

AVON NEEDS TREES

England & Wales · Charity number 1184386

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2019-07-12

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

Contact

Address Avon Needs Trees
Office 115 117 and 119
Regus Castlemead
Lower Castle Street
Bristol
BS1 3AG

Phone 0800 060 8702

Email contact@avonneedstrees.org.uk

Website www.avonneedstrees.org.uk

Activities

Objects: The objects of the CIO are:1) The conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment for the public benefit by the establishment and maintenance of trees, woodland and complementary habitats in such areas within the Bristol-Avon catchment area as the trustees shall determine.2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment including by promoting woodlands as a means for the public to learn about wider environmental issues such as: sustainability, climate change, ecology and the mitigating need for trees. For the purposes of this clause 'the Bristol-Avon catchment area' comprises the land identified as such by the Environment Agency, covering catchments of all the watercourses and their tributaries that empty into the stretch of the Severn estuary between and including, to the north, the mouth of the Little Avon near Berkeley in South Gloucestershire and, to the south, Sand Bay in North Somerset.

Activities: Avon Needs Trees is acquiring suitable land in the Bristol-Avon Catchment Area to create new, permanent forest through reforestation and rewilding. We aim to lock up carbon, improve biodiversity, mitigate flooding through natural means and to create opportunities for the public to engage with nature. Our first purchase was 34 acres at Hazeland near Calne, where we have planted over 10,000 trees.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Bath And North East Somerset
- Bristol City
- North Somerset
- Somerset
- South Gloucestershire
- Wiltshire

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£1,983,763	£1,227,002	£6,271,283	23
2024-06-30	£4,822,833	£583,509	£5,514,522	8
2023-06-30	£765,190	£311,260	£1,275,198	8
2022-06-30	£219,714	£169,563	-	-
2021-06-30	£335,117	£77,903	-	-
2020-07-11	£516,994	£7,997	£508,997	0

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Mark Funnell	Chair	2022-05-23
Andrew Chester		2020-07-23
Antony Gavin Spittlehouse		2019-12-04
Catherine Lucy Bedford		2020-06-22
Dr Nicholas John Art Murry		2019-04-26
Stuart Hales		2022-01-24
Theo Blanchard		2022-11-28

AVON NEEDS TREES

England & Wales - Charity number 1184386

Accounts

Annual report

Reporting back
on 2024/25

Charity No. 1184386
Trustees' Report and Audited Accounts
30 June 2025



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Trustees annual report

The trustees present their report with the audited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Reference and administrative details

Principal Office

Office 115, 117, 119
Regus Castlemead
Lower Castle Street
Bristol
BS1 3AG

Registered Office

Office 115, 117, 119
Regus Castlemead
Lower Castle Street
Bristol
BS1 3AG

Key Management Personnel

Chair M. Funnell
CEO D. Wood

Trustees

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of this report were as follows:

C.L. Bedford
T. Blanchard
A. Chester
J. Chew
M. Funnell
S. Hales
N.J.A. Murry
A.G. Spittlehouse

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson,
Mariner House,
62 Prince Street,
Bristol,
BS1 4QD

Accountant

Third FD
31 Market Place
Chippenham
SN15 3HP

Solicitors

Thrings Solicitors
2 Queen Square
Bath BA1 2HQ

Bankers

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

The Co-operative Bank p.l.c.
P.O. Box 101 1 Balloon Street
Manchester M60 4EP

Triodos Bank
Deanery Road
Bristol
BS1 5AS

Welcome



Welcome from the Chair

Looking back on another landmark year for Avon Needs Trees, the statistics tell such an impressive story. But it's the individual acts of commitment and kindness that really stick with you.

The volunteer who would cycle 25 miles, plant trees all day, then cycle home. The couple in their 70s who'd turn up in all weathers to help create woodlands they want to leave to future generations. The donors who'd write the most moving, beautiful messages in response to our fundraisers. The colleagues who have created the most selfless and supportive workplace culture I have known.

So when we read yet more headlines about ecological collapse and climate breakdown, about the declining resilience of woodlands in State of The UK's Trees And Woods 2025, let's also think of this collective response. Of the 1,600 ANT volunteers who planted over 18,000 trees and completed Great Avon Wood - the biggest new woodland the area has seen in a generation. The hundreds of thousands of pounds donated to buy the trees and the equipment we needed. And the myriad stories and motivations behind these acts of commitment and kindness.

It feels like a movement. And its momentum has attracted a level of support we could only have dreamed of several years ago. Thanks to funding from Defra, Triodos Bank and West of England Combined Authority, we completed the purchase of Wick Farm in May 2024 and set out our ambitious vision for the vast Lower Chew Forest. Next year's report will see yet another step change in our collective impact.

Once again my heartfelt thanks go to the tireless team, to our funders and donors, and of course to our wonderful volunteers and volunteer leaders. We are profoundly grateful for all your support.

