



ANDOVER TREES UNITED

Registered Charity Number 1167574

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements For the year ended 31 March 2022

Principal address

Westcott
Old Salisbury Road
Abbotts Ann
Andover SP11 7NH

Trustees

John Baxter
Wendy L Davis
Daniel J Lobb
Susan Risdale appointed 11 September 2021
Tim Rolt
Elizabeth B Scrace (Treasurer)

Structure, governance and management

Andover Trees United became a registered charity on 9 June 2016. The charity is governed by its constitution dated 31 May 2016.

Trustee selection methods

Potential trustees are interviewed by the board of trustees. All trustees are appointed at the Annual General Meeting and serve for a period of up to one year. The board may co-opt people to serve as trustees until the next AGM.

Risk Management

The trustees are responsible for identifying and managing risks to the charity. The trustees consider that they have complied with the Charity Commission's guidance on managing risk. When appropriate, systems or procedures are established to mitigate risks faced by the charity. Where risk cannot be eliminated the charity purchases insurance cover.

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that they have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

Objectives and activities

The charity's constitution sets out the objectives as:

- The conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment for the public benefit by the establishment and maintenance of woodland in Andover.
- The advancement of education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment in Andover and the Test Valley area including by promoting the woodland as a means for the community to learn about wider environmental issues such as: sustainability, climate change, ecology and the mitigating need for trees.

The main activities during the year April 2021 – March 2022 were as follows:

- The main timber frame and roof for the woodland classroom and community space have been constructed, a process overseen by the Carpenters' Fellowship involving over 100 traditional timber framers and volunteers. For a variety of reasons, the building could not be completed during 2021-22 but work is planned to restart in June 2022. Although the final phase will not be finished until 2023, it is expected to be weathertight and usable by the end of this year.
- Winter tree planting saw over 1500 trees planted as part of the Queen's Green Canopy project. More than 1000 were planted by 1200 children from 27 schools in Andover and the surrounding villages, supported by 100s of local residents and schools' staff. The ambition for 10000 children to plant 10000 trees over a decade was realised, culminating in March in a special planting of 30 oak and ash trees with representatives of almost all participating school in the presence of the Lord Lieutenant of Hampshire.
- Hundreds of wildflower plants were raised from seed and planted in the wood. A 'Habitats Trail' including an extension to the wildlife pond and a 'chalk scrape' area for native wildflowers was constructed. A drainage system was installed from the Cabin to the ponds which, once connected to guttering, will see all rainwater that falls on the roof carried to the ponds.
- The management team maintained the programme to broaden availability of volunteering opportunities to work in the natural environment, by delivering weekly workdays at Harmony Woods and the Vigo Rd allotment, as well as monthly weekend workdays.
- Volunteer opportunities were further broadened to include regular 'Nature in Harmony' sessions, an extensive citizen science programme, devised by Ecology Intern Alex Marshall.
- Continuing the '6 Trees & 6 Flowers' partnership with five local schools to develop an environmental education programme, funding to undertake field study trips to Harmony Woods to investigate what lives in Harmony Woods was granted by Dr Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots programme.
- The charity continued to develop the intern ecologist role, supporting Alex in a successful application to People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) for a funded internship that investigated the effects of climate change on the at-risk Small Heath butterfly. In addition, Alex secured funding to run the citizen science 'Nature in Harmony' and 'Habitats Trail' projects. Funding was also secured to continue the ecology internship programme, allowing a new intern to take over April 2022- March 2023.
- In addition to the internship, the charity has supported young people to develop their skills and interests in the natural world by offering work experience to Sparsholt students, providing weekly volunteering opportunities to Harrow Way students and by delivering dedicated sessions to local guiding and scouting groups.
- The newly established Nature in Harmony Exchange programme for young people 14-17 years continued into its 2nd year and the link with the Corcovado Foundation in Costa Rica has been maintained. As the founding students continued into their 2nd year, they were joined by a new 'year 1' cohort.
- Artistic collaborations were developed with: CAS (UnderEarth); storyteller Amanda Kane-Smith (Test Valley Tales); place-based artist James Aldridge, sound artist Justin Wiggan and musician Paul Sartin (Voices in Harmony and Living by the Ash Tree Waters); and London-based world music educators Musiko Musika.

