AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

England & Wales · Charity number 1184309

Details

Status	Registered
Legal form	CIO
Registered	2019-07-08
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	BirdLife International David Attenborough Building Pembroke Street Cambridge CB2 3QZ
Phone	01223277318
Email	info@africanbirdclub.org
Website	https://www.africanbirdclub.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:(1) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN AFRICAN ORNITHOLOGY;(2) TO PROMOTE, ORGANISE, CARRY ON AND ENCOURAGE STUDY, RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION IN ALL BRANCHES OF THE SCIENCE OF AFRICAN ORNITHOLOGY.

Activities: The African Bird Club gives grants to individuals and groups in African countries to support a wide range of small to medium-sized projects there that benefit the conservation of African birds or their habitats. Our website is the primary online source for all things to do with African birds. We also publish a twice-yearly, peer-reviewed bulletin, and we are developing a series of birding apps.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Individuals, Makes Grants To Organisations, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research, Acts As An Umbrella Or Resource Body
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

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Geography

- Algeria
- Angola
- Benin
- Botswana
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Cape Verde
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Comoros
- Congo
- Congo (Democratic Republic)
- Djibouti
- Egypt
- Equatorial Guinea
- Eritrea
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Gabon
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Guinea-bissau
- Ivory Coast
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Libya
- Madagascar
- Malawi
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mayotte

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- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Namibia
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Rwanda
- Réunion
- Senegal
- Seychelles
- Sierra Leone
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Sudan
- Sudan
- São Tomé And Principe
- Tanzania
- The Gambia
- Togo
- Tristan Da Cunha
- Tunisia
- Uganda
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe
- Cambridgeshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£73,484	£83,885	-	-
2023-12-31	£67,053	£64,182	-	-
2022-12-31	£82,557	£86,400	-	-
2021-12-31	£77,193	£91,178	-	-
2020-12-31	£174,742	£95,508	-	-

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Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
ANDREW PETER BLAIR		2024-08-15
Abubakr Mohammad		2023-05-03
Dr Florence Carissan		2024-06-17
Dr Paul Frederick Donald		2025-10-18
Dr Talatu Tende		2024-10-26
Ian Francis		2021-11-08
KEITH FINDLAY BETTON		2025-10-18
Paul Buckley		2019-07-08
Philip Hall		2025-10-18
Richard Webb		2025-10-18
Stephen William Lowe		2025-10-18

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AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1184309

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE018133 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1184309

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

FOR

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity is dedicated to conserving birds and their habitats across the continent of Africa and related islands. Our purpose is also to further ornithology in this region. We are the leading organisation concerned with the conservation and study of African birds.

The activities that the charity undertakes in relation to its charitable purposes for the public benefit include making grants to local people and groups in support of a wide range of projects that benefit the conservation of birds and their habitats across continental Africa and related islands. We also collaborate with partners on conservation efforts in the region for the benefit of African birds and people.

The charity in addition provides a worldwide focus for African ornithology and fosters interest in African birds and their conservation by:
- producing and distributing a peer-reviewed bulletin and a members' e-newsletter twice a year
- providing resources online
- developing birding apps and making these accessible to everyone
- sponsoring the Pan-African Ornithological Congress (PAOC)
- putting on talks by invited speakers on relevant topics
- having an active presence on social media
- exhibiting at bird fairs

We also raise awareness of African conservation issues and threats, and throw our weight behind other organisations' campaigns, where this would promote the conservation of African birds and their habitats.

Membership of the charity is open to anyone who is interested in what we do, and it is free for those living in an African country who take an active interest in African birds and their conservation but cannot afford annual membership fees. These supported members are partly subsidised by supporting members of the charity, who pay an increment on top of their individual membership fees.

A network of voluntary representatives in countries in Africa and elsewhere that the charity coordinates act as our eyes and ears on the ground and provide a local point of contact and channel of communication for members in their country. They also pay an important role locally in promoting the charity, recruiting new members and supporters, identifying conservation projects that are suitable for funding by the charity, and highlighting conservation issues and threats that we can raise awareness of.

The charity's current five-year strategy includes several high-level outcomes that we will seek, for each of which we have identified the major actions we would need to take to achieve them. A summary of the strategy is available on our website (www.africanbirdclub.org). The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and in planning its future activities.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Achievements and performance

2024 saw over £50,000 raised in restricted funds to support the charity's conservation activities. During this year, 16 grants were made to projects undertaken in Cameroon, Capo Verde, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe. We acknowledge the key role that our Conservation Committee play in reviewing the many grant applications that we receive each year for their scientific and conservation value, and to thank the members of the Committee for their time commitment and sterling work, which is much appreciated.

During 2024 we produced and distributed two issues of the Bulletin of the African Bird Club in June and December in both print and digital format, as well as the digital Club Newsletter sent out in July to members. After the official business of our AGM on 26th October 2024 we hosted two online talks. These covered the commercial hunting of African Hornbills following research supported by ABC and birding in Uganda.

We had a stand at the Global Birdfair, which was held from 12th to 14th July 2024 at the Rutland Showground, where we met members and some of our corporate sponsors and discussed the outputs and achievements of the ABC Conservation Grants Programme.

ABC's free field guide app - Birds of Africa - continued to expand its geographic coverage during the year as well as adding some operational upgrades. The active database for the app contains over 6,850 photos of 2,825 species, texts for 2,825, bird sounds for 2,430 species and maps for 2,825 birds, covering some 75 countries, islands and territories.

Our objective for the app is to eventually cover all of the birds and countries of continental Africa and its related islands, with the app itself accessible to all those who wish to use it. The development and ongoing maintenance of this significant project has been made possible by the work of volunteers across the globe, as well as generous financial and content supporters, for which we are very grateful.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

The total income for the charity was £73,484 (2023: £67,053). The significant components of this income can be found in notes 2 and 3 on page 9 of these accounts.

Total expenditure on charitable activities was £83,885 (2023: £64,182). The main items of expenditure were grants to individuals and institutions totalling £51,041 (2023: £23,871).

Reserves policy

The trustees continue to maintain their policy where a financial reserve equivalent to at least 50% of anticipated annual income should be held. At this level the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding or increase in expenditure. It would obviously be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed accordingly should such an event occur.

Our reserves are held in accounts with Barclays Bank plc and Triodos Bank UK Ltd.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its constitution.

Charity constitution

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its trustees, and its governing document is a CIO association model constitution.

Decision making

The charity is managed on a voluntary basis by a board of trustees, known as Council, who are elected by members at the AGM. The trustees are responsible for the day-to-day running of the charity, and Council meets three times a year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The charity has put in place systems to mitigate the major risks to which it is exposed. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of effective internal control procedures which ensure both appropriate authorisation of all transactions and projects and consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are reviewed periodically by Council to ensure their continuing effectiveness.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
CE018133 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1184309

Registered office
c/o Birdlife International
The David Attenborough Building
Pembroke Street
Cambridge
CB2 3QZ

Trustees
Ms S E Squier (resigned 14/6/2025)
D J Fox (resigned 5/10/2024)
P Buckley
Ms A F Varney (resigned 5/10/2024)
S T Ivande (resigned 5/10/2024)
Ms M Walker (resigned 5/10/2024)
I Francis
Ms M Kariuki (resigned 30/6/2025)
R Berridge (resigned 4/6/2025)
A Mohammad
W Paul (resigned 25/4/2025)
D Dawson (resigned 31/3/2025)
Dr T Tende (appointed 26/10/2024)
Dr F Carrisan (appointed 17/6/2024)
A Blair (appointed 15/8/2024)

Independent Examiner
Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 7 October 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
A Blair - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of African Bird Club ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.

W. Croucher.

Mrs W A Croucher

Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

Date: 8 October 2025

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 **Total funds** £	*2023 Total funds £*
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	19,150	50,501	69,651	*63,001*
Other trading activities	3	3,494	-	3,494	*3,953*
Investment income	4	339	-	339	*99*
Total		22,983	50,501	73,484	*67,053*
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Grants		-	51,041	51,041	*23,871*
Publications		16,028	-	16,028	*14,072*
Other		14,710	2,106	16,816	*26,239*
Total		30,738	53,147	83,885	*64,182*
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(7,755)	(2,646)	(10,401)	*2,871*
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		23,554	40,723	64,277	*61,406*
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		15,799	38,077	53,876	*64,277*

The notes form part of these financial statements

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £	*2023 Total funds £*
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	8	1,996	-	1,996	*5,416*
Cash at bank		33,202	42,027	75,229	*84,239*
		35,198	42,027	77,225	*89,655*
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(10,470)	(3,950)	(14,420)	*(16,833)*
NET CURRENT ASSETS		24,728	38,077	62,805	*72,822*
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		24,728	38,077	62,805	*72,822*
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	10	(8,929)	-	(8,929)	*(8,545)*
NET ASSETS		15,799	38,077	53,876	*64,277*
FUNDS	11				
Unrestricted funds				15,799	23,554
Restricted funds				38,077	40,723
TOTAL FUNDS				53,876	64,277

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

continued...

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 DECEMBER 2024

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 7 October 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
A Blair - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Display stand - 25% on cost

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

continued...