Mark Funnell, Chair

Introduction from the Chief Executive

For Avon Needs Trees, this has been a year defined by scale. From our planting on the ground and beyond, the ambitious scale of our undertaking has never been greater.

In May of 2024, we successfully purchased the 422-acre site for our latest woodland, Lower Chew Forest. This year, our work on that land could begin in earnest. Establishing a woodland of this size, with its protection in perpetuity always in mind, demands a breadth of skill and commitment. I take pride in how the team have delivered.

At the same time, our work for the development phase of Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew has been intensive and wide-ranging. The possibilities for woodland creation, habitat connectivity across the valley, social impact, and the potential amplification of our sites' own impact, have been rewarding to explore. As Avon Needs Trees moves forward, we are increasingly convinced it is this kind of targeted, landscape-scale thinking that is needed most.

This year has been successful only through the effort of many. Thank you to the staff team, who navigated the year with skill, patience, and good humour. Thank you to our many volunteers and to our volunteer leaders, who give their time so generously. Thank you to our donors, to our funders, and to those we collaborate with, who each play an indispensable role.

Dave Wood, CEO

Our objectives



Our purpose is to double woodland cover in our area by 2050

Our mission is to tackle the climate and nature emergency by buying land to create new, permanent woodland throughout the Bristol-Avon catchment area.

Our charitable objectives are:

- > i) The conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment for public benefit by the establishment and maintenance of trees, woodland and complementary habitats in such areas within the Bristol-Avon catchment area as the trustees shall determine.
- > ii) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment including by promoting woodlands as a means for the public to learn about wider environmental issues such as: sustainability, climate change, ecology and the mitigating need for trees.

Our short- to medium-term strategic aim is to transform our ownership and funding model to build a resilient and sustainable ANT that delivers maximum possible outcomes for nature, climate and people. Our activities that deliver this aim includes:

1. Fundraising to buy land to create new woodlands and complementary habitats and to meet our charitable objectives through the long-term conservation, protection and improvement of those habitats. ANT is evolving its model to make a greater impact by also creating woodland on land it does not own where legal mechanisms for permanence can be achieved, working in partnership with others. Fundraising activities will contribute to our objectives by facilitating long-term delivery, maintenance and protection of woodlands and complementary habitats.

2. Meeting ANT's education objective through public engagement in woodland creation, conservation activities, heritage, ecology and climate change through volunteering opportunities, free-to-access education events, outreach and green skills programmes, as well as participating in research activities.

Our long-term strategic aim is to create a financially self-sustaining ANT that works in partnership with communities to create woodlands and complementary habitats at an increasingly impactful, landscape scale across our catchment area. Fundraising for a growing and stronger ANT operating across a wider geography will maximise impact now and into the long term.



Our organisational values guide our work and inform our organisational behaviours. Our organisational values are:

Ambitious. Our people are nimble and take opportunities, take urgent action to tackle the climate and nature emergencies, are bold in our ambition and scale

Reasoned. We are thoughtful, ethical and reasoned in how we deliver our ambitions

Positive. We are optimistic about the future and our ability to shape it, meeting our mission and challenges with positivity

How we're different

We buy and own land

Avon Needs Trees is different because we buy land to ensure that our new woodlands will be around permanently.

We provide quality aftercare

Because we own most of our land, we can and do plan for the long term care and maintenance of trees. This means our trees have exceptionally high survival rates.

We plant thoughtfully

We plant thoughtfully. Native trees in suitable places - where they should be.

We plant less productive land

We plant on the least productive land, reintroducing space for nature into the countryside, alongside sustainable food production.

We don't greenwash

Our planting isn't just a numbers game. We plant sensitively and appropriately, and not to hit targets to greenwash private finance.

Our projects are near cities

From planting to pruning, we actively encourage participation from all communities at every stage - especially those with limited access to nature.

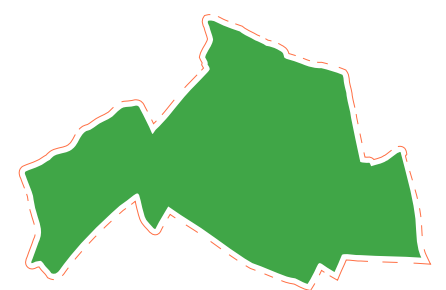
The Highlights 2024/25

- + Planted over 18k trees
- + Completed planting at Great Avon Wood
- + Completed the first planting season at Lower Chew Forest
- + Engaged with 307 individuals across two surveys, 107 organisations, and 15 members on the partnership board to co-design Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew
- + Recruited 11 new staff roles
- + Created a welcome area at our new land at Lower Chew Forest
- + Raised £82,000 from generous local people in a Crowdfunder to plant Lower Chew Forest
- + Received generous donations from 9 partners and 20 companies who volunteered and contributed financially
- + Launched the second year of the Green Skills Course

...the list goes on!