Achievements and performance

- During 2021-22 the charity continued to pursue its objective of establishing a woodland in Andover with the planting of young trees, the construction of a second wildlife pond and a new area for native chalk-loving wildflowers. The school planting programme returned in full after the Covid19 restrictions, over an extended period to cater for increased numbers of children taking part.
- Further opportunities for education in the natural environment continued with the five partnership schools as part of the 4-year *6 Trees and 6 Flowers* pilot programme. These included field study trips

to Harmony Woods, propagating wild flowers from seed and 2 artist-led programmes which commenced in March and will continue across the summer months: 'Living by the Ash Tree Waters' and 'Voices in Harmony'. As these projects develop, they will be extended into the wider community.

- The town centre allotment lease continued where, on a regular basis, volunteers are able to propagate wildflowers and nurture saplings for later transfer to the woodland.
- Negotiations with Hampshire County Council for the change from a licence agreement for Harmony Woods to a lease to manage the whole of the Diamond Wood continued to progress.
- Work started on the woodland classroom and community space with the timber structure completed during the summer and roofing in early winter of 2021. Unforeseen circumstances meant that the building could not be completed (but phase 2 work will restart in June 2022 for completion by November 2022).
- The development of strong relationships with local businesses continued, in particular volunteering and funding from Abel & Cole, the Coop, Waitrose, Ocado, SimplyHealth, Stannah, Virgin Media, Wessex Woodland and Middleton Estate.
- The strong community-led management team continued to work well.
- Funding was secured (Nov. 2021) from The National Lottery (TNL) Reaching Communities Programme to help realise the first 5 years of the 'Branching Out' strategy (devised by public consultation 2020-21).
- At the end of the financial year (Feb/ March), thanks to TNL funding, one full-time and one temporary part-time employee were engaged together with a part-time administrator to assist with the development of the charity and the delivery of the Branching Out strategy and programme of community engagement events.

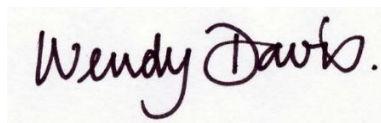
Financial review

The incoming resources in 2021-22 amounted to £147625 (2020-21 £47978) and total resources expended amounted to £89906 (2020-21 £9560) leading to a surplus for the year of £57719 (2020-21 surplus £38417). The charity maintains one Unrestricted General Fund and six Unrestricted Designated Funds, and at 31 March 2022 twenty Restricted Funds. The total funds balance was £114192 of which the balance of Restricted Funds at 31 March 2022 was £104572. No funds were in deficit at 31 March 2022 and sufficient funds are held to enable each fund to be applied in accordance with any restrictions.

Declaration

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

Signed on 5 September 2022 on behalf of the charity's trustees



Wendy Davis
Trustee

Andover Trees United
Receipts and Payments Account
For the year ended 31 March 2022

Charity No 1167574

	Unrestricted	Restricted	2022 Total	2021 Total
Income				
Local Authority grants		44000	44000	8684
Grants and donations	300	50300	50600	18828
Fundraising	4770	25505	30275	20300
Other income		22750	22750	166
Interest income		0	0	0
	<u>5070</u>	<u>142555</u>	<u>147625</u>	<u>47978</u>
Expenditure				
Trees planting and site maintenance	280	3063	3343	2637
Transport	0	2721	2721	1032
Equipment	1024	1814	2838	1116
Equipment hire	0	1042	1042	90
Events	0	3300	3300	0
Staff and Intern	1120	6079	7199	2018
Volunteer costs	559	1702	2261	331
Insurance	1387	0	1387	782
Administration & publicity	1034	0	1034	811
Study Centre	0	56657	56657	0
Allotment, Jonathans Wood	72	0	72	78
Environmental Studies	0	7008	7008	213
Youth Work	0	611	611	391
Fundraising costs	433	0	433	61
	<u>5910</u>	<u>83996</u>	<u>89906</u>	<u>9560</u>
Excess of income over expenditure	<u>-840</u>	<u>58559</u>	<u>57719</u>	<u>38418</u>
Transfer between funds	-73	73		
Balance at 1 April 2021	10533	45940	56473	18055
Balance at 31 March 2022	<u>9620</u>	<u>104572</u>	<u>114192</u>	<u>56473</u>
Cash at bank	9565	104572	114137	56423
Cash in hand	55	0	55	50
	<u>9620</u>	<u>104572</u>	<u>114192</u>	<u>56473</u>

The receipts and payments account was approved by the Board of Trustees on 5 September 2022 and was signed on its behalf by:

Wendy Davis
Trustee

Elizabeth Scrace
Treasurer

Independent Examiner's Report

I report to the trustees of Andover Trees United (charity No 1167574) on my examination of the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 set out on page 1.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which give me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in the report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed

Date 6 September 2022

Andrew Dance

Damhsa, Church Lane, Goodworth Clatford, Andover SP11 7HL