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Donations	52,177	37,979
Gift aid	3,282	6,359
Subscriptions	14,192	18,663
	69,651	63,001

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2024	2023
	£	£
Sponsorships	3,494	3,875
Merchandise sales	-	78
	3,494	3,953

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2024	2023
	£	£
Interest received	339	99

5. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2024 nor for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Trustees' expenses

Birdfair fees of £1,091 (2023: Birdfair, recruitment and counsel fees of £2,137) were reimbursed to 2 trustees during the year.

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	25,302	37,699	63,001
Other trading activities	3,953	-	3,953
Investment income	99	-	99
Total	29,354	37,699	67,053
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Grants	-	23,871	23,871
Publications	14,072	-	14,072
Other	19,173	7,066	26,239

continued...

6. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Total	33,245	30,937	64,182
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(3,891)	6,762	2,871
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	27,445	33,961	61,406
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	23,554	40,723	64,277

7. .TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Display stand £
COST	
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	**2,675**
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 January 2024 and 31 December 2024	**2,675**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2024	-
At 31 December 2023	-

8. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024 £	*2023 £*
Trade debtors	**340**	-
Paypal	-	*298*
Gift aid	**500**	*2,000*
Stripe	**124**	*1,126*
Prepayments	**1,032**	*1,992*
	1,996	*5,416*

continued...

9. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	340	1,844
Grants	3,950	2,914
Accruals and deferred income	10,130	12,075
	14,420	16,833

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	8,929	8,545

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/24	Net movement in funds	At 31/12/24
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	23,554	(7,755)	15,799
Restricted funds			
Conservation Fund	40,723	(6,596)	34,127
Ostriches	-	3,950	3,950
	40,723	(2,646)	38,077
TOTAL FUNDS	64,277	(10,401)	53,876

continued...

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	22,983	(30,738)	(7,755)
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	1,800	(1,800)	-
Conservation Fund	23,284	(29,880)	(6,596)
Apalis	2,508	(2,508)	-
Avian Acoustics	250	(250)	-
European rollers	250	(250)	-
Secretary birds	3,000	(3,000)	-
Raso lark	5,000	(5,000)	-
Archer's larks	3,418	(3,418)	-
Northern Ground hornbill	2,791	(2,791)	-
Ostriches	3,950	-	3,950
Village birds club Kenya	3,000	(3,000)	-
Village birds club Uganda	1,250	(1,250)	-
	50,501	(53,147)	(2,646)
TOTAL FUNDS	73,484	(83,885)	(10,401)

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	27,445	(3,891)	23,554
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	995	(995)	-
Conservation Fund	32,966	7,757	40,723
	33,961	6,762	40,723
TOTAL FUNDS	61,406	2,871	64,277

continued...

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	29,354	(33,245)	(3,891)
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	2,100	(3,095)	(995)
Conservation Fund	24,264	(16,507)	7,757
Cameroon Hornbills	3,000	(3,000)	-
Dusky Tetraka	1,000	(1,000)	-
African Penguins	2,000	(2,000)	-
Nzaui Avifauna	3,000	(3,000)	-
Southern Ground Hornbill	2,335	(2,335)	-
	37,699	(30,937)	6,762
TOTAL FUNDS	67,053	(64,182)	2,871

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/1/23 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/24 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	27,445	(11,646)	15,799
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	995	(995)	-
Conservation Fund	32,966	1,161	34,127
Ostriches	-	3,950	3,950
	33,961	4,116	38,077
TOTAL FUNDS	61,406	(7,530)	53,876

continued...

11. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	52,337	(63,983)	(11,646)
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	3,900	(4,895)	(995)
Conservation Fund	47,548	(46,387)	1,161
Cameroon Hornbills	3,000	(3,000)	-
Dusky Tetraka	1,000	(1,000)	-
African Penguins	2,000	(2,000)	-
Nzaui Avifauna	3,000	(3,000)	-
Southern Ground Hornbill	2,335	(2,335)	-
Apalis	2,508	(2,508)	-
Avian Acoustics	250	(250)	-
European rollers	250	(250)	-
Secretary birds	3,000	(3,000)	-
Raso lark	5,000	(5,000)	-
Archer's larks	3,418	(3,418)	-
Northern Ground hornbill	2,791	(2,791)	-
Ostriches	3,950	-	3,950
Village birds club Kenya	3,000	(3,000)	-
Village birds club Uganda	1,250	(1,250)	-
	88,200	(84,084)	4,116
TOTAL FUNDS	140,537	(148,067)	(7,530)

12. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2024.

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	52,177	37,979
Gift aid	3,282	6,359
Subscriptions	14,192	18,663
	69,651	63,001
Other trading activities		
Sponsorships	3,494	3,875
Merchandise sales	-	78
	3,494	3,953
Investment income		
Interest received	339	99
Total incoming resources	73,484	67,053
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Printing and associated costs	11,290	9,772
Postage	4,738	4,300
Grants to institutions	51,041	23,871
	67,069	37,943
Support costs		
Management		
Birdfair and meeting costs	2,328	1,047
Website expenses	5,533	5,287
Administration expenses	3,000	3,000
App expenses	3,609	13,135
Sundries	5	-
	14,475	22,469
Finance		
Bank charges	702	744
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	1,360	1,235
Legal fees	279	1,791
	1,639	3,026

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £	*2023* *£*
Total resources expended	**83,885**	*64,182*
Net (expenditure)/income	**(10,401)**	*2,871*

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1184309

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE018133 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1184309

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

FOR

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

WETTONE
MATTHEWS

CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS

Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity is dedicated to conserving birds and their habitats across the continent of Africa and related islands. Our purpose is also to further ornithology in this region. We are the leading organisation concerned with the conservation and study of African birds.

The activities that the charity undertakes in relation to its charitable purposes for the public benefit include making grants to local people and groups in support of a wide range of projects that benefit the conservation of birds and their habitats across continental Africa and related islands. We also collaborate with partners on conservation efforts in the region for the benefit of African birds and people.

The charity in addition provides a worldwide focus for African ornithology and fosters interest in African birds and their conservation by:

- producing and distributing a peer-reviewed bulletin and a members' e-newsletter twice a year
- providing resources online
- developing birding apps and making these accessible to everyone
- sponsoring the Pan-African Ornithological Congress (PAOC)
- putting on talks by invited speakers on relevant topics
- having an active presence on social media
- exhibiting at bird fairs

We also raise awareness of African conservation issues and threats, and throw our weight behind other organisations' campaigns, where this would promote the conservation of African birds and their habitats.

Membership of the charity is open to anyone who is interested in what we do, and it is free for those living in an African country who take an active interest in African birds and their conservation but cannot afford annual membership fees. These supported members are partly subsidised by supporting members of the charity, who pay an increment on top of their individual membership fees.

A network of voluntary representatives in countries in Africa and elsewhere that the charity coordinates act as our eyes and ears on the ground and provide a local point of contact and channel of communication for members in their country. They also pay an important role locally in promoting the charity, recruiting new members and supporters, identifying conservation projects that are suitable for funding by the charity, and highlighting conservation issues and threats that we can raise awareness of.

The charity's current five-year strategy includes several high-level outcomes that we will seek by 2025, for each of which we have identified the major actions we would need to take to achieve them. The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and in planning its future activities.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Achievements and performance

2023 saw over £37,000 raised in restricted funds to support the charity's conservation activities. During this year, 11grants were made to projects undertaken in Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa and Zambia. We acknowledge the key role that our Conservation Committee play in reviewing the many grant applications that we receive each year for their scientific and conservation value, and to thank the members of the Committee for their time commitment and sterling work, which is much appreciated.

During 2023 we produced and distributed two issues of the Bulletin of the African Bird Club in May and November in both print and digital format, as well as the digital Club Newsletter sent out in July to members. After the official business of our AGM on 28th October 2023 we hosted three online talks. These covered an update on the efforts to save the Taita Apalis, one of Africa's most threatened birds, the latest situation for Sharpe's Longclaw, another threatened Kenyan endemic, and finally a report on seabird conservation work in Cabo Verde.

We had a stand at the Global Birdfair, which was held from 14th to 16th July 2023 at the Rutland Showground, where we met members and some of our corporate sponsors and discussed the outputs and achievements of the ABC Conservation Grants Programme.

ABC's free field guide app - Birds of Africa - continued to expand its geographic coverage during the year as well as adding some operational upgrades. The active database for the app contains over 6,300 photos of 2,500 species, texts for 2,600 birds, bird sounds for 2,137 species and maps for 2,778 birds, covering some 50 countries and territories.

Our objective for the app is to eventually cover all of the birds and countries of continental Africa and its related islands, with the app itself accessible to all those who wish to use it. The development and ongoing maintenance of this significant project has been made possible by the work of volunteers across the globe, as well as generous financial and content supporters, for which we are very grateful.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

The total income for the charity was £67,053 (2022: £82,557). The significant components of this income can be found in notes 2 and 3 on page 10 of these accounts.

Total expenditure on charitable activities was £64,182 (2022: £86,400). The main items of expenditure were grants to individuals and institutions totalling £23,871 (2022: £44,806).

