

Lavell's Wetland Trust

Charity Number: 1176960

LWT c/o Dinton Pastures Country Park, Davis Street, Hurst, Reading, RG10 0TH

Trustees Annual Report for the period 1st January 2021 to 31st December 2021

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

Lavell's Wetland Trust's (LWT) aims and objectives are to enhance, protect and preserve the natural habitats, fauna and flora in the Loddon Valley for the benefit of the public and to advance public education and interest in the conservation of the countryside and wildlife

Type of governing document

Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) association model constitution filed with the Charity Commission.

How the charity is constituted

CIO consisting of approximately 470 members.

Trustees and Committee Members for the period covered by this report

Chair:	Jane Campbell
Secretary:	Angela Gunn
Treasurer:	Phil Kinch
Membership Secretary:	Les Blundell
Chief Visionary Officer:	Fraser Cottingham
Additional Trustees:	Renton Righelato, Ron Bryant
Committee Members:	Peter Scudamore, Bob Bennett

Trustee selection methods

Volunteer trustees with appropriate skills are sought from the membership and nominated by the management committee or by individual members

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects

We undertake volunteer work parties attended by members of the CIO, members of the public, and those in programmes such as the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. These take place at least monthly in order to maintain and improve the Lea Farm Lake reserve and the conservation areas within Dinton Pastures Country Park.

Further "one-off" work parties are arranged for local schools, scout groups, corporate bodies and others to encourage a wider understanding of nature and introduce more people to conservation and a healthy lifestyle.

We undertake monthly guided walks, open to the public, to identify the birdlife and other fauna that can be seen at Lavell's Lake LNR, Dinton Pastures Country Park and Lea Farm.

We provide a website to inform the public about Lavell's Lake & Lea Farm Lake, its wildlife and facilities and our work and events. This includes a history of bird recordings at the site that is publicly available for conservation, research or other purposes. The website has been updated and now includes photographs and sightings of other wildlife: flora, butterflies & moths, dragonflies & damselflies and mammals.

We undertake larger improvement projects either using the funds of the charity, external resources, or a combination of the two.

We wish to recognise the great contribution that members of the CIO, members of the public and members of other organisations make through their efforts during the year. We could not achieve our objectives without their financial and practical support. The help and support of Dinton Pastures Countryside Service (DPCS) is invaluable.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Lea Farm Lake

The Lea Farm riverside footpath was gifted to LWT by one of our trustees, following his gift of Lea Farm Lake last year. We were able to erect fencing to protect the site and to plant shrubs at the lakeside to minimise disturbance of birds and other wildlife.

We have progressed the project to improve the habitat of both the Lea Farm Lake and Lavell's Lake Nature Reserve sites. This has been possible thanks to a grant from the Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE), with funding provided by Network Rail. Work in the year has included transplanting Phragmites for the new reed bed at Lea Farm Lake and coppicing Willow to improve the habitat for Loddon Lily at both sites.

Volunteer work parties

We were able to hold a number of additional work parties this year and caught up on some tasks that were deferred last year due to the lockdowns. There were 17 work parties with a total attendance of 228. Attendance ranged from 5 to 27 with an average of 13. Attendance at some work parties was affected by roadworks or Covid, 1 work party was cancelled due to snow. Tasks included transplanting reeds to the excavated reedbed site and planting shrubs to provide screening in the future.

Publicity and engagement with the public

The LWT hide at Lea Farm Lake was again closed for part of the year due to Covid restrictions. It was opened on 12 April when restrictions were eased; access was limited by the use of a booking system. The hide has been fully open without restrictions since 19 July. We now have a QR code, at the hide and gates on the site, which links to our membership webpage allowing the public to join and gain more flexible access to the hide. We have been able to maintain interest in the Trust through news items on our website and social media as well as a talk to the Berkshire Ornithology Club. We have seen an increase in both general membership and use of the WhatsApp bird news service.

The Dawn Chorus walk was cancelled this year and monthly bird walks were restarted in April following the easing of lockdown.

The GoFundMe fundraising campaign for a new hide at Lea Farm Lake is ongoing and planning is in progress.

We received a donation from the new Waitrose 'Give a Little Love' charity scheme. We plan to use this to fund a small bird watching hut at Lea Farm Lake which should offer views of Kingfishers and Egrets all year and Water Rail, Snipe and hopefully Bittern in the winter.


We have a new agreement with Reading District Angling Association giving their members fishing rights from the riverside footpath. As part of the agreement, they will be helping with the management of the habitat along the riverside.

