

## **The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group**

### **The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group**

Charity No. 1156703

#### **TRUSTEES ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th November 2025**

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#### **The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group**

##### **Report of the Management Committee for the Year ended 30 November 2025**

The Management Committee presents its report and financial statements for the year ended 30th November 2025.

##### **Reference and Administrative Information**

Charity Name: The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group (The BWNPCG)

Charity registration number: 1156703

Registered Office: Jubilee Hall, Little Shore Lane, Bishops Waltham, Hants. SO32 1ED

Office Address: "Rareridge", Rareridge Lane, Bishops Waltham, Hampshire SO32 1DX

##### **Principal activity**

The group's principal activity is to manage and maintain the area known as the Bishops Waltham North Pond. This area is owned in various parts by BWNPCG, Winchester City Council and Hampshire County Council. The area, by agreement, is managed and maintained by BWNPCG for its protection and the enjoyment of the local community.

##### **Management Committee**

The management committee are mainly trustees of the charity for the purposes of the Charities Act 1993. Those not trustees are co-opted members. An AGM was conducted on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2025 and the current committee members were confirmed in their roles.

The following persons were in office at 30th November 2025.

## **The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group**

Barry Jerome (Trustee and Chairman)  
Eric Birbeck (Trustee)  
John Dixie (Trustee and Treasurer)  
David McLean (Trustee)

Gary Potheary (Trustee)

Gill Overton (Trustee)  
Piers Spencer (Vice-Chairman)  
Colin Bown (Trustee)  
Jenny Williams (Trustee and  
Membership Secretary)  
Judy Lee (Secretary)

### **Changes to Trustees and committee in 2024 confirmed at AGM on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2025.**

Piers Spencer elected Vice-Chairman, John Dixie confirmed as Trustee,  
Martin Wiltshire stepped down as Trustee, Judy Lee elected as Secretary

### **Bankers and Bank Accounts**

Barclays Plc, 1 Churchill Place, London E14 5HP  
Account 20-11-43, 93426858, Business Premium Account  
Account 20-11-43, 43301656, Community Account

### **Results of the Financial Year 2025**

Net incoming resources for the year amounted to £1,871, (2024: £156).

Net expenses for the year £939, (2024: £1,375)

The Charity is a “not for profit organisation”, Funds are raised through donations and grants.

The Statement of Financial Activities shows:

Accumulated funds of £30,002 as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025, (30<sup>th</sup> November 2024: £29,421).

All assets of the charity are used in the direct furtherance of the charity’s objectives.

### **Our Aims and objectives**

#### Purposes, Aims, and Outcomes

Our charity’s purposes are to act as stewards and managers of the area known as the Bishops Waltham North Pond. We aim to achieve these objectives by recruiting members of the local community and involving them in fund raising and work parties. Work on and around the North Pond is required throughout the year to maintain the trees and clear the water channels to avoid flooding. In 2018 the large project to remove silt from areas of the pond to retain water all year round, was successfully completed. By way of further explanation, the pond is seasonal and fed from springs further up the valley; consequently, it is usually full in the winter months and dries up in summer. Fish get trapped in the receding waters and die, much to the distress of the community. All year water has enabled the fish to be saved and moved to the nearby permanent fishing pond. Over 120 community members have signed up to our organisation and support our work. The volunteers are administered and directed by the Work Party Organiser, Barry Jerome, or an appointed qualified deputy. For the year 2025 the Trust concentrated on generally improving the viewing area and surrounds, removing fallen trees and other maintenance tasks as required.

#### Ensuring our work delivers our aims

We review our aims, objectives and activities each year. This review (The Chairman’s Report) looked at what we have achieved in 2025. Our plan for the coming year is to continue similar maintenance work.

## **The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group**

In 2022 it had been decided not to hold an AGM at the usual time in January as Covid cases were still high in the winter months and Committee members agreed to continue in their roles. An AGM was held in June 2023 and was well attended by members of the public so it was decided to hold future AGMs in the Summer months. The AGM was held on 20<sup>th</sup> August 2025.

Autumn/Winter work parties restarted in September 2025. The focus for the autumn was to cut back the Willow trees which are encroaching from the sides and reducing the pond area. The centre of the pond was originally opened up to allow light to reach plants and animals when restoration began. This has not been possible for the last three years when the water returned early, the trees have encroached considerably over that time.

Transfer of ownership of the Hampshire County Council (HCC) owned part of the North Pond to the BWNPCG was agreed in November 2021. Implementing this is continuing in the background as a low priority HCC activity.

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our current and future activities. In particular, the trustees considered how the 2025 planned activities have contributed to the aims and objectives of the charity.