Reserves policy

The trustees continue to maintain their policy where a financial reserve equivalent to at least 50% of anticipated annual income should be held. At this level the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding or increase in expenditure. It would obviously be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed accordingly should such an event occur.

Our reserves are held in accounts with Barclays Bank plc and Triodos Bank UK Ltd.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its constitution.

Charity constitution

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its trustees, and its governing document is a CIO association model constitution.

Decision making

The charity is managed on a voluntary basis by a board of trustees, known as Council, who are elected by members at the AGM. The trustees are responsible for the day-to-day running of the charity, and Council meets three times a year.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Risk management

The charity has put in place systems to mitigate the major risks to which it is exposed. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of effective internal control procedures which ensure both appropriate authorisation of all transactions and projects and consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are reviewed periodically by Council to ensure their continuing effectiveness.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number
CE018133 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1184309

Registered office
c/o Birdlife International
The David Attenborough Building
Pembroke Street
Cambridge
CB2 3QZ

Trustees
Ms S E Squier
D J Fox
P Buckley
Ms L Donaldson (resigned 28/10/2023)
Ms A F Varney
S T Ivande
Ms M Walker
I Francis
Ms M Karuiki
R Berridge (appointed 1/6/2023)
A Mohammad (appointed 3/5/2023)
W Paul (appointed 28/10/2023)
D Dawson (appointed 28/10/2023)

Independent Examiner
Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 8th July 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

W Paul - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of African Bird Club ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.

W. Croucher

Mrs W A Croucher

Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

Date: 22 JULY 2024

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	**2023 Total funds £**	*2022 Total funds £*
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	**25,302**	**37,699**	**63,001**	*80,215*
Other trading activities	3	**3,953**	**-**	**3,953**	*2,250*
Investment income	4	**99**	**-**	**99**	*92*
Total		**29,354**	**37,699**	**67,053**	*82,557*
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Grants		**-**	**23,871**	**23,871**	*44,806*
Publications		**14,072**	**-**	**14,072**	*15,438*
Other		**19,173**	**7,066**	**26,239**	*26,156*
Total		**33,245**	**30,937**	**64,182**	*86,400*
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		**(3,891)**	**6,762**	**2,871**	*(3,843)*
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		**27,445**	**33,961**	**61,406**	*65,249*
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**23,554**	**40,723**	**64,277**	*61,406*

The notes form part of these financial statements

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	*2022 Total funds £*
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	**5,416**	-	**5,416**	*7,453*
Cash at bank		**43,516**	**40,723**	**84,239**	*78,194*
		48,932	**40,723**	**89,655**	*85,647*
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	**(16,833)**	-	**(16,833)**	*(14,971)*
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**32,099**	**40,723**	**72,822**	*70,676*
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**32,099**	**40,723**	**72,822**	*70,676*
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	11	**(8,545)**	-	**(8,545)**	*(9,270)*
NET ASSETS		**23,554**	**40,723**	**64,277**	*61,406*
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				**23,554**	27,445
Restricted funds				**40,723**	33,961
TOTAL FUNDS				**64,277**	61,406

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

continued...

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 DECEMBER 2023

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 8th July 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
W Paul - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Display stand - 25% on cost

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

continued...

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Donations	37,979	49,494
Gift aid	6,359	11,123
Subscriptions	18,663	19,598
	63,001	80,215

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Sponsorships	3,875	2,250
Merchandise sales	78	-
	3,953	2,250

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2023	2022
	£	£
Interest received	99	92

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	-	669

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees' expenses

Birdfair, recruitment and counsel fees of £2,137 (2022: Meeting and Birdfair expenses of £905) were reimbursed to 2 trustees during the year.

continued...

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	29,300	50,915	80,215
Other trading activities	2,250	-	2,250
Investment income	92	-	92
Total	31,642	50,915	82,557
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Grants	3,580	41,226	44,806
Publications	15,438	-	15,438
Other	22,126	4,030	26,156
Total	41,144	45,256	86,400
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(9,502)	5,659	(3,843)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	36,947	28,302	65,249
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	27,445	33,961	61,406

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Display stand £
COST	
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	**2,675**
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	**2,675**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2023	-
At 31 December 2022	-

continued...

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	3,250
Paypal	298	791
Gift aid	2,000	2,000
Stripe	1,126	380
Prepayments	1,992	1,032
	5,416	7,453

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,844	830
Grants	2,914	-
Accruals and deferred income	12,075	14,141
	16,833	14,971

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	8,545	9,270

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/23	Net movement in funds	At 31/12/23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	27,445	(3,891)	23,554
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	995	(995)	-
Conservation Fund	32,966	7,757	40,723
	33,961	6,762	40,723
TOTAL FUNDS	61,406	2,871	64,277

continued...

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**29,354**	**(33,245)**	**(3,891)**
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	**2,100**	**(3,095)**	**(995)**
Conservation Fund	**24,264**	**(16,507)**	**7,757**
Cameroon Hornbills	**3,000**	**(3,000)**	**-**
Dusky Tetraka	**1,000**	**(1,000)**	**-**
African Penguins	**2,000**	**(2,000)**	**-**
Nzaui Avifauna	**3,000**	**(3,000)**	**-**
Southern Ground Hornbill	**2,335**	**(2,335)**	**-**
	37,699	**(30,937)**	**6,762**
TOTAL FUNDS	**67,053**	**(64,182)**	**2,871**

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	36,947	(9,502)	27,445
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	25	970	995
Conservation Fund	25,777	7,189	32,966
Mount Moco	2,500	(2,500)	-
	28,302	5,659	33,961
TOTAL FUNDS	65,249	(3,843)	61,406

continued...

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	31,642	(41,144)	(9,502)
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	5,000	(4,030)	970
Conservation Fund	28,415	(21,226)	7,189
Mount Moco	-	(2,500)	(2,500)
Hooded Vultures Benin	3,000	(3,000)	-
Cameroon Hornbills	3,000	(3,000)	-
Ethno Rwanda	3,000	(3,000)	-
Helmeted Vanga	1,500	(1,500)	-
Principe Thrush	5,000	(5,000)	-
PAOC	2,000	(2,000)	-
	50,915	(45,256)	5,659
TOTAL FUNDS	82,557	(86,400)	(3,843)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/1/22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	36,947	(13,393)	23,554
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	25	(25)	-
Conservation Fund	25,777	14,946	40,723
Mount Moco	2,500	(2,500)	-
	28,302	12,421	40,723
TOTAL FUNDS	65,249	(972)	64,277

continued...

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	60,996	(74,389)	(13,393)
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	7,100	(7,125)	(25)
Conservation Fund	52,679	(37,733)	14,946
Mount Moco	-	(2,500)	(2,500)
Hooded Vultures Benin	3,000	(3,000)	-
Cameroon Hornbills	6,000	(6,000)	-
Ethno Rwanda	3,000	(3,000)	-
Helmeted Vanga	1,500	(1,500)	-
Principe Thrush	5,000	(5,000)	-
PAOC	2,000	(2,000)	-
Dusky Tetraka	1,000	(1,000)	-
African Penguins	2,000	(2,000)	-
Nzaui Avifauna	3,000	(3,000)	-
Southern Ground Hornbill	2,335	(2,335)	-
	88,614	(76,193)	12,421
TOTAL FUNDS	149,610	(150,582)	(972)

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2023.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	**37,979**	*49,494*
Gift aid	**6,359**	*11,123*
Subscriptions	**18,663**	*19,598*
	63,001	*80,215*
Other trading activities		
Sponsorships	**3,875**	*2,250*
Merchandise sales	**78**	*-*
	3,953	*2,250*
Investment income		
Interest received	**99**	*92*
Total incoming resources	**67,053**	*82,557*
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Printing and associated costs	**9,772**	*10,236*
Postage	**4,300**	*5,202*
Grants to institutions	**23,871**	*44,806*
	37,943	*60,244*
Other		
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**-**	*669*
Support costs		
Management		
Birdfair and meeting costs	**1,047**	*3,482*
Website expenses	**5,287**	*13,752*
Administration expenses	**3,000**	*3,000*
App expenses	**13,135**	*2,724*
	22,469	*22,958*
Finance		
Bank charges	**744**	*1,294*
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	**1,235**	*1,235*
Carried forward	**1,235**	*1,235*

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 £	*2022* *£*
Governance costs		
Brought forward	**1,235**	*1,235*
Legal fees	**1,791**	*-*
	3,026	*1,235*
Total resources expended	**64,182**	*86,400*
Net income/(expenditure)	**2,871**	*(3,843)*

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1184309

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE018133 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1184309

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

FOR

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

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Objectives and aims

The charity is dedicated to conserving birds and their habitats across the continent of Africa and related islands. Our purpose is also to further ornithology in this region. We are the leading organisation concerned with the conservation and study of African birds.

The activities that the charity undertakes in relation to its charitable purposes for the public benefit include making grants to local people and groups in support of a wide range of projects that benefit the conservation of birds and their habitats across continental Africa and related islands. We also collaborate with partners on conservation efforts in the region for the benefit of African birds and people.

