

THE CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP

England & Wales · Charity number 1177070

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2018-02-08

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

Address Rose Cottage
Old Quarrington
Durham
DH6 5NN

Phone 07397862833

Email richard.cowen313@gamil.com

Activities

Objects: 1. TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE CONSERVATION PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BY PROMOTING BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY OF THE AREA IN BISHOP MIDDLEHAM, COUNTY DURHAM KNOWN AS CASTLE LAKE SHOWN EDGED IN RED ON THE PLAN ATTACHED.2. TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Activities: 1) We promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment and work to develop biological diversity of the area in Bishop Middleham, County Durham known as Castle Lake.2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Durham

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-09-07	£0	£3,996	-	-
2024-09-07	£1,000	£0	-	-
2023-09-07	£1,008	£4,480	-	-
2022-09-07	£0	£3,480	-	-
2021-09-07	£5,000	£0	-	-
2020-09-07	£5,700	£1,818	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
MICHELE MACCALLAM	Chair	2018-02-08
FREDERICK STEPHEN MILTON		2018-02-08
Harvey Neve		2022-06-14
JOHN OLLEY BSC ECO		2018-02-08
KIM BAINES		2018-02-08
RICHARD COWEN		2018-02-08

THE CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1177070

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 7 Sept 2024 Period start date To 7 Sept 2025 Period end date

Charity name: Castle Lake Conservation Group

Charity registration number: 1177070

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	1) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting biological diversity of the area in Bishop Middleham, County Durham known as Castle Lake. 2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The Group continued to monitor the site to maintain its quality as an excellent habitat for birds, particularly water birds. Work carried out has been the creation of a wide channel to create further open water and marsh, installation of 90m of stock proof fencing, reed planting (phragmites) with volunteers, hide maintenance (volunteers) and starting to work with Northumbrian Water on a wildflower meadow project which they will develop over the next year (2026/7). This is on land adjacent to the hide which will require fence repair.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the guidance by tailoring activities and objectives for the benefit of the public.

Charity Commission on public benefit		
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	As per the previous reporting period, Volunteers in conjunction with Durham Bird Club work on a regular basis to keep the lake and its surroundings in good order to encourage and enrich its bio-diversity. Volunteers do not claim allowances nor do they receive refunds for expenditure.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The site continues to be an important one for wildlife, particularly birds. We believe that work undertaken or planned during this year has helped to improve this. Working towards a wildflower meadow will further enhance the site. The Group also helped Durham Bird Club celebrate its 50th year since its inception, including providing some attractions. This event was attended by members of the public and groups were taken to Castle Lake to see what has been done and what exists here.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	Progress has been made to maintain the importance of this site. Habitats have continued to be improved which may in turn assist in addressing the point made above. In particular, further fencing was installed to enable reed planting to take place later in the year. The creation of a channel will also improve habitat here.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	As at 7 September 2025, the Club held £2723.62 in the Bank as outlined in the accompanying Financial Report
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	N/A
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Existing funds have been retained
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Nothing has occurred this year in this respect

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: (a) a copy of the current version of this constitution; and (b) a copy of the CIO's latest Trustees' Annual Report and statement of accounts. And c) draw their attention to relevant CC guidance
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	We have 7 trustees: (1) Functions and duties of charity trustees The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO. It is the duty of each charity trustee: (a) to exercise their powers and to perform their functions in their capacity as a trustee of the CIO in the way they decide in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO; and (b) to exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the

		circumstances having regard in particular to: (i) any special knowledge or experience that they have or hold themselves out as having; and, (ii) if they act as a charity trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Although the Group is a distinct organisation from Durham Bird Club, it does seek to work in close collaboration with it. Three of the trustees are also members of the Club and one is also a Bird Club trustee. The Club has agreed to help finance with payments for the lease if (notwithstanding comments above) this should in fact materialise.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Castle Lake Conservation Group
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1177070
Charity's principal address	Mr. Richard Cowen Rose Cottage, Old Quarrington, Co Durham DH6 5NN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Richard Cowen			
2	Michele MacCallam	Treasurer		
3	John Olley			
4	Kim Baines			
5	Nicola Dexter			
6	Frederick Milton			
7	Harvey Neve			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>R Cowen</i>	
Full name(s)	Richard Saywood Cowen	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	TRUSTEE nominated to perform this duty	
Date	16 June 2026	

CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP

FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ending 7 September 2025.

