YouTube, which has clocked over 650 viewers to date.

**Reintroduction and Rewilding Summit**

On the 10th April 2021, we delivered The Reintroduction and Rewilding Summit, an online event in partnership with The Self-Isolating Bird Club. The day-long event, which was hosted by Chris Packham and Megan McCubbin, aimed to inform and excite the public about the series of proactive conservation projects happening in the UK and beyond, particularly in relation to reintroducing species and rewilding landscapes. Set out as an online festival, with talks and panel discussions from the likes of individuals such as Roy Dennis, Derek Gow and Sara King, we featured several organisations including the Beaver Trust, the Knepp Estate, Cairngorm Connect and Back From The Brink. The event, which was streamed on YouTube and Facebook, attracted thousands of views on the day, and was available to watch following the day. In total, we had over 20,000 views on the event and many comments on the inspirational success of the event. In the run-up to the Summit, we collaborated with Charlie Moores to create a podcast series highlighting some of the conservationists and projects that would feature during the event. These podcasts were well received, featuring guests including Isabella Tree, Tim Mackrill and Lucy Groves.




**Partnerships and Sponsorship**

As our exposure grew during 2021/22, local businesses and the council became more interested and supportive in learning more about our work and starting longer term partnerships.

**BCP Council - Poole Museum**

In September 2021 our Birds of Poole Harbour HQ closed, but Poole Museum were keen to still represent our work in Poole Town, so kindly offered to host an in residence exhibition for us, where we re-installed our interpretation and displays over two floors within the museum

**Osprey Europe**

Osprey Europe continues to be a supportive partner in our Osprey reintroduction program by continuing to share news stories on their social media platforms, each of which have a large public outreach.

### Careys Secret Garden

We've begun hosting public education events at this new rewilding and public gardens site. Carey Secret Gardens ethos and vision very much aligns with ours, so are keen to build and strengthen the relationship with this new venture. There are multiple opportunities to help fulfil our charitable objectives at this site.

### Natural England Sunnyside Scrapes

In March 2022, we helped manage the re-creation of the Sunnyside scrapes in order to restore the habitat we had created back in 2018. The work involved getting a digger on site to open up the area and free it from invasive juncus so that wading birds could begin using the site again. To date three pairs of Lapwing bred on the new scrape this spring producing 7 chicks in total.

### Student Grant

### PhD Funding

This year Brittany started her data analysis and began work on her Major Review Briefing Document, which will be submitted and presented to a panel of reviewers before September 2022, and marks a rough halfway point between the beginning of her degree and submission of her thesis.

We have continued to provide financial support towards Brittany Maxted's part-time PhD research. The grant covers her tuition and research costs, whilst she remains employed full-time by Birds of Poole Harbour and divides her time between work and studies. The funding has already been donated to the charity in full and is ring-fenced for this purpose.

Brittany has been involved in the charity since 2015 and is responsible for managing our Osprey Translocation Project. She began her part-time PhD at Bournemouth University in September 2019, supervised by Professor Richard Stillman, Dr Pippa Gillingham, and Professor Ross Hill. The Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation has provided the main dataset for her research, alongside additional supervision from Dr Tim Mackrill. The research aims to investigate the drivers of nesting decisions and range expansion in the British Osprey population, and to provide a management framework for the species in the future.

The project helps to strengthen and establish ties with other organisations, and also provides opportunities for publication of peer-reviewed scientific research, all of which help to raise the charity's status within conservation and scientific communities.

### Surveys and Scientific Projects

As a charity, we aim to obtain high quality data on populations and status of birds and other wildlife that are relevant to our wider conservation values.

### Breeding waders of Poole Harbour survey - April to August 2022

Poole Harbour has nationally and internationally important numbers of over-wintering birds which are assessed and counted accurately each year. However, breeding wader populations are almost never logged due to the difficulty in accurately counting these populations. During the spring and summer of 2021 ,we commissioned a survey focusing on finding out what the full Poole Harbour breeding wader population was, focusing on the following species; Redshank, Lapwing, Curlew, Oystercatcher and Little Ringed Plover. The survey was a huge success and allowed us to fully understand the current status of Poole Harbours breeding waders. The full survey and results were published for free on our website for the public to access.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Big Poole Harbour Bird Count

This year, we hosted another Big Poole Harbour Bird Count event, inviting members of the public to contribute to a community science project by sending in their bird sightings from around Poole Harbour. The event was held on Sunday 16th January 2022 to coincide with the monthly Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) and constituted our second ever winter count. Going forward we hope to make this a quarterly tradition, carrying out one day-long survey during each season of each year.

The January 2022 Bird Count was our best attended so far, with 96 participants covering a total of 115 different sites around the harbour. Another record was also broken: the most species recorded of any count yet, with 140 species seen across the harbour. Adjusting for duplications, we estimated that 38,176 individual birds were counted throughout the day. As with previous counts, all the data collected is available to view on our interactive webpage: https://birdsofpooleharbour.shinyapps.io/Big_Poole_Harbour_Bird_Count_Results/

Where in the past we have hosted an in-person end of day gathering to go through the sightings, we instead compiled everyone's data digitally and presented a free online talk on Thursday February 10th to share the results. This was incredibly well attended with over 100 viewers live, and over £450 in donations was raised as a direct result. The talk is available on our YouTube channel and has received over 900 views: https://youtu.be/6-rkk3XkA80

**Poole Harbour WeBS counts** - We continue to manage the Poole Harbour WeBS (Wetland Birds Surveys), which is a national scheme run by the BTO (British Trust for Ornithology). The survey involves a team of 30 volunteers distributed across the harbour to conduct a monthly count in September through to March. This is a hugely important survey, as the collective data affords Poole Harbour much of its designated protection. In December 2021, we were pleased to publish a report covering an analysis of the WeBS data collected between 1972 and 2020/2021. A particular thanks goes to volunteers Patrick Redshaw, Rod Brummitt and Jol Mitchell for their work on the report.

**Poole Harbour Mediterranean Gull survey** - Poole Harbour is a designated Special Protection Area (SPA). It qualifies for this protection due to the range and totals of certain species of plant and animal that live there. One of those species is the Mediterranean Gull, a rare bird that only started colonising the UK in the last 30 years. Poole Harbour has an important breeding population of Mediterranean Gulls that nest on some inaccessible islands in the Wareham Channel. To maintain a strong data set of the population and to assess any changes in their status, the colony needs to be surveyed at least every other year by skilled, trained and licensed surveyors. Because Mediterranean Gull is a Poole Harbour SPA 'feature species', funding is available from Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch (BCP) Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). In summer 2021, we received a grant of £700 to go and survey the islands which paid for a lead surveyor and boat hire to and from the islands.

### Other Conservation projects

**Hobby Nests**

We were approached by a local donor who offered to fund two Hobby nest installations and cameras at two private sites in and around the harbour. A donation of £2500 was received in February 2021. The first nest and camera were installed during early spring 2021 but unfortunately no Hobby took to the nest. The second nest was installed later in the summer. It's hoped the the second camera will be installed in spring 2022.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### People Engagement

**Brownsea Lagoon camera** - Sadly, this setup has been non-functioning for a while, due to the age of the equipment and the current streaming setup, so we have made the decision to cancel all subscriptions relating to this for now. We hope to install a new setup in the very near future with better high definition cameras and online interaction opportunities.

**Lytchett Fields path -** Having received several comments from members of the public regarding the state of the path leading down to the Lytchett Fields viewpoints, we received funding to install a new length of rubber matting which made the footpath a lot firmer under foot. This was agreed in January 2022 and the funding was donated immediately. A team, including RSPB volunteers, members of the local community and BoPH staff, completed the installation in February.



**Installation of the path at Lytchett Fields**

### Fundraising

Now with a bigger outreach and more people following our work we continued to build on our fundraising opportunities. Not only do we receive regular support from a number of generous donors, we are now seeing contributions to our fundraising campaigns grow too. In 2020/21 we hosted several specific fundraising targets for specific projects across the harbour. Some were via traditional fundraising methods, using our Just Giving fundraising page, and others were through public events that had a specific fundraising need.

### Fundraising Campaigns

**Feed the Birds -** After the success of running mini-fundraisers last year, we ran two Feed the Birds Just Giving campaigns this year. Between them, the campaigns raised £810 including Gift Aid to fill the bird feeders at Livability Holton Lee, who are our partners for our livestream bird feeder cam. This meant that the public were able to continue watching the livestream camera from home and enjoy seeing the variety of birds that use feeders.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

**Osprey Project -** We continued to raise donations to the Osprey Project through Just Giving in 2021/22, which was most significantly contributed to by users of the livestream webcam. Through the year, we raised £2688.75, a brilliant amount to help fund developments in the Osprey Project. We also ran an Osprey Fundraiser Cruise on the 5th September, which offered the attendees to hear from Roy Dennis and Tim Mackrill, and was sponsored by Osprey Europe. The cruise raised a further £1,250 for the Osprey Project.

**Fundraising Events**

**Nightjar walks-** The popular Slepe Heath Nightjar Experience walks resumed in June and July 2021, running nine dates in total, these were a partnership project with the National Trust, and saw us raise £1933 for a bird protection focused project on National Trust Land. This was decided to be a wader protection zone on Shell Beach, Studland

**Volunteer Contribution**

Osprey hours 108

School Bird Boat 28

HQ: 243

**Small companies provision statement**
This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 19/12/22 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Kerry Fletcher
Trustee

.....
Paul Morton
Trustee

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

## Reference and Administrative Details

| | |
|---|---|
| **Trustees** | Kerry Fletcher |
| | Paul Morton |
| **Principal Office** | Carey House<br>Carey<br>Wareham<br>Dorset<br>BH20 7PG |
| | The charity is incorporated in England and Wales. |
| **Charity Registration Number** | 1152615 |
| **Bankers** | Barclays<br>100 High Street<br>Poole<br>Dorset<br>BH15 1BL |
| | Metro Bank<br>One Southampton Row<br>London<br>WC1B 5HA |
| **Independent Examiner** | PKF Francis Clark<br>Towngate House<br>2 - 8 Parkstone Road<br>Poole<br>Dorset<br>BH15 2PW |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provision of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 19/12/22 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Kerry Fletcher
Trustee

.....
Paul Morton
Trustee

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Birds of Poole Harbour

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022 which are set out on pages 16 to 30.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the trustees of Birds of Poole Harbour (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Birds of Poole Harbour are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Birds of Poole Harbour as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.