The charity in addition provides a worldwide focus for African ornithology and fosters interest in African birds and their conservation by:

- producing and distributing a peer-reviewed bulletin and a members' e-newsletter twice a year
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A network of voluntary representatives in countries in Africa and elsewhere that the charity coordinates act as our eyes and ears on the ground and provide a local point of contact and channel of communication for members in their country. They also pay an important role locally in promoting the charity, recruiting new members and supporters, identifying conservation projects that are suitable for funding by the charity, and highlighting conservation issues and threats that we can raise awareness of.

The charity's current five-year strategy includes several high-level outcomes that we will seek by 2025, for each of which we have identified the major actions we would need to take to achieve them. The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and in planning its future activities.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Achievements and performance

During 2022 the charity raised over £44,000 to fund 12 conservation awards, one expedition award and one ongoing project, bringing the total grants made by the charity since our Conservation Fund was set up in 1996 to more than £550,000. The 12 conservation awards were made to local grantees carrying out worthwhile projects in Angola, Benin, Cameroon, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. The expedition award was made in support of an important project in São Tomé and Príncipe, which was carried out with substantial local participation.

The ongoing project for which funds were raised in 2022 was in Angola. We brokered a four-year project agreement between the World Land Trust and our local partner, Fundação Kissama, to fund the protection of Afromontane forest at Mount Moco, for which we also continued to collect funds on behalf of our partner. All funds raised were spent in Angola, mostly on employing local community members to plant trees and burn firebreaks.

Our partnership with the Birdsong Project culminated in them releasing a best-selling music album in 2022 featuring tracks by local artists inspired by the sounds of 10 threatened birds of western Africa, which we had helped our partner to select. We also connected our partner with local organisations working to protect some of those birds - the Nigerian Bird Atlas Project, the Gulf of Guinea Biodiversity Center and Association Nature Koussabel in Senegal - all of which benefited from funds raised from sales of the album.

We produced and distributed two issues of the Bulletin of the African Bird Club, in March and October 2022, providing a forum for news and comment as well as publication of studies and records of African birds by contributors from all over the world. We also produced and distributed two e-newsletters, in June and December 2022, keeping our members up to date with the charity's activities during the year.

The charity's revamped website was launched in 2022. This boasts all-new country accounts for every country and territory of the region covered by the charity, as well as a comprehensive video library. Most of the content that was on the old website has been reviewed, reorganised and updated. We have also made it simpler (with an improved interface) to securely donate to and join the charity, and for members to renew their membership, online. Visitors can now sustainably shop online for t-shirts and tote bags branded with the charity's logo. The charity makes a small profit on each item we sell, which all goes into our Conservation Fund.

We continued to make good progress on expanding and improving the charity's free field guide app - Birds of Africa - which by the end of 2022 included over 2,300 bird species on the checklists of 41 countries in West, East and Southern Africa. The app will eventually cover all the birds and countries of continental Africa and related islands. Our objective from the outset was and still is for the app to be accessible to all who want it. There have been around 20,000 downloads of the app to date. The development of the app has been made possible because of the work of volunteers in many countries and those who have provided generous financial and content support.

The charity was a sponsor of the postponed 15th Pan-African Ornithological Congress (PAOC15), which took place in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, in November 2022. Close to 300 delegates from around 60 countries took part. Among them were representatives of the charity who attended at their own expense. The charity raised funds to sponsor five researchers from different African countries to attend and present their work at PAOC15. We also funded the printing of the PAOC15 programme and the preparation and translation of the abstract booklet. The Chair of the charity showcased what we do in a short plenary talk and offered free membership of the charity to all eligible PAOC15 participants, 45 of whom took up his offer. We also had a stand at PAOC15 which provided a focal point for networking. It was especially pleasing to meet in person with four former trustees of the charity, three members of our conservation committee, no fewer than 13 of our country representatives and many grantees, some of whose projects the charity has supported featured in oral or poster presentations at PAOC15. There were also round-table discussions, including one on the charity's free Birds of Africa app among other birding apps.

We ran more online talks by invited speakers on topics related to African ornithology and conservation during 2022. These virtual presentations continue to enable a broader section of the charity's membership to participate. We also maintained an active presence on social media. By the end of the year, our Facebook community had over 10,000 members, our Twitter (now X) handle had over 1,500 followers and the charity also had a LinkedIn account.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The charity was once again a virtual exhibitor at the African Bird Fair, which was a hybrid event in July 2022. In the same month the charity was an exhibitor at the first Global Birdfair, which was held in the UK at Rutland Showground. We met many members and other visitors to our stand, where we showcased our work and sold some merchandise, and made several new connections as well.

We welcomed more supported members but lost some fee-paying members during 2022. By the end of the year the charity still had around 1,200 members in total from more than 70 countries across the world. We also welcomed Zeiss as a new corporate sponsor whilst we continued to miss the valuable support of other corporate sponsors whose sponsorship we had agreed to put on hold because of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on their business.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

The total income for the charity was £82,557 (2021: £77,193). The significant components of this income can be found in notes 2 and 3 on page 10 of these accounts.

Total expenditure on charitable activities was £86,400 (2021: £91,178). The main items of expenditure were grants to individuals and institutions totalling £44,806 (2021: £41,252).

Reserves policy

The trustees continue to maintain their policy where a financial reserve equivalent to at least 50% of anticipated annual income should be held. At this level the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding or increase in expenditure. It would obviously be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed accordingly should such an event occur.

Our reserves are held in accounts with Barclays Bank plc and Triodos Bank UK Ltd.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its constitution.

Charity constitution

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its trustees, and its governing document is a CIO association model constitution.

Decision making

The charity is managed on a voluntary basis by a board of trustees, known as Council, who are elected by members at the AGM. The trustees are responsible for the day-to-day running of the charity, and Council meets three times a year.

Risk management

The charity has put in place systems to mitigate the major risks to which it is exposed. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of effective internal control procedures which ensure both appropriate authorisation of all transactions and projects and consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are reviewed periodically by Council to ensure their continuing effectiveness.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE018133 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1184309

Registered office
c/o Birdlife International
The David Attenborough Building
Pembroke Street
Cambridge
CB2 3QZ

Trustees
Ms S F Squier
D J Fox
S Lowe (resigned 29/10/2022)
N Redman (resigned 29/10/2022)
P Buckley
Ms L Donaldson
J D Kinghorn (resigned 1/9/2022)
J A Caddick (resigned 29/10/2022)
Ms A F Varney
S T Ivande
Ms M Walker (appointed 13/4/2022)
I Francis
Ms M Kariuki
R Berridge (appointed 1/6/2023)
A Mohammad (appointed 3/5/2023)

Independent Examiner
Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 20 October 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
D J Fox - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of African Bird Club ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.

W. Croucher

Mrs W A Croucher

Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

Date: 23 October 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2022 Total funds £	*2021 Total funds £*
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	**29,300**	**50,915**	**80,215**	*75,519*
Other trading activities	3	**2,250**	**-**	**2,250**	*966*
Investment income	4	**92**	**-**	**92**	*708*
Total		**31,642**	**50,915**	**82,557**	*77,193*
EXPENDITURE ON					
Charitable activities					
Grants		**3,580**	**41,226**	**44,806**	*41,252*
Publications		**15,438**	**-**	**15,438**	*15,381*
Other		**22,126**	**4,030**	**26,156**	*34,545*
Total		**41,144**	**45,256**	**86,400**	*91,178*
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		**(9,502)**	**5,659**	**(3,843)**	*(13,985)*
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		**36,947**	**28,302**	**65,249**	*79,234*
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**27,445**	**33,961**	**61,406**	*65,249*

The notes form part of these financial statements

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	**2022 Total funds £**	*2021 Total funds £*
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	8	-	-	-	*669*
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	9	**7,453**	-	**7,453**	*6,292*
Cash at bank		**44,233**	**33,961**	**78,194**	*77,138*
		51,686	**33,961**	**85,647**	*83,430*
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	10	**(14,971)**	-	**(14,971)**	*(9,440)*
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**36,715**	**33,961**	**70,676**	*73,990*
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**36,715**	**33,961**	**70,676**	*74,659*
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	11	**(9,270)**	-	**(9,270)**	*(9,410)*
NET ASSETS		**27,445**	**33,961**	**61,406**	*65,249*
FUNDS	12				
Unrestricted funds				**27,445**	36,947
Restricted funds				**33,961**	28,302
TOTAL FUNDS				**61,406**	65,249

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

continued...

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 20 October 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
D J Fox - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Display stand - 25% on cost

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

continued...

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations	49,494	48,066
Gift aid	11,123	5,268
Subscriptions	19,598	22,185
	80,215	75,519

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	2022	2021
	£	£
Sponsorships	2,250	281
Bulletin sales	-	433
Merchandise sales	-	252
	2,250	966

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest received	92	708

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	669	669
Website and app amortisation	-	11,642

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

Meeting and Birdfair expenses of £905 were reimbursed to the trustees during the year. There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2021.

continued...

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	30,476	45,043	75,519
Other trading activities	966	-	966
Investment income	708	-	708
Total	32,150	45,043	77,193
EXPENDITURE ON			
Charitable activities			
Grants	-	41,252	41,252
Publications	15,381	-	15,381
Other	30,860	3,685	34,545
Total	46,241	44,937	91,178
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(14,091)	106	(13,985)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	51,038	28,196	79,234
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	36,947	28,302	65,249

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Display stand £
COST	
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	**2,675**
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 January 2022	**2,006**
Charge for year	**669**
At 31 December 2022	**2,675**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2022	-
At 31 December 2021	*669*

continued...