18k+
trees planted



Great Avon Wood

Completed planting at Great Avon Wood



Green Skills

Launched the second year of the Green Skills course



£82,000

Raised from Crowdfunder for Lower Chew Forest planting

Woodland Creation

2024/25 has been a year of growing impact and preparing for more growth. We completed the purchase of the land to become Lower Chew Forest just before the reporting period, now managing for nature 591 acres across five sites. This year we planted the first 10,339 trees at Lower Chew Forest and are preparing to plant substantially more next year.

Our new woodlands this year

On 10th May 2024 we completed purchase of 422 acres at Hunstrete, just south of Bristol, of what will become Lower Chew Forest. The site will become the biggest woodland creation project in the South West in a generation. This purchase was funded by a combination of DEFRA grant, Triodos natural capital loan and community fundraising.

Our existing woodlands

On our existing sites volunteers planted the next phase of 7,835 trees at Great Avon Wood, bringing the total so far to 28,923. A further 400 trees were planted at Ed Woods, including 28 orchard trees. Post planting maintenance and conservation continued at Hazeland, Pudding Brook Wood and Ed Woods, as well as at Great Avon Wood.

Maximising ecological and climate impact

Delivering multi-layered benefits is central to maximising impact for climate and ecology. Woodland creation can deliver a range of benefits to biodiversity, wildlife and natural flood management and climate resilience. These factors were considered strongly during site selection and design this year when planting Lower Chew Forest. This was achieved through considering Nature Recovery Networks and emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategy when selecting sites, taking advice from the Environment Agency on the natural flood management potential of each site, commissioning independent ecologists to input into site design, as well as assessing site design against outcomes for climate resilience (especially soil improvement in open space land use) and food security.

Future Plans

In the next reporting period ANT's main focus will be on completing the first phase of planting season at Lower Chew Forest, beat-up planting at Great Avon Wood and woodland creation and connectivity and complementary habitat opportunities as part of Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew.

We also plan to purchase additional land adjacent to Great Avon Wood in the coming reporting period to build on the new woodlands connectivity.

Avon Needs Trees Land

We completed the purchase of 422 acres at Wick Farm to create Lower Chew Forest a few weeks before the start of 2024/25. Our biggest tasks in 2024/25 were the first planting season at Lower Chew Forest, the South West's biggest reforestation program in a generation as well as planning planting for connectivity and complementary habitats through the development phase of our Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew project.

We are excited about the purchase of new land adjacent to Great Avon Wood in the coming period in 2025/26.



Trees planted in 2025

In the 2024/25 planting season, 10,339 trees were planted at Lower Chew forest. 7,835 trees were planted at Great Avon Wood and any trees which were lost from previous years planting were replaced (beating up).



7,835
total number of trees
planted at
Great Avon Wood
near Bristol

10,339
total number of trees
planted at
Lower Chew Forest
between Bristol and Bath



Future Plans: Lower Chew Forest

As part of the woodland creation planning process, further consultation and collaboration with the Forestry Commission led to the submission of the plans as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) approval process. The EIA was submitted in February 2025 and subsequently approved shortly after. This was the culmination of several years' work to get to this point, with final approval allowing the charity to plan and implement the coming planting season where the forest would be delivered as part of Trees for Climate contractual terms.

Local views of the future

Due to the size of the site, this required full landscape analysis and visualisation, which formed part of the submission as well as part of the local consultation process to help locals visualise how their landscape will be changing.

Biodiversity Net Gain ready

This also formed an essential part of BNG plans which would be submitted shortly after in March 2025 in line with the proposed timeline for generation of BNG credits at Lower Chew Forest and included a range of habitats to provide the best chance of providing sales in the emerging BNG market.

Climate conscious planting

Specifics around species mixture were formalised and modelled against future climate scenarios using the Forest Research's ESC tool. The final plans included a variety of wooded habitat that made for a rich mosaic of tree cover, including closed canopy forest, productive coppice, scrub, traditional orchards, wood-pasture and agroforestry nut groves. Comments from the Forestry Commission summarised the approach:

"This is a large and diverse scheme that has been sensitively integrated with its landscape context. This will enhance its spirit of place and create landscape unity and the balance of scale. I am supportive of the design concept that is a good example of an enhanced wooded landscapes with a diverse treescape ranging from productive woodland, agroforest, orchards to natural colonisation. I think there is also good connectivity across the site and views and habitats have been well considered and incorporated."

Lower Chew Forest: View from 'The Tump'

This visual illustrates the proposed view from 'The Tump' earthwork, looking east.