.....
Anne-Marie Gates FCCA FCA (a partner of)
PKF Francis Clark

Towngate House
2 - 8 Parkstone Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2PW

Date: *21 December 2022*

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Statement of Financial Activities

## Year Ended 31 March 2022
## (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

| | Note | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income and Endowments from:** | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 102,912 | 13,995 | 116,907 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 101,375 | - | 101,375 |
| Investment income | 4 | 11 | - | 11 |
| Total income | | 204,298 | 13,995 | 218,293 |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | (304,179) | (14,447) | (318,626) |
| Total expenditure | | (304,179) | (14,447) | (318,626) |
| Net expenditure | | (99,881) | (452) | (100,333) |
| Transfers between funds | | 525 | (525) | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (99,356) | (977) | (100,333) |
| **Reconciliation of funds** | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 147,735 | 28,801 | 176,536 |
| Total funds carried forward | 15 | 48,379 | 27,824 | 76,203 |

The notes on pages 19 to 30 form an integral part of these financial statements.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Statement of Financial Activities

## Year Ended 31 March 2022
## (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

| | Note | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income and Endowments from:** | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 107,021 | 13,740 | 120,761 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 63,044 | - | 63,044 |
| Investment income | 4 | 7 | - | 7 |
| Total Income | | 170,072 | 13,740 | 183,812 |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | (242,474) | (13,576) | (256,050) |
| Total Expenditure | | (242,474) | (13,576) | (256,050) |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (72,402) | 164 | (72,238) |
| Transfers between funds | | 1,885 | (1,885) | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (70,517) | (1,721) | (72,238) |
| **Reconciliation of funds** | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 218,252 | 30,522 | 248,774 |
| Total funds carried forward | 15 | 147,735 | 28,801 | 176,536 |

The funds breakdown for 2021 is shown in note 15.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

(Registration number: CE000516)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

| | Note | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Fixed assets** | | | |
| Tangible assets | 11 | 22,068 | 112,974 |
| **Current assets** | | | |
| Stocks | 12 | - | 27,345 |
| Debtors | 13 | 4,440 | 4,352 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 93,412 | 45,494 |
| | | 97,852 | 77,191 |
| **Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year** | 14 | (43,717) | (13,629) |
| **Net current assets** | | 54,135 | 63,562 |
| **Net assets** | | 76,203 | 176,536 |
| **Funds of the charity:** | | | |
| **Restricted income funds** | | | |
| Restricted funds | | 27,824 | 28,801 |
| **Unrestricted income funds** | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | 48,379 | 147,735 |
| **Total funds** | 15 | 76,203 | 176,536 |

The financial statements on pages 16 to 30 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on .19/12/22. and signed on their behalf by:



Kerry Fletcher
Trustee



Paul Morton
Trustee

## 1 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**
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

**Basis of preparation**
Birds of Poole Harbour meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

**Going concern**
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees consider there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

**Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement**
The charity adopted Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

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

***Donations***

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

***Deferred income***

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

***Investment income***

Bank interest is recognised when it is received.

***Charitable activities***

Engagement centre sales are recognised when goods are sold.

Boat trips and tour income is recognised when the trips take place.

**Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

**Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

**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.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Individual fixed assets are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

**Depreciation and amortisation**
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

| Asset class | Depreciation method and rate |
|---|---|
| Office equipment and website | 3 and 5 years straight line |
| Furniture and fixtures | 5 years straight line |
| Conservation assets | 3 and 5 years straight line |
| HQ equipment | 3 years straight line |

**Stock**
Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out basis (FIFO).

**Trade debtors**
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

**Cash and cash equivalents**
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

**Trade creditors**
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity 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. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**Fund structure**
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

**Pensions and other post retirement obligations**
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

### 2 Income from donations and legacies

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2022 £ | Total 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations and legacies; | | | | |
| Donations from individuals | 85,718 | 12,973 | 98,691 | 99,587 |
| Gift aid reclaimed | 17,194 | 1,022 | 18,216 | 21,174 |
| | 102,912 | 13,995 | 116,907 | 120,761 |

### 3 Income from charitable activities

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Engagement Centre Sales | 28,086 | 28,086 |
| Public Bird Boat Income | 49,512 | 49,512 |
| Swift Boxes | 200 | 200 |
| Other income | 23,577 | 23,577 |
| | 101,375 | 101,375 |

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Engagement Centre Sales | 5,865 | 5,865 |
| Public Bird Boat Income | 5,198 | 5,198 |
| Other income | 51,981 | 51,981 |
| | 63,044 | 63,044 |

### 4 Investment income

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2022 £ | Total 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Interest receivable and similar income; | | | |
| Interest receivable on bank deposits | 11 | 11 | 7 |

## 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

| | Total 2022 £ | Total 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Purchases | 23,085 | 4,474 |
| Osprey tags | 2,770 | 2,250 |
| Rent and rates | 13,928 | 22,899 |
| Light, heat and power | 2,570 | 3,213 |
| Insurance | 2,682 | 4,365 |
| Cleaning | 232 | 213 |
| School boat trip costs | 8,474 | - |
| Surveys | 7,271 | 31,982 |
| Conservation work | 2,500 | 3,760 |
| Repairs, renewals and equipment | 10,883 | 8,893 |
| People engagement | 4,207 | 3,922 |
| Telephone costs | 542 | 435 |
| Travel and subsistence | 746 | 124 |
| Computer costs | 3,573 | 4,595 |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 1,943 | 1,405 |
| Training | 4,114 | 177 |
| Refreshments | 225 | 34 |
| Equipment hire | 1,269 | 503 |
| Public boat trip costs | 22,300 | 2,350 |
| Other costs | 36 | 55 |
| Publicity | 507 | 705 |
| Consultancy | 9,200 | - |
| Recruitment cost | 210 | - |
| Student Grant costs | 2,162 | 2,163 |
| Wages and Salaries | 87,154 | 73,895 |
| Bank charges | 313 | 204 |
| Credit card charges | 2,416 | 2,310 |
| Loss on the sale of Fixed Assets | 54,066 | - |
| Governance costs ( see note 6) | 6,500 | 6,070 |
| Depreciation | 42,748 | 75,054 |
| | 318,626 | 256,050 |

## 6 Analysis of governance and support costs

### Governance costs

| | Unrestricted General £ | Total 2022 £ | Total 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Independent examiner fees | | | |
| Examination of the financial statements | 5,050 | 5,050 | 4,560 |
| Accountancy Fees | 1,450 | 1,450 | 1,510 |
| | 6,500 | 6,500 | 6,070 |

## 7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

| | 2022 £ | 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Loss on disposal of fixed assets held for the charity's own use | 54,066 | - |
| Depreciation of fixed assets | 42,748 | 75,054 |
| Independent Examination Fee | 5,050 | 4,560 |
| Accountancy Fees | 1,450 | 1,510 |

## 8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

During the year the charity made the following transactions with trustees:

**Paul Morton**
£192 (2021: £Nil) of expenses were reimbursed to Paul Morton during the year.

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

## 9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

| | 2022<br>£ | 2021<br>£ |
|---|---|---|
| **Staff costs during the year were:** | | |
| Wages and salaries | 77,725 | 66,368 |
| Social security costs | 6,759 | 5,207 |
| Pension costs | 2,670 | 2,320 |
| | 87,154 | 73,895 |

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

## 10 Taxation

Birds of Poole Harbour is a registered charity and its activities are therefore exempt from taxation.

## 11 Tangible fixed assets

| | Office equipment and website<br>£ | Furniture and fixtures<br>£ | Conservation assets<br>£ | HQ equipment<br>£ | Total<br>£ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Cost** | | | | | |
| At 1 April 2021 | 54,372 | 197,694 | 68,499 | 47,229 | 367,794 |
| Additions | - | - | 5,908 | - | 5,908 |
| Disposals | - | (196,660) | - | (39,758) | (236,418) |
| At 31 March 2022 | 54,372 | 1,034 | 74,407 | 7,471 | 137,284 |
| **Depreciation** | | | | | |
| At 1 April 2021 | 32,899 | 120,188 | 59,838 | 41,895 | 254,820 |
| Charge for the year | 9,574 | 23,150 | 7,149 | 2,875 | 42,748 |
| Eliminated on disposals | - | (142,838) | - | (39,514) | (182,352) |
| At 31 March 2022 | 42,473 | 500 | 66,987 | 5,256 | 115,216 |
| **Net book value** | | | | | |
| At 31 March 2022 | 11,899 | 534 | 7,420 | 2,215 | 22,068 |
| At 31 March 2021 | 21,473 | 77,506 | 8,661 | 5,334 | 112,974 |

### 12 Stock

| | 2022<br>£ | 2021<br>£ |
|---|---|---|
| Stocks | - | 27,345 |

### 13 Debtors

| | 2022<br>£ | 2021<br>£ |
|---|---|---|
| Trade debtors | 166 | - |
| Prepayments | 2,509 | 3,642 |
| Accrued income | 362 | - |
| Other debtors | 1,403 | 710 |
| | 4,440 | 4,352 |

### 14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | 2022<br>£ | 2021<br>£ |
|---|---|---|
| Trade creditors | 17,841 | 5,216 |
| Pension scheme creditor | 457 | - |
| Accruals | 7,389 | 6,563 |
| Deferred income | 18,030 | 1,850 |
| | 43,717 | 13,629 |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