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	3,250	-
Paypal	791	10
Gift aid	2,000	5,250
Stripe	380	-
Prepayments	1,032	1,032
	7,453	6,292

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	830	793
Grants	-	4,980
Accruals and deferred income	14,141	3,667
	14,971	9,440

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	9,270	9,410

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/22	Net movement in funds	At 31/12/22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund			
	36,947	(9,502)	27,445
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	25	970	995
Conservation Fund	25,777	7,189	32,966
Mount Moco	2,500	(2,500)	-
	28,302	5,659	33,961
TOTAL FUNDS	65,249	(3,843)	61,406

continued...

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	**31,642**	**(41,144)**	**(9,502)**
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	**5,000**	**(4,030)**	**970**
Conservation Fund	**28,415**	**(21,226)**	**7,189**
Mount Moco	**-**	**(2,500)**	**(2,500)**
Hooded Vultures Benin	**3,000**	**(3,000)**	**-**
Cameroon Hornbills	**3,000**	**(3,000)**	**-**
Ethno Rwanda	**3,000**	**(3,000)**	**-**
Helmeted Vanga	**1,500**	**(1,500)**	**-**
Principe Thrush	**5,000**	**(5,000)**	**-**
PAOC	**2,000**	**(2,000)**	**-**
	50,915	**(45,256)**	**5,659**
TOTAL FUNDS	**82,557**	**(86,400)**	**(3,843)**

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/1/21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	51,038	(14,091)	36,947
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	210	(185)	25
Conservation Fund	27,986	(2,209)	25,777
Mount Moco	-	2,500	2,500
	28,196	106	28,302
TOTAL FUNDS	79,234	(13,985)	65,249

continued...

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	32,150	(46,241)	(14,091)
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	-	(185)	(185)
Conservation Fund	19,570	(21,779)	(2,209)
ABC Website	3,500	(3,500)	-
Mount Moco	2,500	-	2,500
Scops Owl	2,982	(2,982)	-
Diurnal Raptors	1,700	(1,700)	-
Waterfowl Poisening Mwea	2,989	(2,989)	-
Digital Marketing Bird Guides	500	(500)	-
Scops Owl Principe	4,980	(4,980)	-
Black Harriers	500	(500)	-
Kibale Bird Clubs	3,000	(3,000)	-
Cross River Forest	2,822	(2,822)	-
	45,043	(44,937)	106
TOTAL FUNDS	77,193	(91,178)	(13,985)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1/1/21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	51,038	(23,593)	27,445
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	210	785	995
Conservation Fund	27,986	4,980	32,966
	28,196	5,765	33,961
TOTAL FUNDS	79,234	(17,828)	61,406

continued...

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund			
	63,792	(87,385)	(23,593)
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	5,000	(4,215)	785
Conservation Fund	47,985	(43,005)	4,980
ABC Website	3,500	(3,500)	-
Mount Moco	2,500	(2,500)	-
Scops Owl	2,982	(2,982)	-
Diurnal Raptors	1,700	(1,700)	-
Waterfowl Poisening Mwea	2,989	(2,989)	-
Digital Marketing Bird Guides	500	(500)	-
Scops Owl Principe	4,980	(4,980)	-
Black Harriers	500	(500)	-
Kibale Bird Clubs	3,000	(3,000)	-
Cross River Forest	2,822	(2,822)	-
Hooded Vultures Benin	3,000	(3,000)	-
Cameroon Hornbills	3,000	(3,000)	-
Ethno Rwanda	3,000	(3,000)	-
Helmeted Vanga	1,500	(1,500)	-
Principe Thrush	5,000	(5,000)	-
PAOC	2,000	(2,000)	-
	95,958	(90,193)	5,765
TOTAL FUNDS	159,750	(177,578)	(17,828)

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2022.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	**49,494**	*48,066*
Gift aid	**11,123**	*5,268*
Subscriptions	**19,598**	*22,185*
	80,215	*75,519*
Other trading activities		
Sponsorships	**2,250**	*281*
Bulletin sales	**-**	*433*
Merchandise sales	**-**	*252*
	2,250	*966*
Investment income		
Interest received	**92**	*708*
Total incoming resources	**82,557**	*77,193*
EXPENDITURE		
Charitable activities		
Printing and associated costs	**10,236**	*10,712*
Postage	**5,202**	*4,669*
Grants to institutions	**44,806**	*40,399*
Grants to individuals	**-**	*853*
	60,244	*56,633*
Other		
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	**-**	*11,642*
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**669**	*669*
	669	*12,311*
Support costs		
Management		
Birdfair and meeting costs	**3,482**	*424*
Website expenses	**13,752**	*10,871*
Administration expenses	**3,000**	*3,000*
App expenses	**2,724**	*5,408*
	22,958	*19,703*

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Management		
Finance		
Bank charges	**1,294**	*1,296*
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	**1,235**	*1,235*
Total resources expended	**86,400**	*91,178*
Net expenditure	**(3,843)**	*(13,985)*

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1184309

Accounts

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE018133 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1184309

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

FOR

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

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Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	16 to 17

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity is dedicated to conserving birds and their habitats across the continent of Africa and related islands. Our purpose is also to further ornithology in this region. We are the leading organisation concerned with the conservation and study of African birds.

The activities that the charity undertakes in relation to its charitable purposes for the public benefit include making grants to local people and groups in support of a wide range of projects that benefit the conservation of birds and their habitats across continental Africa and related islands. We also collaborate with partners on conservation efforts in the region for the benefit of African birds and people.

The charity in addition provides a worldwide focus for African ornithology and fosters interest in African birds and their conservation by:

- producing and distributing a peer-reviewed bulletin and a members' e-newsletter twice a year
- providing resources online
- developing birding apps and making these accessible to everyone
- sponsoring the Pan-African Ornithological Congress (PAOC)
- putting on talks by invited speakers on relevant topics
- having an active presence on social media
- exhibiting at bird fairs

We also raise awareness of African conservation issues and threats, and throw our weight behind other organisations' campaigns, where this would promote the conservation of African birds and their habitats.

Membership of the charity is open to anyone who is interested in what we do, and it is free for those living in an African country who take an active interest in African birds and their conservation but cannot afford annual membership fees. These supported members are partly subsidised by supporting members of the charity, who pay an increment on top of their individual membership fees.

A network of voluntary representatives in countries in Africa and elsewhere that the charity coordinates act as our eyes and ears on the ground and provide a local point of contact and channel of communication for members in their country. They also pay an important role locally in promoting the charity, recruiting new members and supporters, identifying conservation projects that are suitable for funding by the charity, and highlighting conservation issues and threats that we can raise awareness of.

The charity's current five-year strategy includes several high-level outcomes that we will seek by 2025, for each of which we have identified the major actions we would need to take to achieve them. The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and in planning its future activities.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Achievements and performance

Despite the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, it was still very much business as usual for the charity during 2021.

We raised over £45,000 to fund 13 conservation awards and 2 expedition awards, bringing the total grants made by the charity since our Conservation Fund was set up in 1996 to over £500,000. The 13 conservation awards were made to local grantees carrying out worthwhile projects in Cameroon, Kenya, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Uganda, and Zambia. The 2 expedition awards were made in support of important projects in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which had to be put on hold because of the pandemic, and São Tomé and Príncipe, which was carried out with substantial local participation.

The charity continued its partnership with Fundação Kissama by promoting and collecting funds for an ongoing project to protect Afromontane forest at Mount Moco in Angola, which is home to several endemic birds. All funds raised will be spent there, mostly on employing local community members to plant trees and burn firebreaks. We also partnered with the Birdsong Project in connection with an album of music featuring tracks by local artists inspired by the sounds of 10 threatened birds of western Africa. The album aims to raise awareness about the species' plight while also raising funds for projects and organisations working to protect some of them.

We produced and distributed two issues of the Bulletin of the African Bird Club, in March and September 2021, providing a forum for news and comment as well as publication of studies and records of African birds by contributors from all over the world. Increased costs of printing, packaging, and posting the Bulletin, especially to members based outside the UK, over the past few years could no longer be covered by current membership income. The charity's trustees therefore decided that we would have to increase membership fees from 1 January 2022 for members renewing their membership, and for new fee-paying members, who chose to subscribe to the print edition of the Bulletin.

We also produced and distributed two e-newsletters, in June and December 2021, keeping members up to date with the charity's activities during the year.

A planned revamp of the charity's website began in 2021 with a view to launching a new-look, mobile-friendly website in 2022. This will include all-new country accounts for every country and territory of the region covered by the charity, as well as a comprehensive video library.

We continued to make good progress on expanding and improving the charity's free field guide app - Birds of Africa - which by the end of the year included over 1,800 bird species on the checklists of 29 countries and islands in West and East Africa. In time the app will cover all the birds and countries of continental Africa and related islands. Our objective from the outset was and still is for the app to be accessible to all who want it. There have been around 10,000 downloads of the app to date.