At the beginning of the Financial Year, the Group held £6,719.11 in the Bank.

During the year money was spent for a display by DigVentures at the Durham Bird Club's event to celebrate its 50 years since its inception. During the year, money was spent on fencing required around Castle Lake to help to protect vegetation there. It was also necessary to hire a digger.

On 7 September 2025, the balance held by the Group in the Bank was £2723.62

R Cowen

16 June 2026.

THE CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1177070

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 7 Sept 2023 Period start date To 7 Sept 2024 Period end date

Charity name: Castle Lake Conservation Group

Charity registration number: 1177070

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	1) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting biological diversity of the area in Bishop Middleham, County Durham known as Castle Lake. 2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The Group continued to monitor the site to maintain its quality as an excellent habitat for birds, particularly water birds. New planting of trees, hedges and reedbeds was carried out to pursue this aim, including the completion of some planting that weather conditions had prevented in 2023/4.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the guidance by tailoring activities and objectives for the benefit of the public.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
		N/A

Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	As per the previous reporting period, Volunteers in conjunction with Durham Bird Club work on a regular basis to keep the lake and its surroundings in good order to encourage and enrich its bio-diversity. Volunteers do not claim allowances nor do they receive refunds for expenditure.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The site continues to be an important one for wildlife, particularly birds. We believe that work undertaken or planned during this year have helped to improve this. We have also been considering other options to manage the land other than obtaining a lease. This could include it being used for Biodiversity Net Gain as Durham County Council prepares its Local Nature Recovery Strategy.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

		Progress has been made to maintain the importance of this site.
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Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	Habitats have continued to be improved which may in turn assist in addressing the point made above. In particular, fencing was installed to enable reed planting to take place later in the year.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	As at 7 September 2024, the Club held £5,719.11 in the Bank as outlined in the accompanying Financial Report
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	N/A
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Existing funds have been retained
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Nothing has occurred this year in this respect

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: (a) a copy of the current version of this constitution; and (b) a copy of the CIO's latest Trustees' Annual Report and statement of accounts. And c) draw their attention to relevant CC guidance
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	We have 7 trustees: (1) Functions and duties of charity trustees The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO. It is the duty of each charity trustee: (a) to exercise their powers and to perform their functions in their capacity as a trustee of the CIO in the way they decide in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO; and (b) to exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the

		circumstances having regard in particular to: (i) any special knowledge or experience that they have or hold themselves out as having; and, (ii) if they act as a charity trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Although the Group is a distinct organisation from Durham Bird Club, it does seek to work in close collaboration with it. Three of the trustees are also members of the Club and one is also a Bird Club trustee. The Club has agreed to help finance with payments for the lease if (notwithstanding comments above) this should in fact materialise.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Castle Lake Conservation Group
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1177070
Charity's principal address	Mr. Richard Cowen Rose Cottage, Old Quarrington, Co Durham DH6 5NN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Richard Cowen			
2	Michele MacCallam	Treasurer		
3	John Olley			
4	Kim Baines			
5	Nicola Dexter			
6	Frederick Milton			
7	Harvey Neve			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>R Cowen</i>	
Full name(s)	Richard Saywood Cowen	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	TRUSTEE nominated to perform this duty	
Date	24 June 2025	

CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP

FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ending 7 September 2024.

At the beginning of the Financial Year, the Group held £5719.11 in the Bank. It

subsequently received £1000.00 as a grant from the former County Durham Community Fund in order to carry out fencing works. Owing to the very wet weather during this year, it was not possible to carry out the works before 7 September 2024 and the money will be carried over to the next annual report

On 7 September 2024, the balance held by the Group in the Bank was 6,719.11

R Cowen

24 June 2025.

THE CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1177070

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 7 Sept 2022 Period start date To 7 Sept 2023 Period end date

Charity name: Castle Lake Conservation Group

Charity registration number: 1177070

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	1) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting biological diversity of the area in Bishop Middleham, County Durham known as Castle Lake. 2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The Group continued to monitor the site to maintain its quality as an excellent habitat for birds, particularly water birds. New planting of trees, hedges and reedbeds was carried out to pursue this aim. However, owing to excessive rainfall, some projects have been delayed until the autumn .
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the guidance by tailoring activities and objectives for the benefit of the public.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
		N/A

Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	As per the previous reporting period, Volunteers in conjunction with Durham Bird Club work on a regular basis to keep the lake and its surroundings in good order to encourage and enrich its bio-diversity. Volunteers do not claim allowances nor do they receive refunds for expenditure. (For information, moneys received after the Financial Year ending 7 September 2023 have not all been spent owing to adverse weather conditions in 2024, and it has been agreed that the monies can be spent later in the year when it is hope the weather will be better).
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
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Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The site continues to be an important one for wildlife, particularly birds. We believe that work undertaken or planned during this year have helped to improve this. We have also been considering other options to manage the land other than obtaining a lease.
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Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	Progress has been made to maintain the importance of this site. Although this is after the Financial Year ending 7 September 2023, Durham County Council has commenced work to establish its Local Nature Recovery Strategy and we anticipate that we will argue that castle Lake could be a good site to support any proposals. This will follow on from arguments we have made during this Financial Year.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	As at 7 September 2023, the Club held £5,719.11 in the Bank as outlined in the accompanying Financial Report
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	N/A
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Existing funds have been retained and, as outlined above, a grant was obtained for fencing works as outlined in the Financial Report.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Nothing has occurred this year in this respect

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: (a) a copy of the current version of this constitution; and (b) a copy of the CIO's latest Trustees' Annual Report and statement of accounts. And c) draw their attention to relevant CC guidance
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	We have 7 trustees: (1) Functions and duties of charity trustees The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO. It is the duty of each charity trustee: (a) to exercise their powers and to perform their functions in their capacity as a trustee of the CIO in the way they decide in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO; and (b) to exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the circumstances having regard

		in particular to: (i) any special knowledge or experience that they have or hold themselves out as having; and, (ii) if they act as a charity trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Although the Group is a distinct organisation from Durham Bird Club, it does seek to work in close collaboration with it. Three of the trustees are also members of the Club and one is also a Bird Club trustee. The Club has agreed to help finance with payments for the lease if (notwithstanding comments above) this should in fact materialise.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Castle Lake Conservation Group
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1177070
Charity's principal address	Mr. Richard Cowen Rose Cottage, Old Quarrington, Co Durham DH6 5NN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Richard Cowen			
2	Michele MacCallam	Treasurer		
3	John Olley			
4	Kim Baines			
5	Nicola Dexter			
6	Frederick Milton			
7	Harvey Neve			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s) R Cowen

Full name(s) Richard Saywood Cowen

Position (eg
Secretary, Chair, etc) TRUSTEE nominated to
perform this duty

Date 27 June 2024

CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP

FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ending 7 September 2023.

At the beginning of the Financial Year, the Group held £9199.11 in the Bank. It subsequently receive £8.00 for the sale of a key to the Bird Hide at Castle Lake and paid £3480.00 to L&G Plant Hire in respect of the construction of ponds at the site.

On 13 February 2023, it received a grant of £1000.00 from the Trimdon Wind farm Grant which was used for fencing, the money being paid to J Davison on 6 June 2023.

On 7 September 2023, the balance held by the Group in the Bank was 5,719.11

R Cowen

27 June 2024.

THE CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1177070

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 7 Sept 2021 Period start date To 7 Sept 2022 Period end date

Charity name: Castle Lake Conservation Group

Charity registration number: 1177070

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	1) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting biological diversity of the area in Bishop Middleham, County Durham known as Castle Lake. 2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	The Group continued to monitor the site to maintain its quality as an excellent habitat for birds, particularly water birds. New planting of trees, hedges and reedbeds was carried out to pursue this aim
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the guidance by tailoring activities and objectives for the benefit of the public.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A

Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	As per the previous reporting period, Volunteers in conjunction with Durham Bird Club work on a regular basis to keep the lake and its surroundings in good order to encourage and enrich its bio-diversity. It has been easier to do this during this year in view of the removal of Covid restrictions. Volunteers do not claim allowances nor do they receive refunds for expenditure.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The site continues to be an important one for wildlife, particularly birds. We believe that work undertaken or planned during this year have helped to improve this. Although progress towards a formal lease has been glacially slow, we are hopeful that recent developments may help to speed up this process. Terms for the lease remain under consideration.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

