

FROYLE WILDLIFE

Trustees' Report for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021



The trustees of Froyle Wildlife present their Report and accounts for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021.

1. Reference and administrative details

Froyle Wildlife is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered charity number 1171997. Its registered address is:

Braemore
Husseys Lane
Lower Froyle
Alton GU34 4LX.

The trustees of Froyle Wildlife throughout the period were:

Barry Clark (chairman)
Susan Clark
Alan Dyos
Jayne Fisher
Nigel Hughes
Jenny Matthews
Jonathan Pickering

At each annual general meeting of the members of the CIO, one-third of the charity trustees shall retire from office. Any person who retires as a charity trustee by rotation is eligible for re-election.

Nigel Hughes and Jenny Mathews have indicated they will retire and seek re-election.

Governance, management and trustee recruitment

Froyle Wildlife is run by its trustees, who meet as often as required during the year to manage its affairs. They also arrange the events which Froyle Wildlife puts on in the village, and recruit and manage volunteers to assist with the upkeep and maintenance of the Froyle Park pond and the wildflower meadow on Froyle Recreation Ground.

The trustees of Froyle Wildlife share an interest in local wildlife and the natural environment, and the importance of its conservation and protection. Potential new trustees are sought from the residents of the local area who share the values and objectives of Froyle Wildlife.

2. Objectives and activities

The objectives of Froyle Wildlife are:

- (a) to promote for the benefit of the public resident in and around the villages of Upper Froyle and Lower Froyle, Hampshire the conservation, protection and improvement of the local physical and natural environment, in particular but not exclusively by identifying and recording species of flora and fauna in the local area;
- (b) to advance the education of the public resident in and around the villages of Upper Froyle and Lower Froyle, Hampshire in the conservation, protection and improvement of the local physical and natural environment.

During the period Froyle Wildlife (FW) arranged its programme of activities to comply with Covid-19 restrictions. The trustees confirm that activities have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. Our plan is to carry out the following activities, either separately or in conjunction with each other:

1. Providing talks, preferably illustrated, by relevant knowledgeable individuals on aspects of species, local wildlife conservation, protection and natural environmental improvement;
2. Providing guided walks in the local countryside, led by relevant knowledgeable individuals, to observe and where possible record various elements of the local flora, fauna and, if appropriate, related topography;
3. Offering opportunities to participate in the development, maintenance, upkeep and renewal of local natural facilities including, but not limited to, the wildlife pond and meadow area in Froyle Park, and the wildflower areas on the Froyle Recreation Ground;
4. Providing forums in which interested people can meet to discuss and share experiences, observations and opinions relating to local flora, fauna and conservation matters generally, all of which will be open to members of the public at an appropriate modest entrance fee, generally £3 (designed to cover both staging and general operating expenses) and free for members.



Froyle Park Pond area June 2021



Wildflowers on Froyle Recreation Ground

3. Achievements and performance

Froyle Wildlife arranged our 'walks and talks' in 2021 taking account of Covid-19 restrictions and lockdown so talks were held as virtual meetings via Zoom. These supported our purposes and form part of a year on year programme, see our website for more information <http://froylewildlife.co.uk/news/past-events/>. We continued to look after the wildflower area on Froyle Recreation Ground and the wildlife pond area near Gid Lane, with volunteers who were outdoors and socially distanced.

Last October a talk by Keith Betton about the 'Birds of the Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica' took us through some of the amazing birds seen. He explained how the wildlife of these areas fits together in a very challenging environment.

Nature photographer Mike Read presented 'Hampshire - Nature in Trust'. He visited Hampshire Wildlife Trust reserves to record the scenery and wildlife. From Farlington Marshes to Broughton Down, the wide spread of locations produced a broad variety of habitats and inspired us to visit more of Hampshire's natural gems.

We enjoyed a talk in March by Paul Reynolds, Hospital Manager of HART Wildlife Rescue. Located near Alton, HART runs a wildlife hospital, providing a rescue, treatment and rehabilitation service for wildlife. Over 3,000 animals were treated last year including hedgehogs, wild birds, foxes, owls, ducks, rabbits and mice.

A beautifully illustrated presentation by Stephen Powles in April was about 'Wildlife Photography Tips and Experiences'. There was something for all levels and with no need for expensive kit. The photographer's imagination is the most important piece of equipment along with composition, focusing and camera angle.

On a cool July morning, a small group visited Bentley Station Meadow our nearest SSSI. We had close views of butterflies and other insects at rest including Ringlet, Gatekeeper, Roesel's Bush-cricket and Shaded Broad-bar moth. Hidden in the lush vegetation we also spotted Herb-paris, an indicator species for ancient woodlands.



Roesel's Bush-cricket



Marbled White

At the two 'drop-in' days at the wildlife pond area in July, the wildflowers were splendid and butterflies seen included Marbled White, Meadow Brown and Gatekeeper. Of the 8 dragonfly and damselfly species seen the Emperors stole the show with their aerial chases. Some of the 36 visitors sent us photos taken; these included, Large Skipper, Mint moth, Banded Demoiselle and Four-spotted Chaser. Certainly an amazing hotspot for local biodiversity since construction five years ago.

Community involvement:



Last November volunteers planted 6 new trees with enthusiasm on Froyle recreation ground (plan approved by Froyle Parish Council). This was done with one household per tree, using their own tools and with social distancing to others. The standard trees were 2 each of Whitebeam, Cherry and Rowan, 2.4m to 3.0m tall and locally grown in Hampshire.

In February volunteers put up 12 bird nest boxes on trees in Froyle; around the recreation ground and near the wildlife pond area. These will provide more nesting opportunities for small birds such as blue tits, great tits, robins and wrens.

In Spring we trimmed the willow dome and sowed an area of cornfield annuals on Froyle recreation ground. The annuals flowered well in summer with corn marigolds, cornflowers, corn camomile and poppies. In July the adjacent perennial wildflower plot had its annual cut and rake up (socially distanced) as part of the maintenance plan. Many locals enjoyed seeing the colourful wildflowers, the newly planted trees and using the willow dome, created by 19 volunteers involved for 97 hours work.



Wildflowers and dome on Froyle rec. June 2021



Wildflower meadow scything

Managing the wildflower meadow surrounding Froyle Park Pond has involved 12 volunteers for 173 hours of hands on work to maintain the habitat. With this effort, the wildflowers have thrived and the pond continues to support breeding amphibians, dragonflies and damselflies. Work included removing perennial weeds; cutting paths to enable access for visitors; and removing excess pond vegetation. The high number of plants, insects and amphibians that would otherwise be absent from the area is due to our management such as selective cutting and sheep grazing in winter months.

We encourage local people to send us their wildlife sightings in Froyle with photos if possible. In addition to our website, our social networking on Instagram at www.instagram.com/froylewildlife/ had posts including Hare, Greater Spotted

Woodpecker, Sweet Violet, Great Crested Newt, Blue-tailed Damselfly and Brown Hairstreak butterfly. We also publish monthly articles in the Froyle Village magazine to inform about local wildlife.



Blue-tailed damselfly



Great Crested Newt

Several families had a wonderful time pond dipping at the wildlife pond in August. As well as searching for Froyle's tiniest aquatic creatures, the children delightedly roamed through the towering, butterfly and bee-covered wildflowers. Many juvenile newts and pond-skaters, diving beetles, water boatmen, numerous Ramshorn snails and dragonfly nymphs were found. One of the most interesting finds was a Water Scorpion that breathes underwater through its snorkel-like tail. Enjoyed by all, it was a great way to spend time in nature.



Pond dipping

Species recording:

Observations have been made to record what species are present in the local area throughout the seasons. These add to the information from previous years accessible from our website <http://froylewildlife.co.uk/recording/>. We have informally monitored the habitat at the wildlife pond and wildflower meadow and records now include: 16 species of dragonfly/damselfly; 4 species of amphibian; 26 species of butterfly; 103 species of moth and 113 species of flowering plants. The population of newts has increased as shown by professional surveys that recorded peak counts of 28 Great Crested Newts and 23 Smooth Newts in 2021. Records at the pond area for the first time this year include: Red-eyed damselfly, White helleborine and a nationally scarce hoverfly *Callicera aurata*.



Hoverfly (Callicera aurata)



Small Blue and Kidney Vetch

Surveying started this summer in Froyle's disused quarry (SINC site), a habitat with naturally regenerating chalk grassland. Highlights included a variety of orchids and the Small Blue butterfly that breeds there on kidney vetch.

A joint project with Alton Natural History Society to record plant species in Froyle started in 2021 as an update to a previous survey in 1991. The variety of locations surveyed includes roadside verges, field edges and woods that are accessible from public rights of way as well as some areas with landowner's permission.

We ran a moth lamp one evening in August 2021 at the meadow surrounding the wildlife pond and recorded 15 species even though it was cool and breezy. These included Straw Underwing, Flame Shoulder and Spectacle moths. An evening in September at a Froyle garden had ideal weather conditions with 33 species including Maidens Blush, Ruby Tiger and Light Emerald. Butterflies and moths are useful indicator species for the health of our environment.

4. Financial performance

Froyle Wildlife's opening funds were £2,258 of which £113 were restricted to use in the development, maintenance and upkeep of the pond. During the year it received no grants to help with funding its general activities or with specific projects and funded the cost of planting of the trees on the Recreation Ground (£432) out of its own resources. As a result of these factors, the reduction in activity and the suspension of collection of membership subscriptions in the Covid-19 pandemic, overall there was a surplus of expenditure over income of £747. Closing funds were £1,511 of which £90 are restricted. Froyle Wildlife has no debts.