The 15th PAOC, which had been rescheduled to take place in Zimbabwe in November 2021, was postponed again because of the pandemic. The charity will be a sponsor of this event when it is finally held in November 2022.

We ran a series of online talks by invited speakers on important subjects related to African ornithology and conservation during 2021. These virtual presentations were intended to make up for our inability to host in-person events as well as to enable a broader section of the charity's membership to participate.

We also maintained an active presence on social media. By the end of the year, our Facebook community had over 9,000 members and our Twitter handle had over 1,500 followers.

The charity was once again an exhibitor at the Virtual African Birdfair, which was held online in July 2021. In November we exhibited at the Jos Bird Fair in Nigeria, where we had our own stand and media set-up, welcomed visitors and signed up new members. The British Birdwatching Fair was cancelled because of the pandemic.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The charity also engaged more in campaigning than we have done traditionally. We backed our representative in Sudan's campaign to persuade the authorities there to curb hunting of birds and other wildlife, enforce protected areas and promote ecotourism. We also lent our support to Kasanka Trust's campaign to put a stop to land clearance, agricultural and other activities by private companies operating in one of the buffer zones surrounding Kasanka National Park in Zambia. The charity made a grant of £7,500 to Kasanka Trust in 2019 to manage this important habitat for birds.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

The total income for the charity was £77,193 (2020: £174,742). The significant components of this income can be found in notes 2 and 3 on page 10 of these accounts. The charity became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 January 2020, and so the comparative figures reflect the transfer of assets and liabilities of the previous structure into the new CIO, causing a one-off distortion of the comparative figures.

Total expenditure on charitable activities was £91,178 (2020: £95,508). The main items of expenditure were grants to individuals and institutions totalling £41,252 (2020: £49,784).

Reserves policy

The trustees continue to maintain their policy where a financial reserve equivalent to at least 50% of anticipated annual income should be held. At this level the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding or increase in expenditure. It would obviously be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed accordingly should such an event occur.

The majority of our reserves are held in a series of one-year deposits with the United Trust Bank, which offers a competitive rate of return. We hold a smaller balance with the Monmouthshire Building Society on 30-day notice.

The trustees resolved the Triodos Bank UK Ltd be appointed as bankers to the charity whilst we have retained our UK account with Barclays Bank plc. Having an additional account with Triodos will better support the charity's needs as Triodos specifically caters for charities. Triodos also has ethical credentials and sustainable values, mirroring our own.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its constitution.

Charity constitution

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its trustees, and its governing document is a CIO association model constitution.

Decision making

The charity is managed on a voluntary basis by a board of trustees, known as Council, who are elected by members at the AGM. The trustees are responsible for the day-to-day running of the charity, and Council meets three times a year.

Risk management

The charity has put in place systems to mitigate the major risks to which it is exposed. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of effective internal control procedures which ensure both appropriate authorisation of all transactions and projects and consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are reviewed periodically by Council to ensure their continuing effectiveness.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE018133 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1184309

Registered office
c/o Birdlife International
The David Attenborough Building
Pembroke Street
Cambridge
CB2 3QZ

Trustees
Ms S E Squier
D J Fox
S Lowe
N Redman
P Buckley
P Hall (resigned 23/10/2021)
Ms L Donaldson
J D Kinghorn (resigned 1/9/2022)
J A Caddick
Dr C D Magin (resigned 23/10/2021)
Ms A F Varney
S T Ivande
Ms J Faden (resigned 14/9/2021)
Ms M Walker (appointed 13/4/2022)
I Francis (appointed 8/11/2021)
Ms M Kariuki (appointed 23/10/2021)

Independent Examiner
Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 18 October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
D J Fox - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of African Bird Club ('the Charity')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees of the Charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.

W. Croucher.

Mrs W A Croucher
ACCA
Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

Date: 18 October 2022

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	**Year Ended 31/12/21 Total funds £**	Period 8/7/19 to 31/12/20 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	**30,476**	**45,043**	**75,519**	165,177
Other trading activities	3	**966**	**-**	**966**	8,397
Investment income	4	**708**	**-**	**708**	1,104
Other income		**-**	**-**	**-**	64
Total		**32,150**	**45,043**	**77,193**	174,742
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		**-**	**-**	**-**	220
Charitable activities					
Grants		**-**	**41,252**	**41,252**	49,784
Publications		**15,381**	**-**	**15,381**	14,017
Other		**30,860**	**3,685**	**34,545**	31,487
Total		**46,241**	**44,937**	**91,178**	95,508
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		**(14,091)**	**106**	**(13,985)**	79,234
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		**51,038**	**28,196**	**79,234**	-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**36,947**	**28,302**	**65,249**	79,234

The notes form part of these financial statements

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	**2021 Total funds £**	*2020 Total funds £*
FIXED ASSETS					
Intangible assets	8	**-**	**-**	**-**	*11,642*
Tangible assets	9	**669**	**-**	**669**	*1,338*
		669	**-**	**669**	*12,980*
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	**6,292**	**-**	**6,292**	*29,579*
Cash at bank		**48,836**	**28,302**	**77,138**	*69,297*
		55,128	**28,302**	**83,430**	*98,876*
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	**(9,440)**	**-**	**(9,440)**	*(22,910)*
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**45,688**	**28,302**	**73,990**	*75,966*
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**46,357**	**28,302**	**74,659**	*88,946*
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	12	**(9,410)**	**-**	**(9,410)**	*(9,712)*
NET ASSETS		**36,947**	**28,302**	**65,249**	*79,234*
FUNDS	13				
Unrestricted funds				**36,947**	51,038
Restricted funds				**28,302**	28,196
TOTAL FUNDS				**65,249**	79,234

The charity is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 December 2021.

The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2021 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for
(a) ensuring that the charity keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

The notes form part of these financial statements

continued...

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 18 October 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
D J Fox - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Display stand - 25% on cost

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

continued...

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Year Ended 31/12/21 £	*Period 8/7/19 to 31/12/20 £*
Donations	**48,066**	*134,344*
Gift aid	**5,268**	*9,178*
Subscriptions	**22,185**	*21,655*
	75,519	*165,177*

Included within the comparative figures for donations are unrestricted donations totalling £53,057 and restricted donations totalling £43,416, which represent the transfer of funds from the antecedent organisation.

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Year Ended 31/12/21 £	*Period 8/7/19 to 31/12/20 £*
Sponsorships	**281**	*8,000*
Bulletin sales	**433**	*329*
Merchandise sales	**252**	*68*
	966	*8,397*

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Year Ended 31/12/21 £	*Period 8/7/19 to 31/12/20 £*
Interest received	**708**	*1,104*

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	Year Ended 31/12/21 £	*Period 8/7/19 to 31/12/20 £*
Depreciation - owned assets	**669**	*668*
Website and app amortisation	**11,642**	*9,747*

continued...

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the period ended 31 December 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the period ended 31 December 2020.

7. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	85,507	79,670	165,177
Other trading activities	8,397	-	8,397
Investment income	1,104	-	1,104
Other income	64	-	64
Total	95,072	79,670	174,742
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	220	-	220
Charitable activities			
Grants	-	49,784	49,784
Publications	14,017	-	14,017
Other	29,797	1,690	31,487
Total	44,034	51,474	95,508
NET INCOME	51,038	28,196	79,234
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	51,038	28,196	79,234

continued...

8. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Website and app £
COST	
At 1 January 2021	**54,641**
Disposals	**(54,641)**
At 31 December 2021	**-**
AMORTISATION	
At 1 January 2021	**42,999**
Charge for year	**11,642**
Eliminated on disposal	**(54,641)**
At 31 December 2021	**-**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2021	**-**
At 31 December 2020	*11,642*

9. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Display stand £
COST	
At 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2021	**2,675**
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 January 2021	**1,337**
Charge for year	**669**
At 31 December 2021	**2,006**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2021	**669**
At 31 December 2020	*1,338*

continued...

10. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	11,111
Paypal	10	2,190
Gift aid	5,250	15,178
Prepayments	1,032	1,100
	6,292	29,579

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	793	11,429
Grants	4,980	2,834
Accruals and deferred income	3,667	8,647
	9,440	22,910

12. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	9,410	9,712

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1/1/21	Net movement in funds	At 31/12/21
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund			
	51,038	**(14,091)**	**36,947**
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	210	(185)	25
Conservation Fund	27,986	(2,209)	25,777
Mount Moco	-	2,500	2,500
	28,196	106	28,302
TOTAL FUNDS	79,234	(13,985)	65,249

continued...

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund			
	32,150	**(46,241)**	**(14,091)**
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	**-**	**(185)**	**(185)**
Conservation Fund	**19,570**	**(21,779)**	**(2,209)**
ABC Website	**3,500**	**(3,500)**	**-**
Mount Moco	**2,500**	**-**	**2,500**
Scops Owl	**2,982**	**(2,982)**	**-**
Diurnal Raptors	**1,700**	**(1,700)**	**-**
Waterfowl Poisening Mwea	**2,989**	**(2,989)**	**-**
Digital Marketing Bird Guides	**500**	**(500)**	**-**
Scops Owl Principe	**4,980**	**(4,980)**	**-**
Black Harriers	**500**	**(500)**	**-**
Kibale Bird Clubs	**3,000**	**(3,000)**	**-**
Cross River Forest	**2,822**	**(2,822)**	**-**
	45,043	**(44,937)**	**106**
TOTAL FUNDS	**77,193**	**(91,178)**	**(13,985)**

Comparatives for movement in funds

	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/20 £
Unrestricted funds		
General fund		
	51,038	51,038
Restricted funds		
Birds of Africa App	210	210
Conservation Fund	27,986	27,986
	28,196	28,196
TOTAL FUNDS	79,234	79,234

continued...

13. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund			
	95,072	(44,034)	51,038
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	1,900	(1,690)	210
Blue Swallows Zimbabwe	2,991	(2,991)	-
Bannerman's Turaco Cameroon	2,875	(2,875)	-
Fox's Weaver Uganda	2,976	(2,976)	-
Bird Club Sierra Leone	2,834	(2,834)	-
Ebo Forest Cameroon	2,941	(2,941)	-
Audiomoths Mauritius	3,000	(3,000)	-
Conservation Fund	60,153	(32,167)	27,986
	79,670	(51,474)	28,196
TOTAL FUNDS	174,742	(95,508)	79,234

14. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2021.

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Year Ended 31/12/21 £	Period 8/7/19 to 31/12/20 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	**48,066**	134,344
Gift aid	**5,268**	9,178
Subscriptions	**22,185**	21,655
	75,519	165,177
Other trading activities		
Sponsorships	**281**	8,000
Bulletin sales	**433**	329
Merchandise sales	**252**	68
	966	8,397
Investment income		
Interest received	**708**	1,104
Other income		
Commission and royalties	**-**	64
Total incoming resources	**77,193**	174,742
EXPENDITURE		
Other trading activities		
Opening stock	**-**	220
Charitable activities		
Printing and associated costs	**10,712**	10,690
Postage	**4,669**	3,327
Grants to institutions	**40,399**	46,792
Grants to individuals	**853**	2,992
	56,633	63,801
Other		
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	**11,642**	9,747
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**669**	669
	12,311	10,416

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2021

	Year Ended 31/12/21 £	Period 8/7/19 to 31/12/20 £
Support costs		
Management		
Birdfair and meeting costs	**424**	2,234
Stationery, postage and sundries	**-**	599
Website expenses	**10,871**	12,080
Administration expenses	**3,000**	3,253
Advertising and marketing	**-**	400
App expenses	**5,408**	-
	19,703	18,566
Finance		
Bank charges	**1,296**	1,005
Governance costs		
Accountancy and legal fees	**1,235**	1,500
Total resources expended	**91,178**	95,508
Net (expenditure)/income	**(13,985)**	79,234

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

England & Wales - Charity number 1184309

Accounts

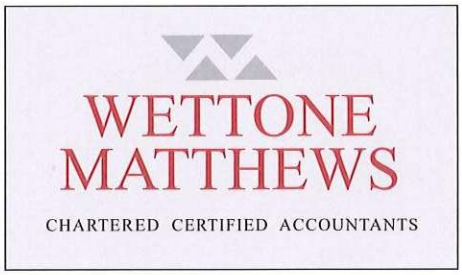
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: CE018133 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1184309

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 8 JULY 2019 TO 31 DECEMBER 2020

FOR

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB



Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE PERIOD 8 JULY 2019 TO 31 DECEMBER 2020

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
FOR THE PERIOD 8 JULY 2019 TO 31 DECEMBER 2020

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the period 8 July 2019 to 31 December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 8 July 2019 and commenced trading on 1 January 2020.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The charity is dedicated to conserving birds and their habitats across the continent of Africa and neighbouring islands and to furthering ornithology in the region. It was originally formed in 1994 by a community of people with a common interest in African ornithology and a shared concern for the future of African birds.

The activities that the charity undertakes in relation to its charitable purposes for the public benefit include making grants in support of a wide range of projects that benefit the conservation of birds and their habitats across continental Africa and neighbouring islands. We also collaborate with partners on conservation efforts in the region for the benefit of African birds and people.

The charity furthers ornithology in the region and fosters an interest in African birds and their conservation by:
- producing and distributing a peer-reviewed bulletin and a members' e-newsletter twice a year
- providing resources online
- developing birding apps and making these accessible to everyone
- sponsoring the Pan-African Ornithological Congress (PAOC)
- putting on talks by invited speakers on relevant topics
- having an active presence on social media
- exhibiting at bird fairs

We also raise awareness of African conservation issues and threats, and throw our weight behind other organisations' campaigns, where this would promote the conservation of African birds and their habitats.

Membership of the charity is open to anyone who is interested in supporting what we do, and it is free for those living in an African country who take an active interest in African birds and their conservation but cannot afford annual membership fees. These supported members are partly subsidised by supporting members of the charity, who pay an increment on top of their individual membership fees.

A network of voluntary representatives in countries in Africa and elsewhere that the charity coordinates act as our eyes and ears on the ground and provide a local point of contact and channel of communication for members in their country. They also pay an important role locally in promoting the charity, recruiting new members and supporters, identifying conservation projects that are suitable for funding by the charity, and highlighting conservation issues and threats that we can raise awareness of.

Trustees and the two Vice Presidents of the charity convened in February 2020 to review our 2015-2020 strategy and to develop a new five year strategic plan, which was formally agreed by the trustees when we met virtually for the first time in June 2020. The new strategy includes several high-level outcomes that we will seek by 2025, for each of which we have identified the major actions we would need to take to achieve them. The trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit when reviewing the charity's objectives and in planning its future activities.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Achievements and performance

The devastating Covid-19 pandemic affected everyone during 2020 but, thanks to wonderful support and videoconferencing, it was very much business as usual for the charity.

We raised over £50,000 to fund 14 conservation awards and 2 expedition awards which the trustees agreed that the charity should make providing the project concerned could proceed in line with local Covid-19 restrictions. The conservation awards were made to African grantees carrying out worthwhile projects in Benin (training for bird atlassing), Cameroon (monitoring populations of Bannerman's Turaco and Grey Parrot and updating information on the birds of Ebo forest), Liberia (determining KBA trigger species), Madagascar (studying Sakalava Rail), Mauritius (confirming species presence and distribution using audiomoths), Sierra Leone (supporting local bird clubs), South Africa (gaining a better understanding of White-winged Flufftail), Tanzania (monitoring IBAs and combatting the illegal bird trade), Uganda (mapping key areas for Fox's Weaver) and Zimbabwe (surveying Lilian's Lovebird and Blue Swallow). The expedition awards were made in support of important projects in Ethiopia (filling knowledge gaps for Bearded Vulture) and Malawi (surveying Spotted Ground-Thrush) carried out with substantial local participation. A project in Equatorial Guinea for which the trustees agreed that the charity should fund an expedition award could not go ahead on account of the pandemic.

The charity also partnered with Fundacao Kissama to promote and collect funds for an ongoing project to protect Afromontane forest at Mount Moco, the highest mountain and a proposed new conservation area in Angola. The forest is home to several endemic birds, including Swierstra's Francolin. All funds raised will be spent in Angola, mostly on employing local community members to plant trees and burn firebreaks.

We produced two issues of the Bulletin of the African Bird Club, in March and September 2020, providing a forum for news and comment as well as publication of studies and records of African birds by contributors from all over the world. We also produced two e-newsletters, in June and December 2020, keeping members up to date with the charity's activities.

We made good progress to expand and improve the charity's free field guide app - Birds of Africa - which by the end of the year included over 1,200 bird species on the checklists of most countries in Western Africa. In time the app will cover all the birds and countries of continental Africa and neighbouring islands. Our objective from the outset was and still is for the app to be accessible to all who want it, such as members of bird clubs in Nigeria who featured in a YouTube video produced by Sam Ivande (who is also the charity's representative in Nigeria) and colleagues.

Our network of country representatives has become more active and effective as a result of us clarifying their role and our expectations of them. The first ever meting of county representatives was held online in August 2020 and we plan to virtually meet every six months.

The charity was an exhibitor at both the Virtual Birdfair, which took place in August 2020 in lieu of the annual British Birdwatching Fair, and Birdlife South Africa's first ever Virtual African Bird Fair, held in September 2020. This included a presentation by John Kinghorn (who is also the charity's representative in South Africa) on the new generation of African birders who are overcoming obstacles and pursuing carreers in birding and conservation.

The 15th PAOC, which was originally set to take place in Zimbabwe in November 2020, was postponed because of the pandemic. The charity has agreed to sponsor the event when it can safely be held.

During 2020 the charity engaged more in campaigning than we have done previously. We joined a coalition of organisations aiming to permanently end the commercial trade and sale in markets of terrestrial wild animals, especially birds and mammals, for consumption, worldwide. We also threw our weight behind, and encouraged members to support, campaigns to save vultures across Africa.

By the end of the year, the total number of supported members of the charity in African countries surpassed 350, our Facebook group had over 8,000 members from more than 100 countries and our Twitter handle had over 1,400 followers.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial review

The charity became a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) on 1 January 2020; these accounts reflect the transfer of assets and liabilities of the previous structure into the new CIO, causing a one-off distortion of the figures as described in note 2 on page 10.