		Progress has been made to maintain the importance of this site.
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Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	While they did not have any force during the reporting period, it is hoped that the relevant provisions of the Agriculture Act 2021 and Environment Act 2021 will be useful to help secure the future protection of this site.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	The group's finances were not significantly used during the reporting period and grants were obtained to cover the cost of much of the work carried out.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	N/A
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Existing funds have been retained and some grants were obtained for some work carried out
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	One new trustee joined the Group who has a direct interest in the objectives and links to other groups with similar interests

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: (a) a copy of the current version of this constitution; and (b) a copy of the CIO's latest Trustees' Annual Report and statement of accounts. And c) draw their attention to relevant CC guidance
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	We have 7 trustees: (1) Functions and duties of charity trustees The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO. It is the duty of each charity trustee: (a) to exercise their powers and to perform their functions in their capacity as a trustee of the CIO in the way they decide in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO; and (b) to exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the

		circumstances having regard in particular to: (i) any special knowledge or experience that they have or hold themselves out as having; and, (ii) if they act as a charity trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Although the Group is a distinct organisation from Durham Bird Club, it does seek to work in close collaboration with it. Three of the trustees are also members of the Club and one attends the Club's Board of trustees as a guest. The Club has agreed to help finance with payments for the lease when it is finalised.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Castle Lake Conservation Group
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1177070
Charity's principal address	Mr. Richard Cowen Rose Cottage, Old Quarrington, Co Durham DH6 5NN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Richard Cowen			
2	Michele MacCallam	Treasurer		
3	John Olley			
4	Kim Baines			
5	Nicola Dexter			
6	Frederick Milton			
7	Harvey Neve			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>R Cowen</i>	
Full name(s)	Richard Saywood Cowen	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	TRUSTEE nominated to perform this duty	
Date	13 July 2023	

MRS MICHELE M MACCALLAM

Castle Lake Conservation Group
6 Woodstock Terrace
Bishop Middleham
Ferryhill County Durham
DL17 9BQ

M482/J1086046000

14500

Community Directplus Account

Summary	Date	Description	Money out	Money in	Balance
Account title CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP	26 JUN 20	OPENING BALANCE			4,141.11
	25 NOV 20	CARES GROUP HOLDIN CARES GROUP		5,000.00	9,141.11
	11 JAN 22	Clive Worthington Owl box donation		50.00	9,191.11
Sort code 089299	Statement closing balance				9,191.11

Account number
65854741 00

Statement date
24 March 2022

Statement number
5

Page number
1 of 1

Statement opening balance
4,141.11

Money out
0.00

Money in
5,050.00

Statement closing balance
9,191.11

International Bank
Account Number

GB21 0892 9999 0000 0000 0000 0000

Bank Identification Code
CPBK GB22

Deposits* into this account are eligible for the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). More information can be found overleaf.

*For more information on eligible deposits please refer to www.FSCS.org.uk

Abbreviations: **S** Sub Total (Intermediate Balance) **OD** Overdrawn Balance **ODIS** Overdrawn Intermediate Balance **NSTF** Non Sterling Transaction Fee. Details of overdraft interest rates are shown overleaf. Details of calculations of interest charged are available on request.

The **co-operative** bank

co-operativebank.co.uk/business

phone 03457 213 213

MRS MICHELE M MACCALLAM

Castle Lake Conservation Group

6 Woodstock Terrace

Bishop Middleham

Ferryhill County Durham

DL17 9BQ

M3238/J1092207000

14500

Community Directplus Account

Summary	Date	Description	Money out	Money in	Balance
Account title CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP	24 MAR 22	OPENING BALANCE			9,191.11
Sort code 089299	Statement closing balance				9,191.11
Account number 65864741 00	Abbreviations: S Sub Total (Intermediate Balance) OD Overdrawn Balance ODIS Overdrawn Intermediate Balance NSTF Non Sterling Transaction Fee. Details of overdraft interest rates are shown overleaf. Details of calculations of interest charged are available on request.				
Statement date 17 May 2022					
Statement number 6					
Page number 1 of 1					
Statement opening balance 9,191.11					
Money out 0.00					
Money in 0.00					
Statement closing balance 9,191.11					
International Bank Account Number GB77 CPBK 0952 9995 9547 41					
Bank Identification Code CPBK GB22					

Deposits* into this account are eligible for the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). More information can be found overleaf.