### **The Focus of our Activities**

The focus of our activities continues to be the enhancement of the North Pond area and enhancement of the viewing areas. Alongside this is the maintenance of the trees, woodland and water channels. In particular the outflow sluice has to be cleared of debris every week.

### **How our activities deliver public benefit**

#### Who used and benefitted from our Services

Members of the community now extensively use the new picnic area and the children delight in feeding the ducks. This has been encouraging and additional display panels, describing the history of the area, have been installed. Birds, animals and insects are more abundant and have also benefitted from our activity. Equal access to our areas is an important issue for us and we have ensured that there is adequate access for wheelchairs, baby buggies and the disabled. Children's educational activities are encouraged to understand the habitat and pond life and be aware of the effect our project has had on the environment. The Scouts and Guides include the pond and its maintenance in their activities.

#### How the community and wildlife have benefitted

From observations by the public and our own members, we have noticed an increase in the numbers and types of birdlife and insects that now frequent the North Pond. Nuthatches were seen for the first time, and ringed to monitor numbers. It has become very obvious that the pond work activity helps motivate pride and self help in the community and improves the environment.

### **Financial Review**

We are an entirely voluntary organisation with hands-on Trustees, most of who are involved either in the work parties or behind the scenes with administration. Finances are reviewed against budget at each management meeting, where actual spending is compared to budget. The charity

## **The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group**

is fortunate in having a fund set aside for pond maintenance. This fund is planned to last for at least twenty years with a budgeted average amount of £800 set aside for yearly maintenance. Some years this may go over budget, usually due to emergency tree maintenance, this is then clawed back over future years or with fund raising. Large projects have targeted fund raising, with the money raised prior to the work commencing. Our policy is to have the money in hand prior to the start of any planned work.

### Principal Funding Sources

From its inception the charity's funds have come from a wide range of donors including Winchester City Council, Bishops Waltham Parish Council, TESCO Bags of Help, Budgens Supermarket, The Solar Farm, individual donors, Amey, The Winchester Mayor's fund, and the BREEAM fund. In this year we received a grant from Winchester City Council towards the construction of a nesting site for sand martins, and this sum was more than matched by individual donations.

### **Investment and Reserves Policy**

#### Investment Policy

The charity's funds are all in immediate access accounts to enable the charity to act swiftly to take opportunities when they occur. However the trustees have agreed that the greater part of the charity's funds should be moved to an account earning interest and this was implemented during the year.

#### Reserves Policy

The Management Committee has examined the charity's requirements for reserves and is satisfied that the maintenance reserve will last for the planned 20 years at an average drawdown amount of £800 per year.

### **Plans for Future Periods**

The charity plans continuing conservation management and small projects for the North Pond in the forthcoming years subject to satisfactory funding arrangements. The aims of these activities are to increase biodiversity while also further enhancing the area for the enjoyment of the local community and to increase educational opportunities.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

#### Governing Document, GDPR, Safeguarding, Diversity and Governance

The organisation is a charity registered with the Charity Commission, number 1156703. The governing document is the charity's constitution. We have completed our review of GDPR and have no incidents to report in 2025.

#### Recruitment and Appointment of Management Committee

The Management Committee is made up from the charity's trustees, who have indicated a willingness to serve on the committee, and co-opted committee members. The members of the Management Committee are re-elected annually at the AGM. The Trustees are elected to serve for a period of four years after which they must be re-elected at the next Annual General Meeting.

All members of the Management Committee give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

## **The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group**

### **Trustee Induction and Training**

Most trustees are already familiar with the practical work of the charity.

Additionally, new trustees are vetted by the committee prior to being invited for election. They are then advised to view on-line a series of short training sessions, provided by the Charity Commission to familiarise themselves with responsibilities of a trustee of the charity and the context within which it operates. They must read annually and understand:

- The obligations of Management Committee members
- The main documents which set out the operational framework for the charity including the Constitution, Governance, and Safeguarding, Equality and Diversity and other Policies
- Resourcing and the current financial position as set out in the latest published accounts
- Future plans and objectives

### **Risk Management**

The Management Committee has conducted a review of the major risks to which the charity is exposed. A Risk Assessment has been established and is updated at least annually. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety, and safeguarding, equality and diversity of volunteers and third parties and internal financial controls. These procedures are periodically reviewed to ensure that they continue to meet the needs of the charity.

### **Responsibilities of the Management Committee**

The law requires the Management Committee to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of the affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. There is a policy defining Committee Roles and Responsibilities. In preparing those financial statements, the management committee has followed best practice to:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,  
Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,  
and

Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is not appropriate to assume that the charity will continue, on that basis.