The total income for the charity was £174,742. The significant components of this income can be found in notes 2 and 3 on page 10 of these accounts.

Total expenditure on charitable activities was £95,508. The main items of expenditure were grants to individuals and institutions totalling £49,784.

Reserves policy

The trustees continue to maintain their policy where a financial reserve equivalent to at least 50% of anticipated annual income should be held. At this level the trustees feel that they would be able to continue the current activities of the charity in the event of a significant drop in funding or increase in expenditure. It would obviously be necessary to consider how the funding would be replaced or activities changed accordingly should such an event occur.

The majority of our reserves are held in a series of one-year deposits with the United Trust Bank, which offers a competitive rate of return. We hold a smaller balance with the Monmouthshire Building Society on 30-day notice.

The trustees resolved the Triodos Bank UK Ltd be appointed as bankers to the charity whilst we have retained our UK account with Barclays Bank plc. Having an additional account with Triodos will better support the charity's needs as Triodos specifically caters for charities. Triodos also has ethical credentials and sustainable values, mirroring our own.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Charity constitution

The charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with voting members other than its trustees, and its governing document is a CIO association model constitution.

Being a CIO enabled the charity to take advantage of the limited flexibility allowed by the UK government to hold a virtual annual general meeting (AGM) in 2020, after we had to call off a planned in-person meeting because of mounting concerns over the spread of Covid-19. Members present at the virtual AGM resolved to amend the charity's constitution to enable the charity to hold virtual general meetings in future. This will make it easier for members living outside the UK, especially those in African countries, to participate.

Decision making

The charity is managed on a voluntary basis by a board of trustees, known as Council, who are elected by members at the AGM. The trustees are responsible for the day-to-day running of the charity, and Council meets three times a year.

Risk management

The charity has put in place systems to mitigate the major risks to which it is exposed. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of effective internal control procedures which ensure both appropriate authorisation of all transactions and projects and consistent quality of delivery for all operational aspects of the charity. These procedures are reviewed periodically by Council to ensure their continuing effectiveness.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

CE018133 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number
1184309

Registered office
c/o Birdlife International
The David Attenborough Building
Pembroke Street
Cambridge
CB2 3QZ

Trustees
Ms S E Squier (appointed 11/6/2020)
D J Fox (appointed 8/7/2019)
S Lowe (appointed 8/7/2019)
N Redman (appointed 8/7/2019)
P Buckley (appointed 8/7/2019)
P Hall (appointed 8/7/2019)
Ms L Donaldson (appointed 8/7/2019)
J D Kinghorn (appointed 8/7/2019)
J A Caddick (appointed 8/7/2019)
Dr C D Magin (appointed 8/7/2019)
Ms A F Varney
S T Ivande (appointed 19/9/2020)
R Charles (appointed 8/7/2019) (resigned 25/4/2020)
C Spooner (appointed 8/7/2019) (resigned 25/4/2020)
S Pringle (appointed 8/7/2019) (resigned 19/9/2020)
Ms J Faden (appointed 3/12/2020) (resigned 14/9/2021)

Independent Examiner
Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 14 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

D J Fox - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of African Bird Club ('the Company')
I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the period 8 July 2019 to 31 December 2020.

Responsibilities and basis of report
As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the 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 matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.

W. Croucher.

Mrs W A Croucher
ACCA
Wettone Matthews Limited
Chartered Certified Accountants
Market House
21 Lenten Street
Alton
GU34 1HG

14 December 2021

AFRICAN BIRD CLUB

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD 8 JULY 2019 TO 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	2	**85,507**	**79,670**	**165,177**
Other trading activities	3	**8,397**	**-**	**8,397**
Investment income	4	**1,104**	**-**	**1,104**
Other income		**64**	**-**	**64**
Total		**95,072**	**79,670**	**174,742**
EXPENDITURE ON				
Raising funds		**220**	**-**	**220**
Charitable activities				
Grants		**-**	**49,784**	**49,784**
Publications		**14,017**	**-**	**14,017**
Other		**29,797**	**1,690**	**31,487**
Total		**44,034**	**51,474**	**95,508**
NET INCOME		**51,038**	**28,196**	**79,234**
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		**51,038**	**28,196**	**79,234**

The notes form part of these financial statements

BALANCE SHEET
31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS				
Intangible assets	7	**11,642**	-	**11,642**
Tangible assets	8	**1,338**	-	**1,338**
		12,980	-	**12,980**
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors	9	**29,579**	-	**29,579**
Cash at bank		**41,101**	**28,196**	**69,297**
		70,680	**28,196**	**98,876**
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due within one year	10	**(22,910)**	-	**(22,910)**
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**47,770**	**28,196**	**75,966**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**60,750**	**28,196**	**88,946**
CREDITORS				
Amounts falling due after more than one year	11	**(9,712)**	-	**(9,712)**
NET ASSETS		**51,038**	**28,196**	**79,234**
FUNDS	12			
Unrestricted funds				**51,038**
Restricted funds				**28,196**
TOTAL FUNDS				**79,234**

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the period ended 31 December 2020.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the period ended 31 December 2020 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes form part of these financial statements

continued...

BALANCE SHEET - continued
31 DECEMBER 2020

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 14 December 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

D J Fox - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements
The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income
All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure
Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end date are noted as a commitment but not accrued as expenditure.

Tangible fixed assets
Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Display stand - 25% on cost

Taxation
The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting
Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

continued...

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	£
Donations	134,344
Gift aid	9,178
Subscriptions	21,655
	165,177

Included within donations are unrestricted donations totalling £53,057 and restricted donations totalling £43,416, which represent the transfer of funds from the antecedent organisation.

3. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	£
Sponsorships	8,000
Bulletin sales	329
Merchandise sales	68
	8,397

4. INVESTMENT INCOME

	£
Interest received	1,104

5. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	£
Depreciation - owned assets	668
Website and app amortisation	9,747

6. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the period ended 31 December 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the period ended 31 December 2020.

Travel, office and meeting expenses of £987 were reimbursed to the trustees during the year. £399 was refunded to the charity by way of matching donations.

continued...

7. INTANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Website and app £
COST	
Additions	**54,641**
AMORTISATION	
Charge for year	**9,747**
Reclassification/transfer	**33,252**
At 31 December 2020	**42,999**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2020	**11,642**

8. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Display stand £
COST	
Additions	**2,675**
DEPRECIATION	
Charge for year	**668**
Reclassification/transfer	**669**
At 31 December 2020	**1,337**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2020	**1,338**

9. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	£
Trade debtors	**11,111**
Paypal	**2,190**
Gift aid	**15,178**
Prepayments	**1,100**
	29,579

continued...

10. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	£
Trade creditors	**11,429**
Grants	**2,834**
Accruals and deferred income	**8,647**
	22,910

11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	£
Accruals and deferred income	**9,712**

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Net movement in funds £	At 31/12/20 £
Unrestricted funds		
General fund	**51,038**	**51,038**
Restricted funds		
Birds of Africa App	**210**	**210**
Conservation Fund	**27,986**	**27,986**
	28,196	**28,196**
TOTAL FUNDS	**79,234**	**79,234**

continued...

12. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund			
	95,072	**(44,034)**	**51,038**
Restricted funds			
Birds of Africa App	**1,900**	**(1,690)**	**210**
Blue Swallows Zimbabwe	**2,991**	**(2,991)**	**-**
Bannerman's Turaco Cameroon	**2,875**	**(2,875)**	**-**
Fox's Weaver Uganda	**2,976**	**(2,976)**	**-**
Bird Club Sierra Leone	**2,834**	**(2,834)**	**-**
Ebo Forest Cameroon	**2,941**	**(2,941)**	**-**
Audiomoths Mauritius	**3,000**	**(3,000)**	**-**
Conservation Fund	**60,153**	**(32,167)**	**27,986**
	79,670	**(51,474)**	**28,196**
TOTAL FUNDS	**174,742**	**(95,508)**	**79,234**

13. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the period ended 31 December 2020.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD 8 JULY 2019 TO 31 DECEMBER 2020

	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS	
Donations and legacies	
Donations	**134,344**
Gift aid	**9,178**
Subscriptions	**21,655**
	165,177
Other trading activities	
Sponsorships	**8,000**
Bulletin sales	**329**
Merchandise sales	**68**
	8,397
Investment income	
Interest received	**1,104**
Other income	
Commission and royalties	**64**
Total incoming resources	**174,742**
EXPENDITURE	
Other trading activities	
Opening stock	**220**
Charitable activities	
Printing and associated costs	**10,690**
Postage	**3,327**
Grants to institutions	**46,792**
Grants to individuals	**2,992**
	63,801
Other	
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	**9,747**
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**669**
	10,416
Support costs	
Management	
Birdfair and meeting costs	**2,234**
Carried forward	**2,234**

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD 8 JULY 2019 TO 31 DECEMBER 2020

	£
Management	
Brought forward	**2,234**
Stationery, postage and sundries	**599**
Website expenses	**12,080**
Administration expenses	**3,253**
Advertising and marketing	**400**
	18,566
Finance	
Bank charges	**1,005**
Governance costs	
Accountancy and legal fees	**1,500**
Total resources expended	**95,508**
Net income	**79,234**

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements