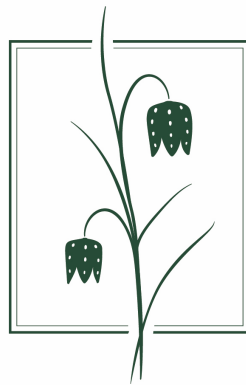


Charity Number: 1176457



DARLANDS
CONSERVATION TRUST

**Trustee's Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2023**

The Darlands Conservation Trust

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The Darlands Conservation Trust

Reference and administrative details

Structure: Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)

The name of the CIO: The Darlands Conservation Trust

Charity number: 1176457

The first charity trustees: -

Terrence Bannister
Kerin Conn (Resigned 7 August 2020)
Eileen Eskenzi
John Hart
Deborah Hobson
John Living (Resigned 31 May 2022)
Dianne Murphy (Deputy Chairman)
Caroline Stock (Chairman)
Michael Worms

Trustees appointed since formation of the CIO: -

Paul Flashman (Appointed 4 April 2022)
Valerie Duschinsky (Appointed 23 May 2022)
Jeffrey Duckett (Appointed 4 September 2023)

Treasurer: Mark Turner

Bankers: Lloyds Bank Plc, Park Lane Branch, London

Solicitors: Edwin Coe LLP, London WC2A 3TH

Correspondence address: PO Box 57691, London, NW7 0GR

Website: www.darlandsconservationtrust.org.uk

The Darlands Conservation Trust

Statement of trustee's responsibilities

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare receipts and payments accounts and statement of assets and liabilities for each financial year, which properly present the charity's receipts and payments for the year together with its assets and liabilities at the end of the year.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with applicable Accounting Standards and Statements of Recommended Practice and the regulations made under Section 154 of the Charities Act 2011. They 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.

Report of the trustees

The trustees present their report and the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023.

These financial statements are prepared in accordance with the charity's constitution dated 22 December 2017 (as amended on 7 Sep 2022) and the recommendations of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice and comply with applicable law.

Structure governance and management

The charity is under the governance of its Trustees, as set out on page 2 of the Financial Statements. The day-to-day management of the Charity is undertaken by the Trustees.

The objects of the CIO

The object of the CIO is to promote for the benefit of the public the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Darlands Nature Reserve.

When planning the activities for the year, the trustees have considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit.

The Darlands Conservation Trust

Achievements and performance

The volunteering restarted in June 2022, with regular opportunities for members of the local community of all abilities to reap the benefits of working as a team in nature. Last year we achieved 1,050 volunteer hours, the main achievements were: improving access to the nature reserve by widening paths; clearing the lake of logs and debris; fencing and post repairs; grass cutting / mowing; coppicing along the dam ; clearing and repairs to culverts and bramble clearance. The Trustees would like to express their gratitude and thanks to all our volunteers who generously gave their time during 2022/23.

We continued the programme of spraying to control Giant Hogweed. This enormous flowering plant, which can cause serious burns if its sap contacts skin, has become established in some areas of the reserve and will require continued annual treatment by licensed contractors for up to 10 years to completely eradicate it. This work by specialist contractors, has only been possible because of generous and gratefully received donations from the local community, businesses and Trusts and Foundations.

The CIO continued fundraising for our 'Help Save Darlands' appeal. We are appealing to everyone who loves Darlands to donate and help us regenerate the lake, restore and maintain the reserve for current and future generations.

The current fundraising focus is to raise funds for the urgently needed de-silting of the lake.

The Trustees organised two successful community events, these took place in May and June 2022. The Trustees would like to express their gratitude and thanks to those who attended and thanks to all our volunteers who generously gave their time.

A local farmer helped to flail a large field giving access to the lagoon area, and edge of the pig field.

The Charity achieved its objectives during the year as set out above.

Financial review

The charity's activities resulted in net incoming resources on the Unrestricted Income Fund for the year of £153,720 (2021/22: £14,870). In the prior years, the trustees had designated the Millennium Fayre income, towards the cost of desilting the Darlands Lake and the wider Save Darlands appeal. These funds were originally raised by the local community in 2000. In the current year £153,014 (2021/22: £14,095) of the 2022/23 Unrestricted Income Fund has been allocated to the Designated 'Help Save Darlands' appeal funds.

The Darlands Conservation Trust

The trustees are confident that through a combination of different income streams, they will receive sufficient income to enable the charity to meet its objectives.

The trustees have determined that there is no material uncertainty that casts doubt on its ability to continue as a going concern.

Plans for future periods

In the short term, the trustees intend to continue conducting ecological surveys, produce a 10-year management plan and to commence works to maintain and enhance safe public access to the nature reserve. Our ecological group are developing a ten-year management plan, incorporating the results and recommendation of these surveys.

Strategies for sustainable fundraising, communications and the recruitment of volunteers will be developed to support the management plan.

Community engagement will be at the forefront of future activities.

This report was approved and authorised for issue by the trustees on 25 January 2024, and signed on their behalf by:



Chairman

The Darlands Conservation Trust

Income and Expenditure Account For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Prior Year
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Donations and legacies				
Local business	3,122	-	3,122	240
Local community	64,465	10,050	74,515	8,804
Trusts & Foundations	4,540	6,255	10,795	666
Total Donations and legacies	72,127	16,305	88,432	9,710
Community events	62,532	-	62,532	-
Other Income	19,061	-	19,061	5,160
Total Income	153,720	16,305	170,025	14,870
Expenses				
Charitable Activities				
Community events	16,066	6,255	22,321	-
Independent examination fee	200	-	200	-
Woodland management	2,698	-	2,698	3,853
Repairs and maintenance	2,721	-	2,721	-
Total Charitable Activities	21,685	6,255	27,940	4,702
Insurances	981	-	981	985
Sundry expenses	330	-	330	194
Cost of raising funds	4,706	-	4,706	29
Total Expenses	27,702	6,255	33,957	5,910
Net Operating Income	126,018	10,050	136,068	8,960
Reconciliation of funds:	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Total funds brought forward	26,035	76,220	119	102,374
Income	706	153,014	16,305	170,025
Expenditure	(6,930)	(20,772)	(6,255)	(33,957)
Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward	19,811	208,462	10,169	238,442

The Darlands Conservation Trust

Balance Sheet As at 31 March 2023

	As at 31 March 2023 £	As at 31 March 2022 £
Current assets		
Cash at bank	222,842	102,374
Gift Aid recoverable	15,800	-
Prepaid Expenses	-	-
	<u>238,642</u>	<u>102,374</u>
Current liabilities		
Accruals	200	-
Total net assets	<u>238,442</u>	<u>102,374</u>
Charity funds		
Restricted funds	10,169	119
Designated unrestricted funds	208,462	76,220
Unrestricted income fund	19,811	26,035
Total funds	<u>238,442</u>	<u>102,374</u>

The financial statements on pages 6 and 7 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 25 January 2024, and signed on their behalf by:

Chairman



The Darlands Conservation Trust

Independent Examiners Report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Darlands Conservation Trust, registered charity number 1176457 (“the Trust”) for the year ended 31 March 2023.

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (“the Act”).

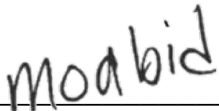
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust’s accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

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

- ☐ accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- ☐ the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Full name of Examiner: Mohib Abid ACCA

Signature: 

Date: 25 January 2023