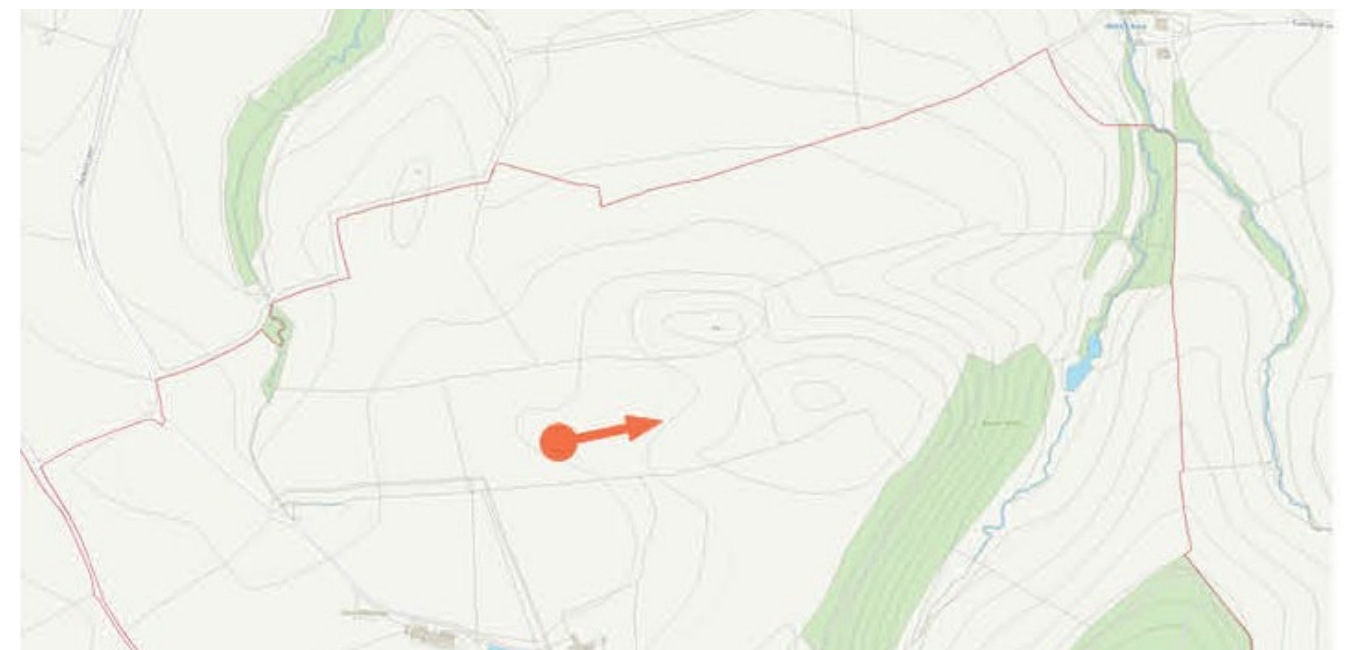


- 1 Filtered views created through use of low height scrub and scattered trees to retain spirit of place.
- 2 Scrub areas follow landform and retain undulating nature of field which is typical of LCT 2b
- 3 Heritage earthwork kept open with open views to the farmhouse and across to Hunstrete and new permissive access created to enhance spirit of place.

Current view:



Location:

