



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	08	2022		31	07	2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

ElmsWild

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

1152850

Charity's principal address

Rose Cottage, School Road

Elmswell

Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk

Postcode

IP30 9EA

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Robert Victor Boardman	Treasurer		
2	Mary Jo Feeney	Chair		
3	Keith Harvey			
4	John Ibbetson	Vice-Chair		
5	Lisa Jane Pratt		To 26 May 2023	
6	Hugh Geoffrey Spencer		From 12 Sept 2022	
7	Janet Mary Spencer		From 12 Sept 2022	
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Constitution (Foundation Model)
Adopted 8 April 2013

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Appointed by existing Trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

ElmsWild has a Health & Safety policy and a Safeguarding policy, copies of which are given to all existing and new Trustees. Site and activity risk assessments are maintained. All are reviewed annually and circulated to all Trustees. Safety advice is given to all volunteers. Safeguarding training is undertaken by all Trustees.

ElmsWild is a member of The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) and Community Action Suffolk.

ElmsWild receives advice and support from Orchards East on matters relating to the community orchard.

All Trustees give their time voluntarily and received no remuneration or other benefits.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

- (1) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in the parish of Elmswell, Suffolk, by the development of native species woodland, orchards and wildlife areas.
- (2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Trustees planned and carried out the year's activities having due regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit, which was discussed at trustee meetings.

Our activities included:

- Activities with people of all ages, including children from our local nursery and uniform groups, and joint activities with other community groups (e.g. village festival and exhibition, tree-planting, willow cutting and distribution). This benefits people by providing opportunities for informal learning, encouraging people's positive interaction with the natural environment, and for community cohesion.
- Events open to the whole community, including craft sessions, Apple Day and work parties. This benefits people by providing opportunities to learn and share new skills, and to enhance their local environment.
- Continuing development and maintenance of the community woodland and orchard at Lukeswood, wildlife area at Kiln Meadow, and wildflower meadow at Town Field (keeping paths and rides open, maintaining trees and hedges, maintaining wildflower areas). This benefits people by providing open green space where they can walk, take healthy exercise, be close to nature, and share these experiences with children, families, and other community members.
- Creating and improving wildlife habitats (hedgerows, trees, wildflower areas, grassland, ponds) and surveying local wildlife. This benefits people by providing opportunities to explore nature on their doorstep and contribute to its conservation.
- Maintaining and improving other local natural areas (e.g. public garden, mini wildflower meadows and scattered orchard), and planting trees at various sites within the village. This benefits people by providing pleasant open/green spaces for recreation and enjoyment.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

The Trustees are very grateful for the contribution of volunteers who help maintain our wildlife and woodland sites and who also assist with community events and educational activities. In particular the Trustees would like to acknowledge:

- Help received from volunteers from BT, who have assisted with conservation work at Lukeswood.
- The help and cooperation received from members of the Trefoil Guild towards community activities, and especially for keeping our first aid equipment up to date.
- The help and support received from the staff of Street Farm Nursery.
- Continuing advice and assistance given by members of the Suffolk Naturalists' Society, Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service, Suffolk Wildlife Trust and Suffolk Butterfly Conservation.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Educational activities

Members of ElmsWild continued to facilitate educational and recreational visits by local groups, including Elmswell Rainbows, Elmswell Toddlers and Trefoil Guild.

Regular visits to Lukeswood by children and staff from Street Farm Nursery Forest School continued; a Halloween party and graduation celebration were also held for children and parents at Lukeswood.

Community activities and events

In September Trustees were very pleased to host Apple Day at Lukeswood again after several years' cancellations due to pandemic restrictions. Community willow cutting was held in January and bundles distributed to residents for their own garden and craft projects. ElmsWild volunteers provided an information stall at the Village Exhibition in July and a craft demonstration stall at the Village Ukulele Festival also in July.

Wildlife/conservation activities

In May Trustees were very pleased to welcome a volunteer team from BT who carried out various conservation tasks at Lukeswood and the wildflower areas in the village.

The annual cut and rake at Kiln Meadow, Town Field and the orchard at Lukeswood were carried out successfully in September.

Work continued on establishing a wildflower meadow at Town Field, by sowing patches with wildflower seed, particularly Yellow Rattle.

Trustees planted a "Sandringham" apple variety in the orchard in memory of the reign of Queen Elizabeth II.

The summer of 2022 was extremely hot and dry, which meant that Trustees had to take extra precautions against fire risk. Several recently planted trees were lost to drought at this time. The donation from local builders Bloor Homes of two large water containers to harvest rainwater will help to mitigate against these conditions in future.

A tree nursery was established on land next to the village library, which was used to hold 500 saplings for planting out later in the year.

The purchase of 3 trail cameras, thanks to a Locality Budget grant, enabled us to identify deer, foxes and badgers at Lukeswood.

A small group of 9 trees and shrubs was planted on land next to houses at Clayfields, using biodegradable tree shelters.

Following the discovery at Kiln Meadow of a dead sparrowhawk, subsequently tested by DEFRA and identified as suffering from bird flu, Trustees alerted other local organisations and put up warning notices at all sites.

Craft activities

Trustees held five spoon carving and willow weaving sessions at Lukeswood, led by local experts and open to residents to join in.

Wherever possible, events made use of material from our own woodland.

These activities were greatly facilitated by the purchase of a new event gazebo, tools, and tables, enabled by Locality Budget grants from our county council and district council councillors.

ElmsWild Spoon Club was inaugurated in April for residents wishing to develop their skills in green woodworking.

Other achievements

ElmsWild renewed the agreement with Elmswell Poors Land charity to manage Town Field for a period of 3 years (instead of one) which will allow for longer-term management planning.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We hold £5381 at this year end and aim to hold at least £2000 to meet running costs and any unforeseen expenditure.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our main sources of income this year have been: donations from local organisations and individuals, and Elmswell parish council; fundraising events; County and District Council Locality Budget grants.

The funds raised have gone towards:

- Basic running costs which allow us to keep our sites open for everyone to enjoy, including insurance.
- Maintaining/developing the woodland, orchards and wildspace, including the tools and equipment required to do this.
- Provision of new equipment to facilitate community events and activities.

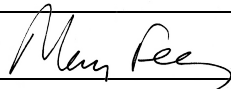
Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Mary Jo Feeney

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Date

22/05/2024



ElmsWild		1152850		CC16a
Receipts and payments accounts				
For the period from	01/08/2022	To	31/07/2023	

Section A Receipts and payments

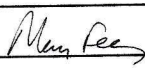
	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	1,886	-	-	1,886	2,502
Fund-raising events	984	-	-	984	115
Grants	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	3,870	-	-	3,870	2,617
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	3,870	-	-	3,870	2,617
A3 Payments					
Insurance	436	-	-	436	292
Rental	175	-	-	175	150
Administration	29	-	-	29	-
Professional fees	640	-	-	640	111
Repairs & maintenance	377	-	-	377	1,175
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,657	-	-	1,657	1,728
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Tools & equipment	1,438	-	-	1,438	608
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	1,438	-	-	1,438.00	608
Total payments	3,095	-	-	3,095	2,336
Net of receipts/(payments)	775	-	-	775	281
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	4,606	-	-	4,606	4,325
Cash funds this year end	5,381	-	-	5,381	4,606

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Current account & cash	5,381	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	5,381	-	-
(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))				
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets				
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
B5 Liabilities				

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Land 6.6 acres at Lukeswood	Restricted	-	-
	Trees planted	Restricted	-	-
	Tools, equipment & storage	Restricted	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		MARY FEENEY	22/05/2024

ElmsWild Charity No. 1152850

Receipts and Payments Accounts

CONFIRMATION

The Trustees confirm that:

No guarantees have been given by ElmsWild CIO where any potential liability is outstanding at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities.

There is no debt outstanding at the date of the statement of assets and liabilities which is owed by ElmsWild CIO and which is secured by an express charge on any of the assets of the CIO.

Signature:



Print Name:

MARY JO FEENEY

Date of Approval:

22/05/2024



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

ElmsWild

On accounts for the year
ended

31 July 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1152850

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *)

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

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

Signed:

Date:

09/10/23

Name:

MICHAEL JOHN MAWSON

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

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Address:

5 BORLEY CRESCENT
ELMSWELL, BURY ST. EDMUNDS
SUFFOLK IP30 9UG

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.