### 15 Funds

| | Balance at 1 April 2021 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | | |
| ***General*** | | | | | |
| General Funds | 147,735 | 204,298 | (304,179) | 525 | 48,379 |
| **Restricted funds** | | | | | |
| Osprey Translocation Project | 1,894 | - | - | - | 1,894 |
| Osprey Cameras | 453 | 2,684 | - | - | 3,137 |
| Swift City Project | 346 | - | (346) | - | - |
| PHD - Osprey | 20,186 | 389 | (6,762) | - | 13,813 |
| House Martin Project | 169 | 4,000 | - | - | 4,169 |
| Sunnyside Farm Project | 264 | 250 | (43) | (471) | - |
| Contactless Donation Station | 359 | - | (359) | - | - |
| Pergins Island Nest Cam | 750 | - | (750) | - | - |
| Binoclars Repair | 350 | - | (296) | (54) | - |
| Nightjar Walk | 1,489 | 2,045 | (32) | - | 3,502 |
| Hobbie Nest Project | 2,500 | - | (2,500) | - | - |
| Feed The Birds Project | 41 | 827 | (631) | - | 237 |
| Med Gull | - | 700 | (558) | - | 142 |
| School Bird Boats | - | 3,100 | (2,170) | - | 930 |
| **Total restricted funds** | 28,801 | 13,995 | (14,447) | (525) | 27,824 |
| **Total funds** | 176,536 | 218,293 | (318,626) | - | 76,203 |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2022

| | Balance at 1 April 2020 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | | |
| ***General*** | | | | | |
| General Funds | 218,252 | 170,072 | (242,474) | 1,885 | 147,735 |
| **Restricted** | | | | | |
| Osprey Translocation Project | 1,854 | 40 | - | - | 1,894 |
| Osprey Cameras | 238 | 2,213 | (113) | (1,885) | 453 |
| Swift City Project | 2,246 | - | (1,900) | - | 346 |
| PHD - Osprey | 23,237 | 4,597 | (7,648) | - | 20,186 |
| House Martin Project | 169 | - | - | - | 169 |
| Sunnyside Farm Project | 1,153 | 759 | (1,648) | - | 264 |
| Contactless Donation Station | 525 | - | (166) | - | 359 |
| Pergins Island Nest Cam | 750 | - | - | - | 750 |
| Binoclars Repair | 350 | - | - | - | 350 |
| Nightjar Walk | - | 1,505 | (16) | - | 1,489 |
| Hobbie Nest Project | - | 2,500 | - | - | 2,500 |
| Feed The Birds Project | - | 376 | (335) | - | 41 |
| CAF Covid Grant | - | 1,750 | (1,750) | - | - |
| **Total restricted funds** | 30,522 | 13,740 | (13,576) | (1,885) | 28,801 |
| **Total funds** | 248,774 | 183,812 | (256,050) | - | 176,536 |

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Osprey Translocation Project - A pioneering 5-year reintroduction program, trying to restore Osprey, a large fish eating bird of prey, to its former breeding grounds after a 200-year absence. The project see's 6 week old Osprey chicks brought down from Scotland and raised and released here in Poole Harbour, in the hope they'll eventually breed here. As part of this project we have launched a fundraiser to cover the cost of some of the infrastructure to help us monitor and engage with the public in the future. Part of this is our Osprey cameras.

Osprey Cameras - A public fundraiser campaign was started to raise funds for SMS trail cameras to be bought and placed on our Osprey nest platforms around Poole Harbour to monitor Osprey activity and behaviour on our nests.

Swift City Project - A public fundraiser campaign was started to raise funds for Swift boxes to be installed in and around the Poole Harbour area in an effort to help build Poole's struggling Swift population

Sunnyside Farm Screen - A series of public events were held and money was raised at Sunnyside Farm in a bid to refurbish the dilapidated viewing/birdwatching screen at the site. The money that was raised will see a new screen being built.

Osprey PHD placement - For the first time, we have been able to provide funding for a local student to pursue a postgraduate degree in avian biology. Brittany Maxted is a member of the Birds of Poole Harbour team, who has been involved in the Osprey Project since its inception and has managed the translocations for the last three years. The funding we provide covers the costs of her research and tuition fees, whilst she remains employed full-time at Birds of Poole Harbour, dividing her time between work and research, and allowing her to maintain her current role as Osprey Project Officer alongside her studies.

House Martin Tower Project - Funds are being raised to build and erect a House Martin nesting tower in Upton, Poole in an effort to help build Poole's struggling House Martin population

Contactless Donation Station - A kind grant was given to us by the Fine Family Foundation which allowed us to design and install a new, interactive contactless donation station within our HQ on Poole Quay, to help generate donations.

Pergins Island Nest Camera - We were kindly given money by some supporters of the charity who were keen to place a new SMS trail camera on a nest platform that they also contributed towards.

Binocular Repair - Poole Rotary Club kindly provided funding to get some of our school bird boat binoculars repaired, allowing more children to use binoculars during their boat trips in the winter.

Nightjar Walks - Each summer we carry out guided walks on National Trust land at Slepe Heath, Wareham. When we began these walks several years ago, we agreed with the National Trust that funds raised through these events would be spent on specific projects on National Trust land within the Purbeck/Poole Harbour region. The current project proposal is for a wading bird protection zone on Shell Beach, Studland which is currently in it’s design phase and being organised by the National Trust.

Hobby Nest Cameras - Live webcams have become incredibly popular over the last 5 years. A private landowner who has breeding Hobby on his land was keen for a nest cam to be installed on that nest and made a direct donation to the charity to allow this to happen, whilst providing enough funds to have another camera installed on a different Hobby nest within the harbour. The summer of 2021 sadly didn’t see these nests being used so funds will be spent next year installing the cameras.

Feed the Birds - To keep the bird cam feeders topped for public viewing on our website, we host regular online fundraisers to purchase bird food for the feeders. Will also received a donation from a member of the public specifically for bird food and new feeders for our webcam. We only purchase the food as and when we need to.

Poole Harbour Mediterranean Gull survey - Poole Harbour is a designated Special Protection Area (SPA). It qualifies for this protection due to the range and totals of certain species of plant and animal that live there. One of those species is the Mediterranean Gull, a rare bird that's only started colonising the UK in the last 30 years. Poole Harbour has an important breeding population of Mediterranean Gulls that nest on some inaccessible islands in the Wareham Channel. To maintain a strong data set of the population and to assess any changes in their status, the colony needs to be surveyed at least every other year by skilled, trained and licensed surveyors. Because Mediterranean Gull is a Poole Harbour SPA 'feature species', funding is available from Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch (BCP) Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). In summer 2021 we received a grant of £750 to go and survey the islands which paid for a lead surveyor and boat hire to and from the islands.

School Bird Boat Project - Since 2012 Birds of Poole Harbour have run the School Bird Boat project. This initiative see's the charity take out c1200 primary school children each winter, from multiple schools around the Poole Harbour area. The main education focus looks at Poole Harbour habitats, sea pollution, harbour careers and Poole Harbour fauna and flora. Each group has a private 2 hour cruise around Poole Harbour which is 100% costed and covered by Birds of Poole Harbour, including boat hire, travel to and from schools and education materials, meaning schools and parents don't pay a penny. These trips were initially sponsored by local benefactors but in summer 2021, Poole based company LUSH kindly stepped forward and offered to sponsor the trips for the 2021/22 season with the aim of hopefully being able to support longer term too.

### 16 Analysis of net assets between funds

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds at 31 March 2022 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tangible fixed assets | 22,068 | - | 22,068 |
| Current assets | 70,028 | 27,824 | 97,852 |
| Current liabilities | (43,717) | - | (43,717) |
| Total net assets | 48,379 | 27,824 | 76,203 |

### 17 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.

**BIRDS OF POOLE HARBOUR**

England & Wales - Charity number 1152615

# Accounts

Company registration number: CE000516

Charity registration number: 1152615

# Birds of Poole Harbour

(A Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

## Annual Report and Financial Statements
## Year Ended 31 March 2021

Charity registration number: 1152615

# Birds of Poole Harbour

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# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

The trustees, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable incorporated organisation for the year ended 31 March 2021.

### Introduction:

'Birds of Poole Harbour' was set up originally as a conservation group with the aim of promoting Poole Harbour as a popular place to come and watch birds. Within the first six months of operating, it became clear that our ideas and focus were far more charitable and in 2013 we applied for charity status. The application was successful, which allowed us to progress further with our ideas. As a charity, we aim to boost the profile of bird conservation, preservation and education in and around Poole Harbour using a number of platforms with which to achieve this. This report introduces and describes each of the projects carried out by 'Birds of Poole Harbour' over the last year, our donations received and how our funds have been distributed.

### Objects:

The objectives of the CIO are to provide environmental education on the birds of Poole Harbour and their protection through an interactive website, guide walks, school boat trips, public talks and other projects within Poole Harbour and surrounding areas.

### Activities Undertaken in Relation to Objects:

In setting out our objects and planning our activities, we, as Trustees, have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, and during the period have undertaken activities in relation to the objects including:

Running a School Bird Boat Program; 24 hour live webcams; conservation work/projects; commissioned surveys for public use; the fourth phase of a 5-year Osprey translocation project; running an Engagement Centre style HQ for members of the public on Poole Quay; varied guided walks and public bird boat schedule; and regularly updating public information.

### Financial review:

**Finance**
Trustees oversaw the charity’s income and expenditure and received financial reports that described monthly income and expenditure, cashflow forecast and financial risk profile.

Income for 2020/21 was £183,812 (2020: £344,941) and expenditure for 2020/21 was £256,050 (2020: £345,053).

Trustees have continued to monitor the financial position of the charity in the light of the pandemic and have taken steps to minimise the impact by reviewing staffing requirements and it was agreed not to utilise the furlough scheme. Support has been received towards core costs from a range of grant providers to whom the charity is extremely grateful. The reserves in place along with additional coronavirus funding received will help the charity through this difficult time.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

**Reserves Policy**

The Board of Trustees has examined the Charity's requirements for reserves in light of the main risks to the organisation. It has established a policy whereby the unrestricted funds not committed or invested in tangible fixed assets held by the Charity should be equal to the amount required to address the red flags as determined by the Risk Register which is £24,000.