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity maintains a reserve of £9,000 for emergency work and unforeseen events. Taking on Lea Farm Lake has meant a significant increase in the assets LWT has to maintain and replace. The trustees have therefore decided to build up an asset management fund by setting aside funds each year, starting with £1,000 in 2021. This fund will be used to cover the costs of planned replacements and repairs to our major assets.

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above. Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature: 
Name: JANE CAMPBELL
Position: CHAIR
Date: 18/7/2022

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ending 31st December 2021

	2021			2020		
	General Fund	Restricted Funds (Lea Farm new hide)	Total	General Fund	Restricted Funds (Lea Farm new hide)	Total
Receipts						
Annual Subscriptions	3,345.00		3,345.00	3,107.78		3,107.78
Interest earned	40.56		40.56	44.71		44.71
Gift Aid Tax Refunds	828.24	181.35	1,009.59	823.44	528.75	1,352.19
Donations	2,889.15	9,387.53	12,276.68	1,627.06	18,144.97	19,772.03
Bird Seed Donations	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00
Birdline Subscriptions	396.00		396.00	370.00		370.00
Bird Walks	57.00		57.00	18.00		18.00
Grants & legacies	1,000.00		1,000.00	760.00		760.00
Reading Lottery	165.50		165.50	79.00		79.00
Fishing rights	250.00		250.00			
Other income	86.83		86.83	0.00		0.00
Network Rail grant	0.00		0.00	35,871.16		35,871.16
Sub-total	9,058.28	9,568.88	18,627.16	42,701.15	18,673.72	61,374.87
Payments						
Paypal fees and bank charges	95.60		95.60	82.83		82.83
TCV Affiliation and Insurance	807.85		807.85	330.26		330.26
Bird Seed + Feeders	356.70		356.70	147.99		147.99
Office Expenses	22.83		22.83	76.82		76.82
Tools & other work party costs	703.76		703.76	748.77		748.77
Website improvements	0.00		0.00	200.00		200.00
Web site registration	0.00		0.00	50.36		50.36
Web Site Hosting	86.33		86.33	55.47		55.47
AGM expenses	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00
CROW Hedgelaying	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00
Lavell's Lake Project costs	0.00		0.00	0.00		0.00
Network Rail Project costs	1,363.37		1,363.37	33,144.17		33,144.17
Lea Farm Lake transfer costs	1,523.60		1,523.60	2,263.80		2,263.80
Lea Farm signs	236.62		236.62			
New hide project		360.00	360.00			
Owl Boxes			0.00			
Ron's Hide Repairs			0.00			
Other costs	101.46		101.46	70.98		70.98
Sub-total	5,298.12	360.00	5,658.12	37,171.45	0.00	37,171.45
Net receipts/(payments)	3,760.16	9,208.88	12,969.04	5,529.70	18,673.72	24,203.42
Cash Funds at last year end	34,715.82	18,673.72	53,389.54	29,186.12		29,186.12
Total cash funds at this year end	38,475.98	27,882.60	66,358.58	34,715.82	18,673.72	53,389.54
Statement of Assets and Liabilities						
Cash funds						
Balance at HSBC Wokingham 31st December			60,193.35			48,333.73
less unrepresented cheques			0.00			-797.00
plus cheque banked but not credited at 31st December						
National Savings Bank Investment Account			5,673.75			5,633.19
Paypal			491.48			219.62
Cash / cheques in Hand			0.00			0.00
Total cash funds			66,358.58			53,389.54
			0.00			0.00
Other monetary assets						
Outstanding Gift Aid claims – estimated	1,250.00	750.00	2,000.00	800.00		800.00
Assets belonging to charity						
Lea Farm Lake nature reserve and stretch of River Loddon bank						
Lea Farm hide						
Fencing and gates at Lea Farm Lake						
Boat						
Wildlife camera and charger						
Brush cutter and various hand tools						
Events marquee						



Treasurer

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Lavell's Wetland Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of Lavell's Wetland Trust for the year ended 31st December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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').

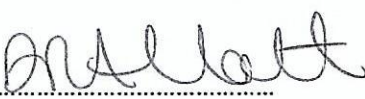
I report in respect of my examination of the Trustee's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

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 giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- (1) accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
- (2) the accounts do not accord with those records.

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

Signed: 

Name: Delia Allott FCCA

Name of firm: Two Rivers Accounting Services Limited

Relevant professional qualification or body: ACCA

Address: 38 Eton Wick Road, Eton Wick, Windsor, Berkshire, SL4 6JL

Date: 30th May 2022