The trustees manage Froyle Wildlife to allow the purchase of essential items of equipment or consumables to enable it to carry on its conservation activities, and aim to maintain a small positive cash balance as working capital to enable the production of local events. The subscription amount is set at a level to meet these objectives: the trustees do not consider it is necessary or appropriate to generate significant reserves to be held by the charity.

Other matters

Froyle Wildlife holds no funds as custodian trustee, and has not taken advantage of any exemptions from disclosure.

FROYLE WILDLIFE
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Income & expenditure statement

	Year ended 31 August 2021			Year ended 31 August 2020		
	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	General funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Income						
Grants				550.00		550.00
Subscriptions	366.00		366.00	244.00		244.00
Donations	45.00		45.00	219.53		219.53
Refreshment receipts				56.20		56.20
Raffle takings				27.00		27.00
Calendars and seeds				245.00		245.00
Door entries	20.00		20.00	46.00		46.00
Total income	431.00	-	431.00	1387.73		1387.73
Expenditure						
Planting	423.12		423.12			
Hall hire				60.00		60.00
Meeting equipment hire	57.56		57.56	5.00		5.00
Food & drink				89.35		89.35
Donations to speakers	225.00		225.00	80.00		80.00
Stationery	7.04		7.04	19.75		19.75
Insurance	95.96		95.96	117.60		117.60
Sundries	32.50		32.50	50.84		50.84
Maintenance					25.49	25.49
Calendar costs				242.00		242.00
Depreciation	313.76	22.94	336.70	356.67	329.95	686.62
Total expenditure	1,154.94	22.94	1,177.88	1021.21	355.44	1376.65
Surplus/(deficit) of income over expenditure	(£723.94)	(£22.94)	(£746.88)	£366.52	(£355.44)	£11.08

FROYLE WILDLIFE
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Balance sheet at 31 August 2021

	31 August 2021			31 August 2020		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	General funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	General funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
Fixed assets						
Plant & equipment	1,070.00	989.85	2,059.85	1,070.00	989.85	2,059.85
Less: depreciation	(1,070.00)	(989.85)	(2,059.85)	(756.24)	(966.91)	(1,723.15)
Net book value	-	-	-	313.76	22.94	336.70
Total fixed assets	-	-	-	313.76	22.94	336.70
Current assets						
Cash at bank	1,349.97	89.93	1439.90	1,785.15	89.93	1,875.08
Petty cash	71.50		71.50	46.50		46.50
Net current assets	1,421.47	89.93	1,511.40	1,831.65	89.93	1,921.58
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>£1,421.47</u>	<u>£89.93</u>	<u>£1,511.40</u>	<u>£2,145.41</u>	<u>£112.87</u>	<u>£2,258.28</u>
Represented by:						
Capital introduced	53.50		53.50	53.50		53.50
Opening reserves	2,091.91	112.87	2,204.78	1,725.39	468.31	2,193.70
Surplus/(deficit)	(723.94)	(22.94)	(746.88)	366.52	(355.44)	11.08
Closing reserves	1,367.97	89.93	1,457.90	2,091.91	112.87	2,204.78
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>£1,421.47</u>	<u>£89.93</u>	<u>£1,511.40</u>	<u>£2,145.41</u>	<u>£112.87</u>	<u>£2,258.28</u>

Approved on behalf of the Committee by:

Barry Clark

Barry Clark

Jonathan Pickering

Jonathan Pickering

Date:

30 September 2021

FROYLE WILDLIFE

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. Froyle Wildlife is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (no.1171997) formed to take over the activities of Froyle Nature Conservation Group (FNCG).
2. The accounts cover the year ended 31 August 2021.
3. The accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis, as agreed by the Trustees.
4. The restricted funds represent the balance of grants from East Hampshire District Council for the creation of a wildlife pond on the Froyle Park Estate remaining after the expenditure incurred to date. The remaining funds may only be used for the future maintenance, upkeep and improvement of the wildlife pond. All pond-related activities have been treated as on capital account.
5. Fixed assets acquired from FNCG are stated at their value on acquisition from FNCG as shown in FNCG's accounts. The original acquisition cost of fixed assets was written off over a three year period on a straight line basis. In line with the Receipts and Payments basis of accounting, in the future, the trustees have decided to write off the cost of fixed assets in the year of acquisition.

6. Fixed assets

	31 August 2021			31 August 2020		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
	General funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	General funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
<i>Cost</i>						
Opening balance	1,070.00	989.85	2,059.85	740.48	810.29	1,550.77
Acquisitions				329.52	179.56	509.08
Closing balance	1,070.00	989.85	2,059.85	1,070.00	989.85	2,059.85
<i>Depreciation</i>						
Opening balance	756.24	966.91	1,723.15	399.57	636.96	1,036.53
Charge for year	313.76	22.94	336.70	356.67	329.95	686.62
Closing balance	1,070.00	989.85	2,059.85	756.24	966.91	1,723.15
Opening net book value	313.76	22.94	336.70	340.91	173.33	514.24
Closing net book value	-	-	-	£313.76	£22.94	£336.70