**Achievements and performance**

**Staff**

2020/21 was an incredibly strange and challenging year because of the arrival of COVID:19. With uncertainty ahead in April 2020, all options were considered when it came to our staff. Despite the challenges, 2020 still potentially had the opportunity to be an incredibly exciting year for the charity as there was a possibility we could see our first pair of nesting Osprey as a result of our Osprey reintroduction program. With this in mind, we knew public communication and engagement was going to be a key element in keeping the public up to date with progress, and as we entered lockdown it soon became clear how important that communication became for the general public. When the furlough scheme was announced, we considered the pro's and con's of partaking in the initiative and decided that to maintain staff morale and enthusiasm, and to support the public we would continue with each of our three staff contracts and not utilise the government furlough scheme. This turned out to be a really positive decision when we started receiving emails and correspondence from the public, thanking us for our work and online communication during lockdown, explaining that it helped them through a really difficult period. Staff contracts ended in Sept 2020, and with uncertainty ahead we were hesitant to offer full 1-year contract extensions to our staff. However, we really didn't want to lose three excellent staff, so negotiated with them a rolling month by month contract agreement until there was more certainty ahead. Each staff member, despite immediate job security, continued to fulfill their job roles to the highest standard and we couldn't be happier with their performance. The rolling month by month contract agreement continued past the financial year 2020/21, with annual contracts being offered once again from the summer months.

In 2020 we were also planning and preparing to host the fourth year of our Osprey reintroduction during July and August 2020, meaning we'd need to re-employ an Osprey project assistant on a 3-month contract. This person was employed in July 2020, and began helping prep for the arrival of our Osprey chicks. However, at the last minute, it was sadly discovered that we would not be able to host the project that summer due to the lack of available chicks up in Scotland and therefore the project was put on hold for a year. We considered what to do with this three-month role, and spoke with our project partners, the Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation, who at the same time were carrying out the White-tailed Sea Eagle reintroduction on the Isle of Wight and coincidently needed some help. So, it was agreed that with the funder of the roles agreement we'd redeploy Lucy to the Isle of Wight to help with the Sea Eagle project.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### School Bird Boat Project

Each year, Birds of Poole Harbour funds winter bird boats for local schools, taking up to c1,500 school children into the harbour. This is a very rewarding and successful project that starts at the end of September, finishing at the beginning of April.

The list of available trip dates are sent out to local schools during the summer, and schools book onto the trips on a first come first served basis. These trips give us the opportunity to get school children out into their local environment and explore an area that they potentially didn't know existed, despite it being right on their doorstep. Winter in Poole Harbour is spectacular, allowing us to show the children some truly magical wildlife spectacles including vast wader flocks, Peregrine and Merlin chases, flocks of 40+ Spoonbill, and, on most trips, one or two Common Seals. The trip doesn't just look at birds, but natural history as a whole, as well as discussing the local history and industry, highlighting how important the harbour is for both people and wildlife. Our target age group is Years 3 to 6. The unique part about these trips is that there is absolutely no cost to the school, parent or pupil: 'Birds of Poole Harbour' covers the cost of everything from the boat hire, coach hire, educational material and even binoculars.

During the 2020/2021 season we sadly had to postpone all of our School Bird Boat trips because of Covid. The trips were due to start in September 2020, but schools were reluctant to move forward with the trips, as were we, because at the time we didn’t know how class bubbles would work and how safe they were. Then, of course in October 2020 we went into a national lockdown so all trips were officially cancelled. With the national lockdown lasting until March 2021 it meant no trips could take place this season. However, the season ended on a positive note when we began discussions with Poole based cosmetics company LUSH about them possibly funding the School Bird Boat project as part of their companies charitable giving. Although at the time of writing this report, the funding hadn’t been officially confirmed, it seems highly likely that LUSH will be sponsoring the project for the 2021/22 season.

### Poole Harbour Osprey Project

#### Overview

After running a successful Osprey Project fundraising campaign through the winter of 2019/2020, we were able to purchase a livestream webcam to be installed on one of the local artificial nesting platforms. The camera was set-up in March 2020, in anticipation of the return of ringed Ospreys CJ7 and LS7, a pair that had formed a bond in the harbour in 2019. With the potential for the first nesting Ospreys on the South Coast in nearly 200 years, the camera was installed to offer the public the opportunity to witness key moments in the re-establishment of the species to the area.

As well as the livestream webcam, several motion-sensitive cameras were serviced and re-deployed ahead of the new season, as well as two new cameras being purchased and installed. These additional cameras were bought with generous donations to the project and were installed at two locations; one on a nest platform on private land and the other on the new feeding platform at Holes Bay Nature Reserve.

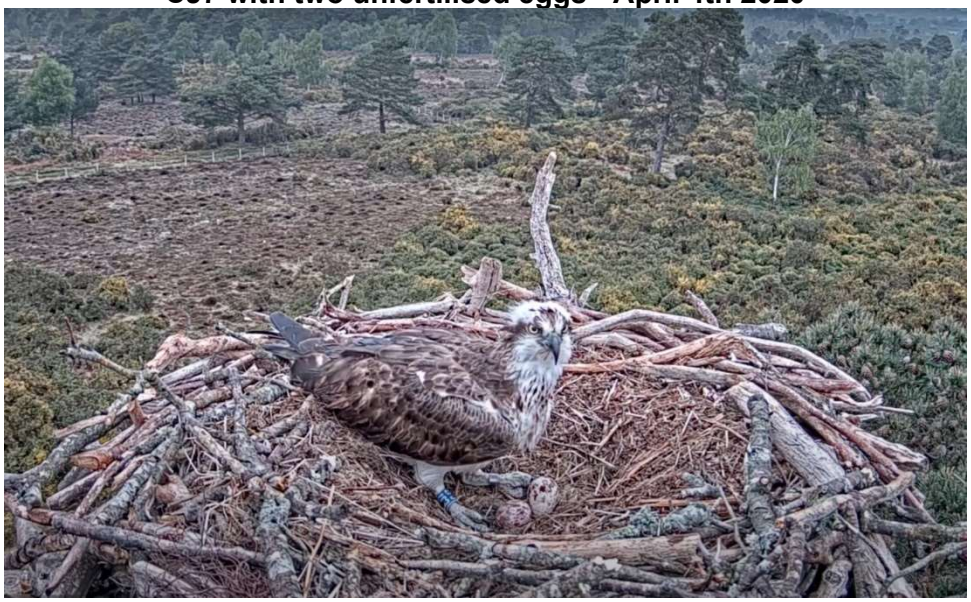
**Un-ringed Juvenile Osprey on Holes Bay Platform – October 6th 2020**



The Osprey season started while the country entered the Covid-19 lockdown, which provided difficulties for monitoring their return from their migration during the spring. We were pleased to see the safe return of female CJ7, who first appeared on the livestream nest on 8th April 2020, after spending a week elsewhere in the harbour area. Unfortunately, the young male LS7 did not arrive back to join her, most likely having perished during his spring migration due to difficult weather conditions, which also impacted many other birds across the UK.

Nevertheless, the livestream camera meant that we could share CJ7's activities with a wide audience, reaching almost one million views by the end of the season. As well as watching her nest-building, the camera also allowed us to document and understand more about Osprey nesting behaviour, as CJ7 laid 3 unfertilised eggs in the early part of the season. This is an under-studied area of Osprey behaviour and being able to have further insight was a fantastic resource. Unfortunately, despite having a few passing visitors, no males turned up to join CJ7 during the summer and she left on her migration during August.

**CJ7 with two unfertilised eggs - April 4th 2020**



Despite LS7 not returning in 2020, the project was certainly not without success. On 20th May, we received news that a Poole Harbour translocated female from the 2018 cohort, ringed 014, had returned to the UK for the first time. She was first reported in Wales by the Dyfi Osprey Project when she appeared at the nest site, but was seen on multiple locations at different sites in Wales, frequently with young males, later in the season. She was also seen a little closer to “home” when she was reported at Seaton Wetlands in Devon, though didn’t make an appearance to Poole Harbour. Furthermore, re-sightings of another young translocated female, ringed 019, in her wintering grounds in The Gambia in March 2021 have given hope for her return in the future.

**014 at the Dyfi Osprey Project - August 11th 2020**



**(Credit: Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust)**

# Trustees' Report

## Engagement

In addition to the high numbers of people engaging with the project reached through the livestream camera, we were able to run public events in the summer of 2020, including free Pop-Up Osprey Watchpoints and our popular Poole Harbour Osprey Cruises. The Osprey Watchpoints at BCP Ham Common and Holes Bay Nature Reserve attracted c.40 members of the public to each event, which we ran bi-weekly during August with additional sessions during September and October. Unfortunately, we were unable to run our Poole Harbour Osprey Cruises at their usual capacity due to Covid-19 restrictions, with each of the 7 cruises in August taking a reduced number of 30 members of the public on a guided tour of the harbour. We have worked on expanding our opportunities to include our brand new Osprey Project cruises for June and July along with various popup events where we can be responsive to the activity of the birds in certain areas. Due to having to cancel our Osprey Fundraiser cruise in May 2020 due to Covid-19 restrictions, in September this year we were finally able to reschedule this. This cruise was in partnership with Osprey Europe who covered the cost of the boat hire and saw 100% of the profit going to the Osprey Project.

While we haven't been able to run public talks in person this year, members of the Osprey Project team have run several online talks for different organisations and private groups, which have been well received.

## Translocation

As previously mentioned, the conditions during the spring migratory period were exceptionally poor during 2020, which impacted the number of Ospreys returning to breed across the UK, as well as delaying the start of the breeding season for others. Unfortunately, this reduced the number of successful nests, particularly in Scotland, which we were reliant on for the translocation project to run in 2020. These factors meant that there was a lack of suitable chicks available for the project, and the decision was therefore made to not go ahead with the 2020 translocation. Fortunately, the project has been granted a 2 year extension for the collection of chicks by Scottish Natural Heritage, improving the chance of success for the project down the line.

## Events

Our events schedule was due to expand considerably in 2020/21, with a larger audience now keen to learn about our work. As we've experimented with different trips and thought of new ideas, we've been able to offer a larger range of events on a more frequent basis. However, like many other areas of our work, Covid had a big impact on the number of events we could host during 2020/21. All our spring events were cancelled due to the initial lockdown and the same went for all our autumn and winter events due to the second lockdown. However, as we were keen to try and offer some form of public events, following government guidelines we managed to safely run seven reduced capacity Osprey cruises in August 2020, 1 mid-summer cruise and seven reduced capacity Nightjar walks in June and July of the same year too. Although this greatly reduced income it was important that we were still able to offer a service to the public to keep them engaged and enthused about local natural history.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

National lockdown measures from 26th March brought the cancellation of the Osprey Project Fundraiser Cruise, International Dawn Chorus Day Walk, Up With The Lark Spring Cruises, Mid Summer Meander Cruises, Purbeck Puffin Cruises, Low Tide Cruises, Winter Wareham Channel Cruises, Winter Reconnect Tours, Winter ID Courses and Sunnyside Ringing Demonstrations.

### Free Events

It was important that we were able to offer a series of free events too for people wishing to learn more about various areas of our work, so we were able to repeat a series of Public Osprey Watches from Ham Common between 8th and 31st August, in partnership with BCP Council. These watch points were announced shortly before the day of the event, aimed at attracting a new audience of walkers and passers by, expanding the reach of our engagement. We were also able to conduct a total of eight guided walks across Poole Town and Holes Bay, engaging with c.100 people before the second National lockdown measures from 5th November meant the cancellation of the Low Tide and Wareham Channel Cruises, Winter ID Courses and Sunnyside Winter Ringing Demonstrations.

**Osprey Watch at Ham Common - August 15th 2020**



### Talks

Covid obviously stopped all face-to-face public talk opportunities, however, 2020/21 also saw the rise of the ‘Zoom’ platform meaning hosting talks to groups was still able to continue. During this financial year we hosted 10 online talks to numerous groups including Wildlife Trust, RSPB and Natural History groups. This is a far more efficient and environmentally friendly way of communicating with a wide range of people and definitely something we’ll be considering to host more of over the coming years.

## Public Engagement

Following the opening of our HQ engagement centre in March 2018, building our online presence and more importantly, the expansion of our events program over the last few years, our audience has grown substantially. During the 2020/21, despite Covid, we were still able to maintain a good level of public engagement, especially online thanks to our Osprey webcam channel. This helped us reach a much wider audience than just our local Poole-based demographic, meaning when restrictions were eased there were greater opportunities for us to host more events. Although restrictions were still largely in place at the end of March 2021, the Covid situation improved during the summer and autumn of 2021.

### BoPH HQ on Poole Quay

The Birds of Poole Harbour HQ, located in the heart of Poole, helps interpret the rich birdlife found locally, offering high-quality interactive experiences that showcase Poole Harbour's ecological importance. Touchscreen maps enable visitors to visualise and plan birding routes around the harbour, learning where and when to visit the best places to watch birds. Several listening stations offer familiarisation with the bird calls that can be encountered locally, and numerous screens display exclusive live-streams and mini documentaries, while an indoor bird hide helps bring nature-watching to a new audience. The centre is also a small retail outlet, specialising in ethical and cruelty-free optics, natural history books, ID guides and postcards, as well as providing a centralised location from which to secure donations.

Footfall increased 25% in the previous financial year, however the coronavirus pandemic and the associated restrictions and lockdowns had a huge impact on the centre and its operations. The centre was closed from 13th March 2020, approximately 2 weeks ahead of the national lockdown, to protect staff, volunteers and visitors. The visitor centre then remained dormant until September, welcoming visitors again into October until the second national lockdown was announced on 5 November. The 2nd December saw the centre doors reopen briefly for several weeks in the run up to Christmas and the New Year before remaining closed for the remainder of the financial year in line with government guidelines on non-essential retail. As a result, footfall during the 2020/21 financial year was down approximately 86% on last year, with 3,465 visitors welcomed through our doors.

The lockdown closures provided an opportunity to revamp all of the interpretation within the centre, providing the latest information and project updates. The HQ is already equipped to accept cash or contactless donations, however a new contactless donation system was installed at the beginning of the financial year. The upgraded donation station features a bird animation triggered by a motion-sensor, inspiring visitors as they pass. This new interactive concept was proposed by the Fine Family Foundation (FFF), who kindly offered to design and fund the project. We worked with the FFF on the project over the winter and the device was completed in April 2020. Unfortunately, due to the coronavirus pandemic and reduced opening hours, the new system has yet to be utilised to its full extent yet.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

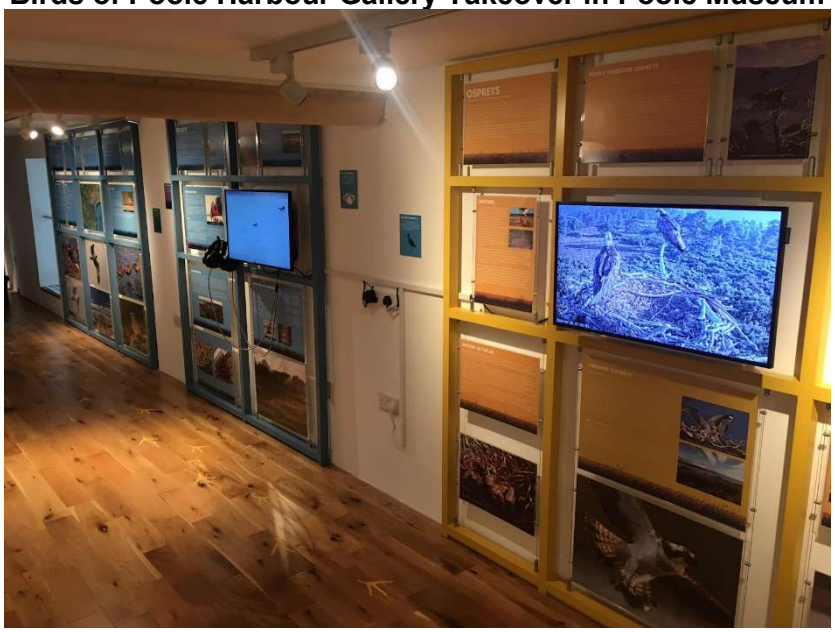
## Trustees' Report

### The future of BoPH HQ

Despite the HQ's high standard of interpretation and engagement opportunities, the last year has allowed us to look at it's effectiveness and it's long-term role within the charity. Despite Covid hopefully coming to end at some point, the truth is no one knows exactly when restrictions will lift completely and when life will return 100% to normal (if ever). With this in mind, at the end of this current financial year, we've begun looking at where we're most effective as a charity in terms of staff deployment, income generation and education outreach as well as money saving opportunities. This raised the question as to whether we should continue the lease on our HQ which isn't due to run out until 2026, but has an early release clause of November 2021, or whether we begin looking at forming local partnerships with other stakeholders to host our displays, therefore allowing us to end the lease and re-deploy our team to be out and about in the Harbour. All businesses and charities are having to greatly adapt to the current global situation and we're no different. Remaining dynamic and effective is a key objective for us, and if that means having to make big decisions like this to ensure the long-term safety of the charity then so be it.

In late Spring 2021, a decision was made to end the lease early and form a closer working partnership with BCP Council Poole Museum. The interpretation panels, multiple display screens, natural history display cabinets and model osprey nest were all relocated and displayed in the museum's temporary exhibition galleries ahead of the public opening on 9th October 2021 running until 24th April 2022. In a normal year their visitor numbers can reach 200k+ visitors and this will function as a superb engagement focal point for the charity, promoting the harbour's important birdlife, the work conducted by the charity's and enable Birds of Poole Harbour to continue to offer a range of programmed talks and tours in the heart of Poole town.

**Birds of Poole Harbour Gallery Takeover in Poole Museum**



# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report



### Local Presence

The pandemic made it hard for us to educate and communicate our work out in the local community, but we made a huge effort to make sure as much of our work and storytelling was done online so that the public could still follow important and developing areas of our work, most notably the Osprey project story. When restrictions were lifted we quickly negotiated a safe and secure set of events at public sites around the harbour with different land owners, as well as the boat companies so we could begin promoting our work once more.

### Online Engagement

During the winter period of 2019/20 we fundraised for a webcam to be placed on the Osprey nest platform we thought may get used by our Osprey pair CJ7 and LS7. The webcam went live in late February 2020, which provided huge excitement, as it could potentially be live streaming the first nesting Osprey attempt in southern Britain for 200 years. We were expecting our birds to come back in early April and sure enough on April 2nd, the female CJ7 arrived back into the harbour. Initially there weren't any sightings on our nest cam for about a week, but then at 5am on April 8th CJ7 landed on the nest cam for the first time. Her behaviour immediately showed she was keen to breed, as she brought sticks and moss to the nest on a daily basis, began nest cup scraping and generally became bonded to that nest. This provided a huge online public engagement opportunity, especially during the first national lockdown between March and May. Around the same time Chris Packham started a new online TV show with his step daughter Megan McCubbin which regularly saw thousands of viewers tune in on a daily basis to learn about the natural world. Chris and Megan kindly invited us to be on the show live, to talk about CJ7's arrival and the potential for the season. At this stage there was still no sign of the male osprey LS7, but we held out hope that he'd be OK, and would arrive back soon. The webcam soon attracted around 1000 viewers each day in late April and early May with people waiting in anticipation for the males safe return.

We also began hosting daily Q&A sessions on our YouTube chat page, which was a brilliant communication and education tool that allowed us to discuss the project to a wide audience. Another popular element of our online education is the Holton Lee bird feeder cam. In late 2020 we hosted an online fundraiser to pay for a long-term supply of bird food which was hopefully going to last the winter.