*For more information on eligible deposits please refer to www.FSCS.org.uk

The co-operative bank

co-operativebank.co.uk/business

phone 03457 213 213

MRS MICHELE M MACCALLAM

Castle Lake Conservation Group
6 Woodstock Terrace
Bishop Middleham
Ferryhill County Durham
DL17 9BQ

M2202/J1016754000

14500

Community Directplus Account

Summary	Date	Description	Money out	Money in	Balance
Account title CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP	17 MAY 22	OPENING BALANCE			9,191.11
	3 OCT 22	P Cooke Paul C, hide key		8.00	9,199.11
	12 DEC 22	200003 0030976057870000	3,480.00		5,719.11
		Statement closing balance			5,719.11
Sort code 089299	Abbreviations: S Sub Total (Intermediate Balance) OD Overdrawn Balance ODIS Overdrawn Intermediate Balance NSTF Non Sterling Transaction Fee. Details of overdraft interest rates are shown overleaf. Details of calculations of interest charged are available on request.				
Account number 65854741 00					
Statement date 23 December 2022					
Statement number 7					
Page number 1 of 1					
Statement opening balance 9,191.11					
Money out 3,480.00					
Money in 8.00					
Statement closing balance 5,719.11					
International Bank Account Number GB77 CPBK0692 9965 8547 41					
Bank Identification Code CPBK GB22					

Deposits* into this account are eligible for the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). More information can be found overleaf.

*For more information on eligible deposits please refer to www.FSCS.org.uk

As you may be aware, on 15 December 2022, the Bank of England announced an increase in the Bank of England base rate from 3% to 3.5%. As a result existing overdrafts that are currently linked to the Bank of England base rate will have increased in line with this change.

THE CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1177070

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 7 Sept 2020 Period start date To 7 Sept 2021 Period end date

Charity name: Castle Lake Conservation Group

Charity registration number: 1177070

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	1) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting biological diversity of the area in Bishop Middleham, County Durham known as Castle Lake. 2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	During the reporting period, much activity was reduced owing to continued Covid restrictions. However, a sand martin bank was provided for them to nest in. Other works included providing barn owl and other nesting boxes and the provision of tern rafts in the Lake. The Group maintained a Facebook page to give details of activity at the Lake and other related information.
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the guidance by tailoring activities and objectives for the benefit of the public.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
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Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	As per the previous reporting period, Volunteers in conjunction with Durham Bird Club work on a regular basis to keep the lake and its surroundings in good order to encourage and enrich its bio-diversity, although this has been severely curtailed during the past 12 months because of the Covid pandemic. Volunteers do not claim allowances nor do they receive refunds for expenditure.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The site continues to be an important one for wildlife, particularly birds. We believe that events that we held or planned during this year have helped to improve this. Although progress towards a formal lease has been glacially slow, we are hopeful that recent developments may help to speed up this process. Terms for the lease are presently being discussed.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	Progress has been made to maintain the importance of this site. Progress has been necessarily limited because of the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic. While they did not have any force during the reporting period, it is hoped that the relevant provisions of the Agriculture Act 2021 and Environment Act 2021 will be useful to help secure the future protection of this site.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Activities were severely curtailed during 2021 as a result of the Covid pandemic. The group's finances were not significantly used during the reporting period. Bank balance at 7 Sept 2020 was £4,141.11. A grant of £5000 was received from the Cares Group on 25 November 2020. No expenditure was incurred during the reporting period. The bank balance at 7 September 2021 was therefore, £9.141.11
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	N/A
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	During the period money was received from a private donor (which has been held for anticipated legal costs in connection with arranging a lease for the land)
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	In view of the Coronavirus pandemic, no progress has been made on this this year

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: (a) a copy of the current version of this constitution; and (b) a copy of the CIO's latest Trustees' Annual Report and statement of accounts. And c) draw their attention to relevant CC guidance
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	We have 7 trustees: (1) Functions and duties of charity trustees The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO. It is the duty of each charity trustee: (a) to exercise their powers and to perform their functions in their capacity as a trustee of the CIO in the way they decide in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO; and (b) to exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the

		circumstances having regard in particular to: (i) any special knowledge or experience that they have or hold themselves out as having; and, (ii) if they act as a charity trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Although the Group is a distinct organisation from Durham Bird Club, it does seek to work in close collaboration with it. Three of the trustees are also members of the Club and one is a trustee of the Club. The Club has agreed to help finance with payments for the lease when it is finalised.
Other		Two trustees resigned for personal reasons at the end of the reporting year.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Castle Lake Conservation Group
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1177070
Charity's principal address	Mr. Richard Cowen Rose Cottage, Old Quarrington, Co Durham DH6 5NN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Richard Cowen			
2	Michele MacCallam	Treasurer		
3	John Olley			
4	Kim Baines			
5	Nicola Dexter			
6	Frederick Milton			
7	Fernanda Boorman			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

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Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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Other optional information

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Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>R Cowen</i>	
Full name(s)	Richard Saywood Cowen	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	TRUSTEE nominated to perform this duty	
Date	19 June 2022	

THE CASTLE LAKE CONSERVATION GROUP

England & Wales - Charity number 1177070

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 7 Sept 2018 Period start date To 7 Sept 19 Period end date

Charity name: Castle Lake Conservation Group

Charity registration number: 1177070

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	1) To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting biological diversity of the area in Bishop Middleham, County Durham known as Castle Lake. 2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Activities were severely curtailed in 2020 and the beginning of 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic. However a public event was arranged before lockdowns took effect to plant a hedgerow. Conservation work has also been carried out on ditching and island creation, the creation of a reed bed and installing a tern raft and Sand Martin bank
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	The Trustees have had regard to the guidance by tailoring activities and objectives for the benefit of the public.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	N/A
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	N/A
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	While Volunteers in conjunction with DBC work on a regular basis to keep the lake and its surroundings in good order to encourage and enrich its bio-diversity, this has been severely curtailed during the past 12 months because of the Covid pandemic. Volunteers do not claim allowances nor do they receive refunds for expenditure.
Other		

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	The site continues to be an important one for wildlife, particularly birds. We believe that events that we held or planned during this year have helped to improve this. Although progress towards a formal lease has been glacially slow, we are hopeful that recent developments may help to speed up this process. Terms for the lease are presently being discussed.

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	Progress has been made to maintain the importance of this site. Progress has been necessarily limited because of the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic.
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	N/A
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	N/A
Other		

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	I need info for this.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	N/A
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	N/A
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	N/A
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	N/A
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	N/A

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	Principal source of funds to date is through donations.
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	N/A
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	Para 1.46	N/A
Other		

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	CIO Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	In view of the Coronavirus pandemic, no progress has been made on this this year

Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	The charity trustees will make available to each new charity trustee, on or before his or her first appointment: (a) a copy of the current version of this constitution; and (b) a copy of the CIO's latest Trustees' Annual Report and statement of accounts. And c) draw their attention to relevant CC guidance
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	We have 7 trustees: (1) Functions and duties of charity trustees The charity trustees shall manage the affairs of the CIO and may for that purpose exercise all the powers of the CIO. It is the duty of each charity trustee: (a) to exercise his or her powers and to perform his or her functions in his or her capacity as a trustee of the CIO in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO; and (b) to exercise, in the performance of those functions, such care and skill as is reasonable in the

		circumstances having regard in particular to: (i) any special knowledge or experience that he or she has or holds himself or herself out as having; and, (ii) if he or she acts as a charity trustee of the CIO in the course of a business or profession, to any special knowledge or experience that it is reasonable to expect of a person acting in the course of that kind of business or profession.
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	Although the Group is a distinct organisation from Durham Bird Club, it does seek to work in close collaboration with it. Three of the trustees are also members of the Club and one is a trustee of the Club. The Club has agreed to help finance with payments for the lease when it is finalised.
Other		

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Castle Lake Conservation Group
Other name the charity uses	N/A
Registered charity number	1177070
Charity's principal address	Mr. Richard Cowen Rose Cottage, Old Quarrington, Co Durham DH6 5NN

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Richard Cowen			
2	Michele MacCallam	Treasurer		
3	John Olley			
4	Kim Baines			
5	Nicola Dexter			
6	Frederick Milton			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

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Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	N/A
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	N/A

Additional information (optional)**Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)**

Type of adviser	Name	Address
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Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

--

Other optional information

--

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>R Cowen</i>	
Full name(s)	Richard Saywood Cowen	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	TRUSTEE nominated to perform this duty	
Date	6 June 2020	