The Management Committee is responsible for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. The Management Committee is 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 Charity Commission also requires the organisation to have Safeguarding, Equality and Diversity policies and a governance policy. These are in place.

### **Members of the Management Committee**

Members of the Management Committee, who are trustees for the purpose of charity law, who served during the year and up to the date of this report are set out on page 2.

## **The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group**

### **Fair Value to the Community**

The Bishops Waltham North Pond Group values the help of the community. During the 2024-25 financial year a total of 492 volunteer hours were given at work parties. At minimum wage this equates to £6,007 and we would like the community to know that from inception a total work party hour's equivalent value of £83,985 has been donated to the pond. This does not include the time that the committee gives voluntarily for administration of the charities activities. Also, money donations to the value of some £52,870 have been applied to the project. This means that a total £142,856 has been given to preserve the pond, to the end of the accounting year 2025.

### **Certification of the Accounts**

In accordance with the law, as the charity's trustees, we certify that:

In so far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the company's examiner is unaware

and

As the directors of the charity, we have taken all the steps that we ought to have taken in order to make ourselves aware of any relevant examining information and to establish that the charity's examiner is aware of that information.

### **Accounts Examination**

Mr R Breach, who is an independent professional person, has examined the accounts. They were signed off on 29<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

### **Reportable Incidences**

No incidents occurred during the Financial Year 2025 that are of a nature reportable to the Charity Commission.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities (issued in March 2005) and in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small entities.

Approved by the Management Committee on XXXXXX 2026 and signed on its behalf by:



**Dr. B Jerome**  
**Trustee and Chairman**

**The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group**

**Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group**

**Accounts for the Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

**Statement of Financial Affairs for the Year Ended 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
<b>Incoming Resources</b>		
Bucket collections	101	0
Individual donations	40	114
Grants received - Sand Martin project	700	0
Donations - Sand Martin project	917	0
Gift aid	0	0
Book sales	54	42
Bank interest	59	0
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>1871</b>	<b>156</b>
 <b>Resources Expended</b>		
Administration and pond maintenance	939	1375
Book publishing	0	0
Sand Martin project	0	0
<b>Total Charitable Expenditure</b>	<b>939</b>	<b>1375</b>
 <b>Net Incoming Resources</b>	<b>932</b>	<b>-1219</b>

**The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group**

**Balance Sheet as at 30<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>2025</b>		<b>2024</b>
Stock of books (at cost)	197	Balance brought forward	29421
Cash at bank	30002	Gain for year ending 30/11/25	932
Debtors	0	Book stock reduced to cost	-154
<b>Total Current Assets</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>Current Assets less Liabilities</b>	<b>30199</b>		<b>30199</b>

These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small entities.

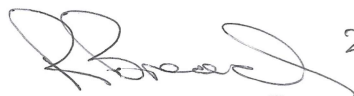


John Dixie  
Treasurer

29/12/2025

Date

I have examined these accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011.  
No matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to  
believe that the accounting requirements under this act have not been met.



Robin Breach  
Independent Examiner

29-12-2025

Date



## The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30th November 2025

1. **Charity Status:** The organisation is a registered charity, number 1156703.
2. **Accounting Policies:** The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost accounting rules and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities. The company has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing a cash flow statement conferred by Financial Reporting Standard No. 1 on the grounds that it is entitled to the exemptions available in Sections 476 and 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for small companies. Donations and voluntary income are accounted for gross when received.
3. **Cash at Bank:**

	2025	2024
Barclays Plc Community Account 03611604	£0	£27,185
Barclays Plc Business Premium Account 93426858	£ 28,061	£0
Barclays Plc Community Account 43301656	£1,942	£1,885

Account 03611604 was closed during the year and the funds transferred to account 93426858.  
Barclays changed the name of account 43301656.
4. **Gains and Losses:** The Charity recorded a net gain of £932 in 2025.
5. **Directors' Remuneration:** No remuneration was paid and no expenses were reimbursed to any of the management committee during the year, except for those incurred as allowed by the charity's constitution. No trustee or other person related to the charity had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.
6. **Taxation:** As a charity The Bishops Waltham North Pond Conservation Group is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or s256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objectives. No tax charges have arisen in the Charity's 2025 tax year.
7. **Funds:** (In two bank accounts) The Dukes Reserve Fund was established to fund pond maintenance for at least 20 years.  
Of the £30,002 in the bank accounts £7,617 is reserved for specific projects and £22,385 is available for general expenditure.
8. **Continuity of Activities:** The Charity operates on the basis that it generates sufficient funds from voluntary income and its reserves to cover costs.