## Partnerships and Sponsorship

As our exposure grew during 2019, local businesses and the council became interested in learning more about our work and starting longer term partnerships.

### Osprey Europe

In 2019, Birds of Poole Harbour formed a partnership with Osprey Europe, who share a common goal in raising awareness of conservation initiatives. Osprey Europe kindly supported our fundraising, including our winter Osprey Project campaign, through providing prizes for raffle draws, as well as sponsoring a harbour cruise, meaning that ticket sales could go directly towards the campaign. They also provided additional funding for a second cruise in 2020, as well as sponsoring our live stream Osprey nest camera. The partnership continued into the 2020/21 financial year with a planned fundraiser boat organised for May 2020 which Osprey Europe sponsored. Sadly due to the pandemic that trip was postponed and the funding will be re-allocated to a new boat when restrictions allow.

### Saltwater Stone

Saltwater Stone were key contributors to our Swift City project and kindly gave 50% of the funding needed for us to erect Swift boxes in Old Town Poole. We also ran a parallel public fundraiser which saw us double the number of Swift boxes erected. In early May 2020 the final amount was spent on installing Swift boxes in Wareham and Hamworthy.

### BCP Council - Poole Museum

In addition to our partnership with BCP Council during pop-up events and guided walks, we redesigned and provided new content for the “Poole Harbour Habitats” hide in Poole Museum. In late Spring 2021, the decision to end the Enefco House building lease resulted in the closure of our Poole Quay engagement HQ (see *The future of BoPH HQ*) and form a closer working partnership with BCP Council Poole Museum. Contents of the engagement centre were reinstalled in the museum’s temporary exhibition galleries, where in a normal year their visitor numbers can reach 200k+ visitors! This will function as a superb engagement focal point for the charity, promoting the harbour’s important birdlife, the work conducted by the charity’s and enable Birds of Poole Harbour to continue to offer a range of programmed talks and tours in the heart of Poole town.

### Quay Holidays

In October 2019, we became partners with a local holiday lettings agency, *Quay Holidays*. The partnership continued into the 2020/21 financial year with the partnership offering our customers a 5% discount on holiday lettings with *Quay Holidays* when they book referencing Birds of Poole Harbour. Quay Holidays have kindly offered to donate a further 5% of the booking to Birds of Poole Harbour, for which we are extremely grateful. Unsurprisingly, with holiday lettings coming to a grinding halt we didn't see any income from this partnership, but we hope that post pandemic this relationship could grow.

## Student Grant

### PhD Funding

We have continued to provide financial support towards Brittany Maxted's part-time PhD research. The grant covers her tuition and research costs, whilst she remains employed full-time by Birds of Poole Harbour and divides her time between work and studies. The funding has already been donated to the charity in full and is ring-fenced so it cannot be allocated to other projects.

Brittany has been involved in the charity since 2015 and is responsible for managing our Osprey Translocation Project. She began her part-time PhD at Bournemouth University in September 2019, supervised by Professor Richard Stillman, Dr Pippa Gillingham, and Professor Ross Hill. The Roy Dennis Wildlife Foundation has provided the main dataset for her research, alongside additional supervision from Dr Tim Mackrill. The research aims to investigate the drivers of nesting decisions and range expansion in the British Osprey population, and to provide a management framework for the species in the future.

The project helps to strengthen and establish ties with other organisations, and also provides opportunities for publication of peer-reviewed scientific research, all of which help to raise the charity's status within conservation and scientific communities.

## Surveys and Scientific Projects

As a charity, we aim to obtain high quality data on populations and status of birds and other wildlife that are relevant to our wider conservation values.

### Moths of Poole Harbour

The Moths of Poole Harbour Study which began in 2017 came to it's final conclusion during this financial year, with the full report published on the website by March 2021. This has seen our two contracted moth surveyors, Chris Thain and Abby Gibbs, gather really important data on moth populations right across the harbour, working in partnership with National Trust, RSPB and private landowners. Although the pandemic had a small impact on their ability to carry out the study, they were able to continue with the work on an almost full time basis by June 2020. This work continued until late 2020 and the report writing was completed in early 2021. The funding for this was in place, meaning they could continue with the work.

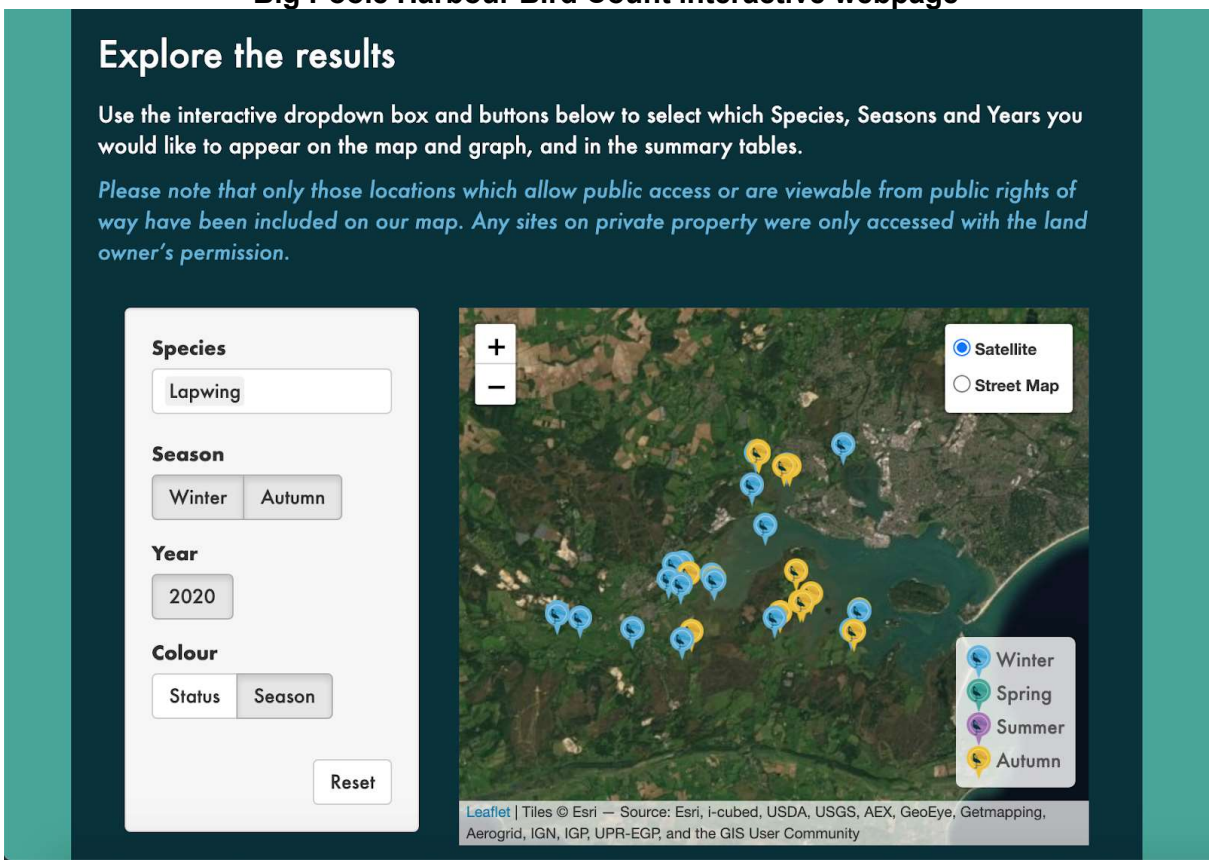
# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Big Poole Harbour Bird Count

On October 25th 2020 we held our second ever Big Poole Harbour Bird Count: a survey of the birdlife in Poole Harbour, collected via community science. As previously, we scheduled the event to coincide with the monthly Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS), to ensure that the wetland areas of the harbour - where the majority of our winter birds are found - received full coverage. In total, 72 participants recorded 34242 birds of 139 species, seen across 113 different locations in the harbour. Coronavirus prevented us from hosting our usual end-of-day gathering, but all the results were uploaded to the interactive website where they can be viewed in maps, graphs and tables, and compared with the data from the previous count: https://birdsofpooleharbour.shinyapps.io/Big_Poole_Harbour_Bird_Count_Results/

**Big Poole Harbour Bird Count interactive webpage**




### Poole Harbour WeBS counts

We continue to manage the Poole Harbour WeBS (Wetland Bird Surveys), which is a national scheme run by the BTO (British Trust for Ornithology). This survey, which sees a team of 30 volunteers distributed across the harbour once a month through the winter (Sept – March), is a hugely important survey, as the collective data affords Poole Harbour much of its designated protection.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Conservation Work

A key part of our work is to identify opportunities that, in both the short-term and long-term, enhance opportunities for birds to flourish and for habitats to become established, therefore enhancing ecosystems for wider biodiversity. The pandemic sadly meant that we couldn't pursue some areas of conservation work, including our Osprey translocation project.

### Swift City

2019 saw us initiate our Swift City project by installing Swift boxes up at sites across Old Town Poole to help boost the population of Swifts in the area. Swifts are in dire need of help with a 51% decline in population in just 40 years. The project was jointly funded by local business *Saltwater Stone* and through a public fundraiser which ran during the winter of 2018/19. There was sufficient funds left over which allowed us to install 12 new Swift boxes in early May 2020 in the Wareham and Hamworthy areas of Poole Harbour.

### House Martin Tower

To support another species that's struggling locally, the House Martin, we began a new project to install a House Martin Tower to increase their breeding opportunities. We don't believe this concept has been used before in the UK and were fortunate to receive permission for the project from a local landowner, as well as planning permission granted in early spring 2020. A funding application was made to the Turbary Trust, applying for the main bulk of funding to get the installation installed, however, the pandemic meant that applications weren't being considered for this financial year, and we were then invited to make a re-application for the 2021/22 financial year which was successful along with other donations.

### Barn Owl boxes at Keysworth

In early 2020 we were considering starting a full Poole Harbour breeding wader survey, which meant we needed access to all areas of Poole Harbour and landowner permissions. One site we'd never worked at before was the Keysworth Estate and after some productive discussions we were granted access to survey that area later in the summer. As a thank you we agreed to install 2 new Barn Owl boxes on the estate as the landowners had recently seen some on site.

### New Sunnyside Screening

During the 2019/20 winter period we hosted our first Sunnyside ringing demonstrations which raised funds for a project on site to enhance viewing and habitat opportunities. Although we could not run the new sessions during the winter of 2020/21, we still had funds left over to invest in a project. So, we thought about new viewing screen infrastructure and we hosted an online public fundraiser in February 2021 to raise the final amount. The screen was then built in March 2021.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Fundraising

Now with a bigger outreach and more people following our work we continued to build on our fundraising opportunities. Not only do we receive regular support from a number of generous donors, we are now seeing contributions to our fundraising campaigns grow too. In 2020/21 we hosted several specific fundraising targets for specific projects across the harbour. Some were via traditional fundraising methods, using our Just Giving fundraising page, and others were through public events that had a specific fundraising need.

### Fundraising Campaigns

#### Feed the Birds

We ran a mini online fundraiser through Just Giving during December, raising money to fill the bird feeders at Livability Holton Lee, who are our partners for our livestream bird feeder camera. The fundraiser exceeded our goal £250, raising £376.25 for bird food which kept the feeders topped up over the next few months. This meant that the public were able to continue watching the livestream camera from home and enjoy seeing the variety of birds that use feeders.

#### Sunnyside

After the success of the Feed the Birds campaign, we launched a second mini fundraiser in March to raise the remaining required funds for the Sunnyside Scrape Viewing Screen. The funds for the screen had initially been planned to be raised through ticket sales to our Sunnyside Ringing Demonstrations, in partnership with Stour Ringing Group. However, Covid-19 restrictions meant that these demonstrations were unable to go ahead, so we launched the Just Giving fundraiser instead. We exceeded our goal of £450, raising £578.75 for the work at Sunnyside, which was then able to be completed in March.

#### Osprey Project

We kept our general Just Giving Osprey Project page open throughout the year, generating donations through our livestream webcam up until March 2021, as well receiving generous donations from other funding sources. We also launched a new fundraiser in January 2021, raising funds for Osprey monitoring cameras and photo packages in the upcoming season, totalling £1941.25. In February 2020, we launched a raffle to raise funds for the Osprey Project, which ran up until August 2020. Prizes for the raffle were kindly donated by Osprey Europe, Opticron, Kowa and The Sound Approach. The raffle raised £1249 towards the Osprey Project. These donations, which amounted to £8450.34 in total, contributed to Osprey Project developments, including the maintenance of nest platforms, cameras and engagement infrastructure.

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# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

### Fundraising Events

#### Nightjar walks

These were a partnership project with the National Trust, and saw us raise £592 for a farmland bird/bird protection focused project on National Trust Land. The easing of lockdown restrictions meant we were able to host eight walks in total.

### Volunteer Contribution

In a normal year, due to the number of projects we've now set up and are involved in, we wouldn't be able to function without our volunteer network. Our volunteers assist with our events, manning the HQ, the Osprey Project and the School Bird Boat Project. However, with Covid and the reduced number of events, projects and education programs that took place this year, we made the decision to manage without volunteers for safety.

**Small companies provision statement**
This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006.

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 12 January 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Kerry Fletcher
Trustee

.....
Paul Morton
Trustee

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Trustees' Report

## Reference and Administrative Details

| | |
|---|---|
| **Trustees** | Kerry Fletcher |
| | Paul Morton |
| **Principal Office** | Enefco House<br>19 The Quay<br>Poole<br>Dorset<br>BH15 1HJ |
| | The charity is incorporated in England and Wales. |
| **Charity Registration Number** | 1152615 |
| **Bankers** | Barclays<br>100 High Street<br>Poole<br>Dorset<br>BH15 1BL |
| | Metro Bank<br>One Southampton Row<br>London<br>WC1B 5HA |
| **Independent Examiner** | PKF Francis Clark<br>Towngate House<br>2 - 8 Parkstone Road<br>Poole<br>Dorset<br>BH15 2PW |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

The law applicable to charities requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provision of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 12 January 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Kerry Fletcher
Trustee

.....
Paul Morton
Trustee

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Birds of Poole Harbour

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021 which are set out on pages 20 to 33.

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees of Birds of Poole Harbour (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of Birds of Poole Harbour are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

**Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of Birds of Poole Harbour as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities [applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)].

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.

.....
Anne-Marie Gates FCCA FCA (a partner of)
PKF Francis Clark

Towngate House
2 - 8 Parkstone Road
Poole
Dorset
BH15 2PW

13 January 2022

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Statement of Financial Activities

## Year Ended 31 March 2021
## (Including Income and Expenditure Account)

| | Note | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income and Endowments from:** | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 107,021 | 13,740 | 120,761 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 63,044 | - | 63,044 |
| Investment income | 4 | 7 | - | 7 |
| Total income | | 170,072 | 13,740 | 183,812 |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | (242,474) | (13,576) | (256,050) |
| Total expenditure | | (242,474) | (13,576) | (256,050) |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (72,402) | 164 | (72,238) |
| Transfers between funds | | 1,885 | (1,885) | - |
| Net movement in funds | | (70,517) | (1,721) | (72,238) |
| **Reconciliation of funds** | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 218,252 | 30,522 | 248,774 |
| Total funds carried forward | 15 | 147,735 | 28,801 | 176,536 |

| | Note | Unrestricted £ | Restricted £ | Total 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Income and Endowments from:** | | | | |
| Donations and legacies | 2 | 240,613 | 50,844 | 291,457 |
| Charitable activities | 3 | 53,484 | - | 53,484 |
| Total Income | | 294,097 | 50,844 | 344,941 |
| **Expenditure on:** | | | | |
| Charitable activities | 5 | (323,769) | (21,324) | (345,093) |
| Total Expenditure | | (323,769) | (21,324) | (345,093) |
| Net (expenditure)/income | | (29,672) | 29,520 | (152) |
| Net movement in funds | | (29,672) | 29,520 | (152) |
| **Reconciliation of funds** | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | 247,924 | 1,002 | 248,926 |
| Total funds carried forward | 15 | 218,252 | 30,522 | 248,774 |

The funds breakdown for 2020 is shown in note 15.

# Birds of Poole Harbour

(Registration number: CE000516)
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021

| | Note | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Fixed assets** | | | |
| Tangible assets | 11 | 112,974 | 185,059 |
| **Current assets** | | | |
| Stocks | 12 | 27,345 | 29,202 |
| Debtors | 13 | 4,352 | 8,440 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 45,494 | 54,225 |
| | | 77,191 | 91,867 |
| **Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year** | 14 | (13,629) | (28,152) |
| **Net current assets** | | 63,562 | 63,715 |
| **Net assets** | | 176,536 | 248,774 |
| **Funds of the charity:** | | | |
| **Restricted income funds** | | | |
| Restricted funds | | 28,801 | 30,522 |
| **Unrestricted income funds** | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | | 147,735 | 218,252 |
| **Total funds** | 15 | 176,536 | 248,774 |

The financial statements on pages 20 to 33 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 12 January 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
Kerry Fletcher
Trustee

.....
Paul Morton
Trustee

## 1 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**
The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 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 (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). They also comply with the Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

**Basis of preparation**
Birds of Poole Harbour meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

**Going concern**
The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. As explained in the trustees report, the trustees have considered the uncertainty relating to the coronavirus pandemic and the impact on the charity's operations and finances in the short to medium term. In the opinion of the trustees, with the support of high-value donors and proactively managing cash-flow the charity has sufficient working capital to continue to meet its financial obligations and pay its liabilities as they fall due for the foreseeable future and therefore the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves held and the additional funding committed by high-value donors for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

**Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement**
The charity adopted Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

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

***Donations***

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

***Deferred income***

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

***Investment income***

Bank interest is recognised when it is received.

***Charitable activities***

Engagement centre sales are recognised when goods are sold.

Boat trips and tour income is recognised when the trips take place.

**Expenditure**

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

***Charitable activities***

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

**Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

**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.

**Tangible fixed assets**
Individual fixed assets are initially recorded at cost, less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

**Depreciation and amortisation**
Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

| Asset class | Depreciation method and rate |
|---|---|
| Office equipment and website | 5 years straight line |
| Furniture and fixtures | 5 years straight line |
| Conservation assets | 3 and 5 years straight line |
| HQ equipment | 3 years straight line |

**Stock**
Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out basis (FIFO).

**Trade debtors**
Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

**Cash and cash equivalents**
Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

**Trade creditors**
Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity 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. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**Fund structure**
Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees' discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

**Pensions and other post retirement obligations**
The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the scheme.

## 2 Income from donations and legacies

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total 2021 £ | Total 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Donations and legacies; | | | | |
| Donations from individuals | 86,469 | 13,118 | 99,587 | 231,306 |
| Gift aid reclaimed | 20,552 | 622 | 21,174 | 60,151 |
| | 107,021 | 13,740 | 120,761 | 291,457 |

## 3 Income from charitable activities

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Engagement Centre Sales | 5,865 | 5,865 |
| Public Bird Boat Income | 5,198 | 5,198 |
| Other income | 51,981 | 51,981 |
| | 63,044 | 63,044 |

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Engagement Centre Sales | 24,783 | 24,783 |
| Public Bird Boat Income | 26,089 | 26,089 |
| Other income | 2,612 | 2,612 |
| | 53,484 | 53,484 |

## 4 Investment income

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Total funds £ |
|---|---|---|
| Interest receivable and similar income; | | |
| Interest receivable on bank deposits | 7 | 7 |
| **Total for 2021** | 7 | 7 |
| **Total for 2020** | - | - |

### 5 Expenditure on charitable activities

| | Total 2021 £ | Total 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Purchases | 4,474 | 18,395 |
| Osprey tags | 2,250 | 3,666 |
| Rent and rates | 22,899 | 25,019 |
| Light, heat and power | 3,213 | 1,802 |
| Insurance | 4,365 | 2,673 |
| Cleaning | 213 | 132 |
| School boat trip costs | - | 11,835 |
| Surveys | 31,982 | 42,514 |
| Conservation work | 3,760 | 2,944 |
| Repairs, renewals and equipment | 8,893 | 9,280 |
| People engagement | 3,922 | 20,480 |
| Telephone costs | 435 | 396 |
| Travel and subsistence | 124 | 3,399 |
| Computer costs | 4,595 | 2,922 |
| Printing, postage and stationery | 1,405 | 1,458 |
| Training | 177 | - |
| Refreshments | 34 | 567 |
| Equipment hire | 503 | 461 |
| Public boat trip costs | 2,350 | 10,875 |
| Other costs | 55 | 2,523 |
| Publicity | 705 | 2,529 |
| Consultancy | - | 10,244 |
| Recruitment cost | - | 350 |
| Student Grant costs | 2,163 | 2,163 |
| Wages and Salaries | 73,895 | 84,413 |
| Bank charges | 204 | 313 |
| Credit card charges | 2,310 | 2,190 |
| Loss on the sale of Fixed Assets | - | 150 |
| Governance costs ( see note 6) | 6,070 | 9,847 |
| Depreciation | 75,054 | 71,553 |
| | 256,050 | 345,093 |

## 6 Analysis of governance and support costs

### Governance costs

| | Unrestricted General £ | Total 2021 £ | Total 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Independent examiner fees | | | |
| Examination of the financial statements | 4,560 | 4,560 | 4,200 |
| Accountancy Fees | 1,510 | 1,510 | 5,647 |
| | 6,070 | 6,070 | 9,847 |

## 7 Net incoming/outgoing resources

Net outgoing resources for the year include:

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Loss on disposal of fixed assets held for the charity's own use | - | 150 |
| Depreciation of fixed assets | 75,054 | 71,553 |
| Independent Examination Fee | 4,560 | 4,200 |
| Accountancy Fees | 1,510 | 5,647 |

## 8 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

## 9 Staff costs

The aggregate payroll costs were as follows:

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|
| **Staff costs during the year were:** | | |
| Wages and salaries | 66,368 | 76,616 |
| Social security costs | 5,207 | 5,740 |
| Pension costs | 2,320 | 2,057 |
| | 73,895 | 84,413 |

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year.

### 10 Taxation

Birds of Poole Harbour is a registered charity and its activities are therefore exempt from taxation.

### 11 Tangible fixed assets

| | Office equipment and website £ | Furniture and fixtures £ | Conservation assets £ | HQ equipment £ | Total £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Cost** | | | | | |
| At 1 April 2020 | 54,372 | 197,694 | 68,499 | 44,260 | 364,825 |
| Additions | - | - | - | 2,969 | 2,969 |
| At 31 March 2021 | 54,372 | 197,694 | 68,499 | 47,229 | 367,794 |
| **Depreciation** | | | | | |
| At 1 April 2020 | 21,922 | 81,647 | 48,664 | 27,533 | 179,766 |
| Charge for the year | 10,977 | 38,541 | 11,174 | 14,362 | 75,054 |
| At 31 March 2021 | 32,899 | 120,188 | 59,838 | 41,895 | 254,820 |
| **Net book value** | | | | | |
| At 31 March 2021 | 21,473 | 77,506 | 8,661 | 5,334 | 112,974 |
| At 31 March 2020 | 32,450 | 116,047 | 19,835 | 16,727 | 185,059 |

### 12 Stock

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Stocks | 27,345 | 29,202 |

### 13 Debtors

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Prepayments | 3,642 | 7,806 |
| Other debtors | 710 | 634 |
| | 4,352 | 8,440 |

### 14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|
| Trade creditors | 5,216 | 12,191 |
| Pension scheme creditor | - | 387 |
| Accruals | 6,563 | 5,589 |
| Deferred income | 1,850 | 9,985 |
| | 13,629 | 28,152 |

### 15 Funds

| | Balance at 1 April 2020 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Transfers £ | Balance at 31 March 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | | |
| ***General*** | | | | | |
| General Funds | 218,252 | 170,072 | (242,474) | 1,885 | 147,735 |
| **Restricted funds** | | | | | |
| Osprey Translocation Project | 1,854 | 40 | - | - | 1,894 |
| Osprey Cameras | 238 | 2,213 | (113) | (1,885) | 453 |
| Swift City Project | 2,246 | - | (1,900) | - | 346 |
| PHD - Osprey | 23,237 | 4,597 | (7,648) | - | 20,186 |
| House Martin Project | 169 | - | - | - | 169 |
| Sunnyside Farm Project | 1,153 | 759 | (1,648) | - | 264 |
| Contactless Donation Station | 525 | - | (166) | - | 359 |
| Pergins Island Nest Cam | 750 | - | - | - | 750 |
| Binoclars Repair | 350 | - | - | - | 350 |
| Nightjar Walk | - | 1,505 | (16) | - | 1,489 |
| Hobbie Nest Project | - | 2,500 | - | - | 2,500 |
| Feed The Birds Project | - | 376 | (335) | - | 41 |
| CAF Covid Grant | - | 1,750 | (1,750) | - | - |
| **Total restricted funds** | 30,522 | 13,740 | (13,576) | (1,885) | 28,801 |
| **Total funds** | 248,774 | 183,812 | (256,050) | - | 176,536 |

# Birds of Poole Harbour

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 March 2021

| | Balance at 1 April 2019 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Balance at 31 March 2020 £ |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Unrestricted funds** | | | | |
| ***General*** | | | | |
| General Funds | 247,924 | 294,097 | (323,769) | 218,252 |
| **Restricted** | | | | |
| Osprey Translocation Project | 200 | 11,415 | (9,761) | 1,854 |
| Osprey Cameras | - | 400 | (162) | 238 |
| Swift City Project | 802 | 3,382 | (1,938) | 2,246 |
| PHD - Osprey | - | 25,489 | (2,252) | 23,237 |
| House Martin Project | - | 311 | (142) | 169 |
| Sunnyside Farm Project | - | 1,184 | (31) | 1,153 |
| Contactless Donation Station | - | 7,563 | (7,038) | 525 |
| Pergins Island Nest Cam | - | 750 | - | 750 |
| Binoclars Repair | - | 350 | - | 350 |
| **Total restricted funds** | 1,002 | 50,844 | (21,324) | 30,522 |
| **Total funds** | 248,926 | 344,941 | (345,093) | 248,774 |

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Osprey Translocation Project - A pioneering 5-year reintroduction program, trying to restore Osprey, a large fish eating bird of prey, to its former breeding grounds after a 200-year absence. The project see's 6 week old Osprey chicks brought down from Scotland and raised and released here in Poole Harbour, in the hope they'll eventually breed here. As part of this project we have launched a fundraiser to cover the cost of some of the infrastructure to help us monitor and engage with the public in the future. Part of this is our Osprey cameras.

Osprey Cameras - A public fundraiser campaign was started to raise funds for SMS trail cameras to be bought and placed on our Osprey nest platforms around Poole Harbour to monitor Osprey activity and behaviour on our nests.

Swift City Project - A public fundraiser campaign was started to raise funds for Swift boxes to be installed in and around the Poole Harbour area in an effort to help build Poole's struggling Swift population

Sunnyside Farm Screen - A series of public events were held and money was raised at Sunnyside Farm in a bid to refurbish the dilapidated viewing/birdwatching screen at the site. The money that was raised will see a new screen being built.

Osprey PHD placement - For the first time, we have been able to provide funding for a local student to pursue a postgraduate degree in avian biology. Brittany Maxted is a member of the Birds of Poole Harbour team, who has been involved in the Osprey Project since its inception and has managed the translocations for the last three years. The funding we provide covers the costs of her research and tuition fees, whilst she remains employed full-time at Birds of Poole Harbour, dividing her time between work and research, and allowing her to maintain her current role as Osprey Project Officer alongside her studies.

House Martin Tower Project - Funds are being raised to build and erect a House Martin nesting tower in Upton, Poole in an effort to help build Poole's struggling House Martin population

Contactless Donation Station - A kind grant was given to us by the Fine Family Foundation which allowed us to design and install a new, interactive contactless donation station within our HQ on Poole Quay, to help generate donations.

Pergins Island Nest Camera - We were kindly given money by some supporters of the charity who were keen to place a new SMS trail camera on a nest platform that they also contributed towards.

Binocular Repair - Poole Rotary Club kindly provided funding to get some of our school bird boat binoculars repaired, allowing more children to use binoculars during their boat trips in the winter.

Nightjar Walks - Each summer we carry out guided walks on National Trust land at Slepe Heath, Wareham. When we began these walks several years ago, we agreed with the National Trust that funds raised through these events would be spent on specific projects on National Trust land within the Purbeck/Poole Harbour region. The current project proposal is for a wading bird protection zone on Shell Beach, Studland which is currently in it’s design phase and being organised by the National Trust.

Hobby Nest Cameras - Live webcams have become incredibly popular over the last 5 years. A private landowner who has breeding Hobby on his land was keen for a nest cam to be installed on that nest and made a direct donation to the charity to allow this to happen, whilst providing enough funds to have another camera installed on a different Hobby nest within the harbour. The summer of 2021 sadly didn’t see these nests being used so funds will be spent next year installing the cameras.

Feed the Birds - To keep the bird cam feeders topped for public viewing on our website, we host regular online fundraisers to purchase bird food for the feeders. Will also received a donation from a member of the public specifically for bird food and new feeders for our webcam. We only purchase the food as and when we need to.

### 16 Analysis of net assets between funds

| | Unrestricted funds General £ | Restricted funds £ | Total funds at 31 March 2021 £ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Tangible fixed assets | 112,974 | - | 112,974 |
| Current assets | 48,390 | 28,801 | 77,191 |
| Current liabilities | (13,629) | - | (13,629) |
| Total net assets | 147,735 | 28,801 | 176,536 |

### 17 Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the year.