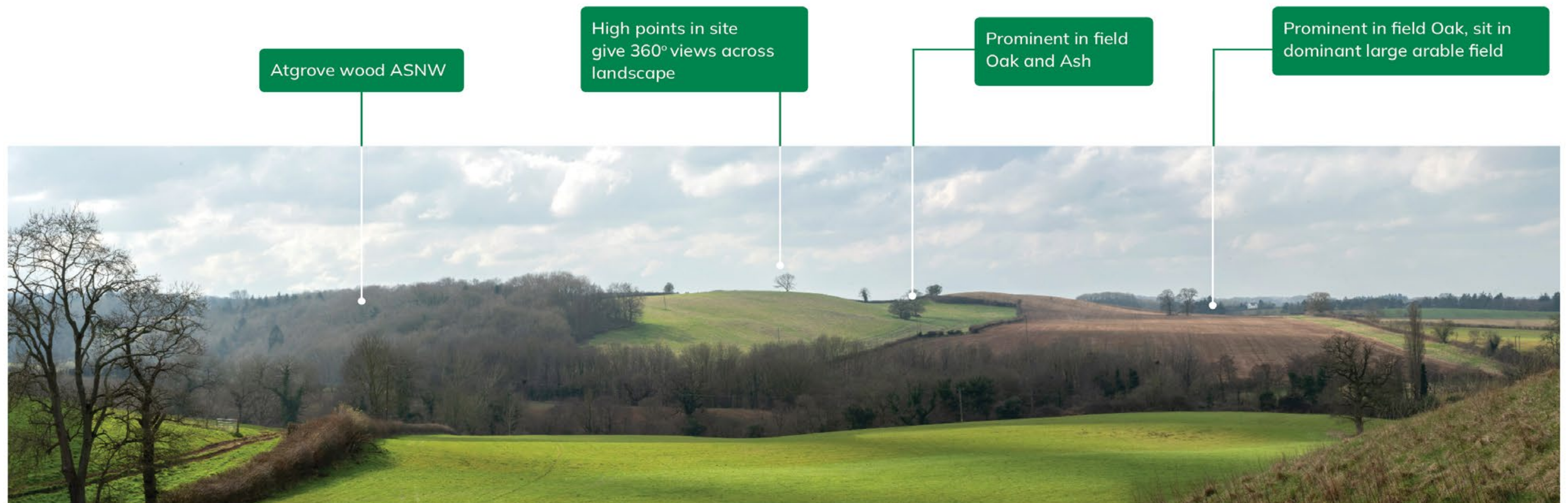


Lower Chew Forest: Viewpoint 2

This visual illustrates the landscape analysis of the landscape from local footpaths looking west.

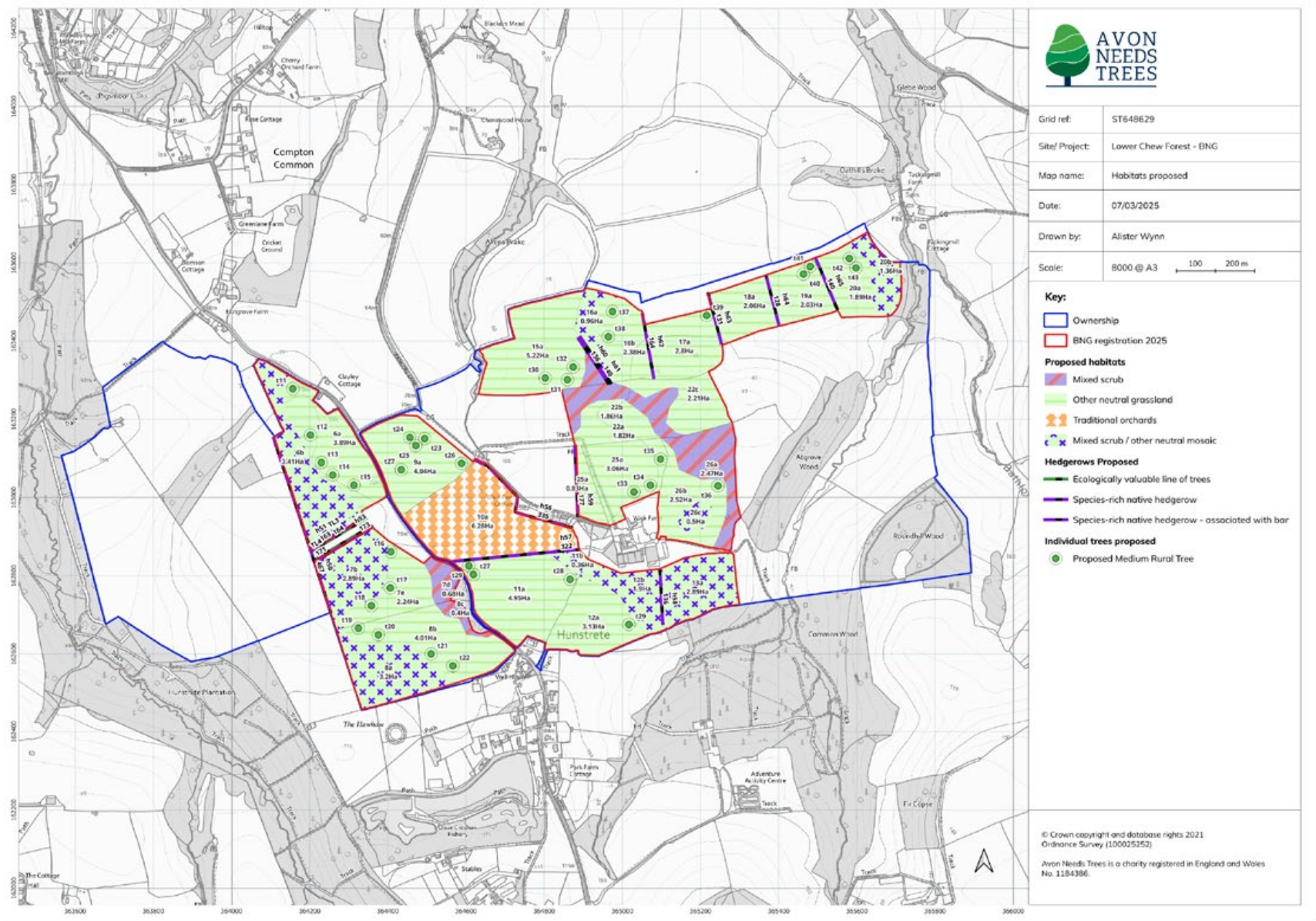
Viewpoint from PROW in Tuckingmill looks into the north eastern corner of the site with the largest arable field clearly visible. Large arable field not typical of ancient pattern of enclosure. Rolling nature of the topography of the eastern section of the site clear from this viewpoint. Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland Atgrove wood visible to the south. In-field trees provide natural features and contribute to spirit of place.

Location:



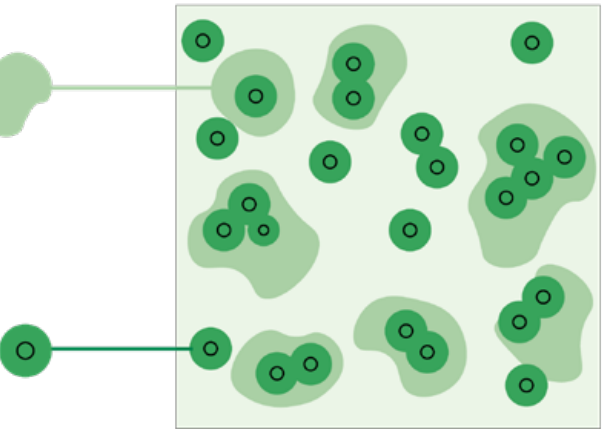
Lower Chew Forest Future Plans: Biodiversity Net Gain

Proposed Habitats in the central section of BNG Registration Area EM-F02.



Scrub with scattered trees
 60/40 whips with 0.75m hare guards and cane averaged out to 2m spacing (2500 stems per Ha) planted in naturalistic clumps with gaps between clumps, meaning approx 1m spacing on the ground.

Scattered individual trees
 60/40 whip with single Cactus guard with 0.75m hare guard and cane



Low and medium density woodland
 Scrub (trees under 5m) will cover 20% (low density) to 40% (medium density) of the ground with neutral grassland / meadow the remaining with scattered trees interwoven in a mosaic. Scattered trees will eventually make up 20-25% of the canopy cover of the area. This will be managed through pollarding to create the typical open grown habit with species such as Oak, Wild Service, Small leaved lime, Hornbeam and Field maple.

Lower Chew Forest Future Plans: Ecological Site Classification

Species mixture modelled against future climate scenarios using the Forest Research's ESC tool. ESC assesses the suitability of a range of tree species, the evaluation is based on the match between key site factors and the ecological requirements of different species, and incorporates future climate change projections.



Impact for People

ANT's objectives of woodland creation and conservation, and education about climate and nature, bring multi-layered benefits to individual people and the wider public. ANT has a particular focus on individuals and communities most likely to be impacted by climate change, for example young people, marginalised communities and the climate anxious.

Volunteering

Over 1,600 volunteers helped meet our charitable objectives, mostly through planting trees, conservation, and providing aftercare. Specialist volunteers and trustees are heavily involved in planning woodland creation, public engagement and outreach. We monitor skills, knowledge and wellbeing outcomes to maximise our impact.

Events: We ran dozens of free-to-access public events at our sites across the year to deliver, monitor and evaluate natural heritage and ecological education, knowledge and wellbeing outcomes. Events range from forest schools to family days to forest schools and story creation events.

Jobs and skills

This year we ran the second Green Skills course, a free training programme, designed to increase employment opportunities for adults who want to work in the green sector. The 6-month programme is a combination of practical on-site learning experiences and talks from industry professionals relating to woodland creation, tree care and land management.

ANT's Second Woodland Skills training programme ran November 2024 - May 2025 with 15 participants and 10 pro-bono training partners. 14 of the 15 participants completed the course with good attendance.



Outreach

This year we ran an organised presence at a range of community events to ensure ANT's opportunities are available to a wider audience. Many of these were stalls at very localised general community events or town-wide climate-focused events.

Equity and inclusion

Inclusion is central to our cross-cutting theme of multilayered benefit delivery. National and local government statistics concur that marginalised communities are both less likely to access high quality green space or engage with opportunities, and more likely to benefit from taking these steps. We monitor internal equalities information to establish how representative our direct beneficiaries are of the general population and take action to redress lack of representation. The following communities are less likely to get involved in our activities without proactive steps: disabled people, children, older people and ethnic minorities. Our marketing, use of imagery and design of events has a focus on children and ethnic minorities, with most of our on-site events designed for one or both communities.

Co-design with communities

An extensive stakeholder mapping and engagement workstream was undertaken in this reporting period and beyond to support the development phase of our Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew project. This involved land owners, local people and a range of wider stakeholders helping to design or shape our Landscape Recovery proposal.

Future plans

The development phase of Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew is due to complete in 2025/26. In this time funders will also determine whether our Landscape Recovery project will proceed to an implementation phase that would last and deliver benefit for at least 20 years. In 2025/26 the Echo Wood project at Lower Chew Forest sees a high-profile and community-focused collaboration between Avon Needs Trees and internationally renowned installation artist, Bristol-based Luke Jerram.

Preparing for commercial trading

Having created our trading body, Avon Needs Trees Trading LTD, this year ANT focused on developing its commercial assets and expertise as a first step to unlocking income from commercial activities. ANT also secured a £2m repayable grant from the West of England Combined Authority's Infrastructure Fund, enabling our commercial team to take the first steps in developing income-generating assets at Lower Chew Forest.

In terms of expertise, ANT formed three new commercial staff positions. Our Head of Business Development post created a senior leadership position focused on growing ANT's commercial income streams and unlocking value from our woodland sites without compromising their positive environmental and social impact, and leading ANT's commercial team. Within this team lie two new roles: our Natural Capital and Nature Markets Lead, focused on unlocking the revenue potential of ecosystem services credits through frameworks like the Woodland Carbon Code and Biodiversity Net Gain; and our Business Development Officer, focused on supporting the operational development and launch of our ecotourism offering at Lower Chew Forest.

Our newly formed commercial team focused on the commercial potential of Lower Chew Forest, working with our Land team to develop and finalise our Biodiversity Net Gain proposal and 30 year Habitat Maintenance and Monitoring Plan for Lower Chew Forest, and submit this to the local authority for approval and registration - an essential step on the journey towards being able to sell Biodiversity Net Gain units from this site under the national statutory framework. According to our models, the BNG value of Lower Chew Forest could be worth as much as £50m - providing a critically important source of capital to both cover the purchase, afforestation and long-term maintenance of the site and potentially also funds to plough back into ANT's next land purchase.

Plans were developed to renovate and bring back into use both the grade-II listed Wick Farmhouse and Wick Cottage, and to install woodland cabins to provide nature-based stays in the understory of our existing woodlands on site.

Landscape Recovery

Landscape Recovery is the flagship programme of Defra's post-Brexit Environmental Land Management Schemes (ELMs). Landscape Recovery is underpinned by its bold new vision for restoring nature. It's an ambitious set of new large-scale, long term financial incentives led by Defra that encourage landowners to take coordinated, joined-up actions for nature and climate.

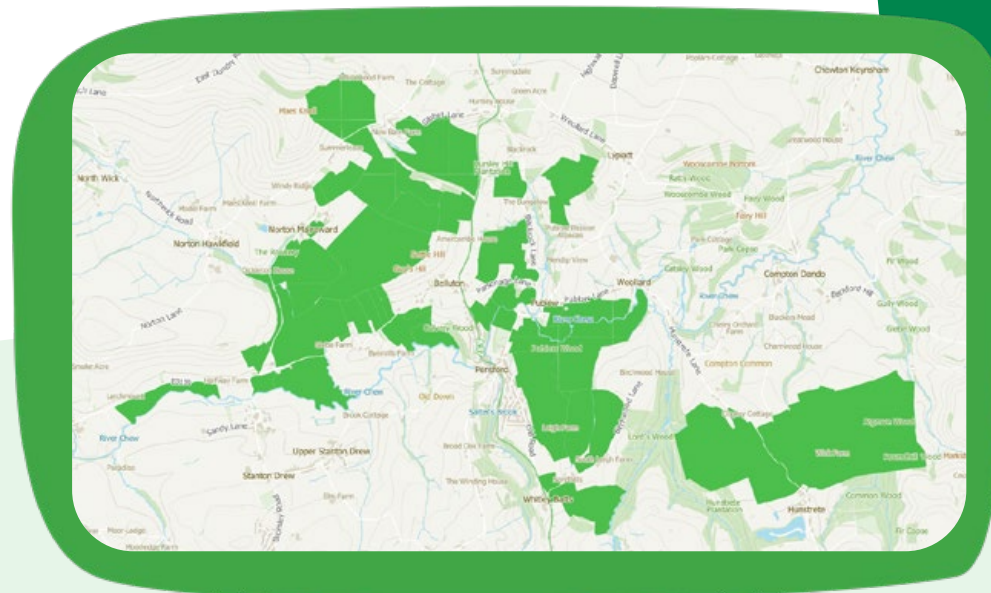
Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew

In April 2024, ANT embarked on the Development Phase of our own Landscape Recovery Project, marking the transition of the kind of work we do from beyond single sites, to working across the Lower Chew Valley at a much larger scale.

We worked with several landowners across just over 500 Ha in the Lower Chew Valley to develop plans that will restore nature, contribute to net zero targets and support rural livelihoods. Great Avon Woods & Lower Chew Forest sit in the heart of our project area - making up 216 Ha. By enhancing woodlands, wetland and grasslands we will be building the natural resilience of the landscape to resist flooding, whilst providing more opportunities for people to enjoy and celebrate the unique heritage and culture of the place.

The Development Phase runs for just under 18 months and offers an opportunity for the project to create a vision for the Lower Chew, to be submitted to Defra in the hope of securing approval of our proposals and long-term funding - potentially 35 years - to make our vision a reality.

The reporting period covered within this Annual Report maps onto the most substantial chunk of our Development Phase. In this time, we undertook the following activities.



Activities the project has undertaken

This year we ran an organised presence at a range of community events to ensure ANT's opportunities are available to a wider audience. Many of these were stalls at very localised general community events or town-wide climate-focused events. Baselineing is a priority for Landscape Recovery, ensuring that impact can be quantified where possible. We undertook:

- + Ecological habitat baselineing of project land
- + Species baselineing across the landscape
- + Soil sampling across the landscape

Landscape Recovery involves visioning guided by the question: *'what does landscape recovery look like in our particular landscape from an ecological, heritage, social impact and economic perspective?'*

Using a plethora of inputs, including baselineing data & insights from the farmers who know the land best, ANT undertook a visioning process for the landscape, seeking a vision that maximised ecological habitat connectivity, in turn supporting increased biodiversity, sustainable food production, enhancement of heritage, social benefit, economic sustainability for rural communities.

Landscape Recovery involves lots of different voices:

- + As a landowner-led scheme, the voices of those who know the land best - **the farmers** - were front and centre throughout the visioning process
- + We undertook stakeholder co-design and a **public consultation** to understand what local communities wanted for their landscape
- + Throughout the Development phase, we worked with many different experts, including farmers, ecologists, heritage experts the Forestry Commission, and Bristol Avon Rivers Trust. Our Partnership Board comprised 15 organisations with expertise in social impact, ecology, farming and business.

Looking ahead

From July 2025, ANT will be busily working on the final submission to Defra, due in September 2025. If the bid is successful, 35 years' worth of funding for nature, sustainable food production and social impact projects could be released for the Lower Chew...funding of this magnitude could be a game-changer for climate and nature, with impact for generations to come.

Achievements & Performance: Our new 5-Year Strategy

During the reporting period Avon Needs Trees finalised a new 5-Year Strategy, running 2024-29. The calls to action from our theory of change are expressed in 5 new goals:

1. Create new woodlands at a landscape scale to tackle the climate and nature emergencies

The development phase for Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew has been a major part of charity work in the reporting period. Our Landscape Recovery project is an opportunity for woodland creation and connectivity at landscape scale. In the reporting period we completed the planting of Great Avon Wood and completed the first season of planting at Lower Chew Forest.

Future Plans:

In 2025/26 we will see the outcome of the development phase of Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew with an implementation phase that could deliver benefit for at least 20 years. In 2025/26 we will also complete planting at Lower Chew Forest and continue beat-up at Great Avon Wood. A pipeline for new land purchase will be a priority for 2025/26. We plan to purchase one area of land and refocus search for further suitable land for woodland creation.

2. Achieve financial sustainability, so we can deliver more

Fundraising goals were achieved in this reporting period with a fundraising team appointed. Much of the reporting period focussed on development of our Landscape Recovery proposals including BNG sales and ecotourism.

Future plans:

In 2025/26 there has been the start of a major fundraising drive especially for the establishment of Lower Chew Forest including Echo Wood. We are grateful for the exceptionally generous donations by individuals, companies, trusts and foundations. Fundraising for the establishment of this major new forest continues. 2025/26 also sees the launch of ANT's BNG sales and the final stages of development of ecotourism and other potential commercial opportunities.



3. Develop our people for today and tomorrow

The period saw a major enhancement of the training offer for our staff and volunteers focusing on increased foundational knowledge. ANT has sought to in-source skills where possible and invest in the knowledge and skills of the charity team.

Future plans:

In 2025/26 recruitment of trustees is a priority, alongside development of directors and staff in our commercial entity. A broader range of volunteer roles opportunities over a longer period of time continues to be developed as part of our Landscape Recovery development.

4. Help our communities adapt and mitigate climate change

Community co-design and consultation around our Landscape Recovery project was a major focus of stakeholder engagement this year. We ran scores of volunteering, outreach and education events throughout the year both general access alongside many specifically engaging our target demographic groups.

Future plans:

Preparing for future community adaptation and mitigation was a central strand of our development work for Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew. Moving forward we hope to have the opportunity to put this planning into action. This includes a widening of our outreach, green skills, green social prescribing, specialised volunteering and opportunities to showcase our learning so far.

5. Extend our impact and embrace our leadership role

Working with landowners across the Lower Chew and wider stakeholders we have developed an ambitious Landscape Recovery plan that will widen that impact beyond the woodland sites we own.

Future plans:

ANT works in an unusual space: our core activity being buying land and creating new woodlands. Groups and organisations frequently contact us for help, being one of the few charities in this space. While our aims are supported and shared at all levels we find many obstacles, enough to put off other groups wanting to do what we do. We have started to work with national and local policy-makers, as well as the wider private and public sector, to advocate for removing these obstacles. We are continuing to develop this work with the aim of making nature's recovery at scale more possible both regionally and nationally.

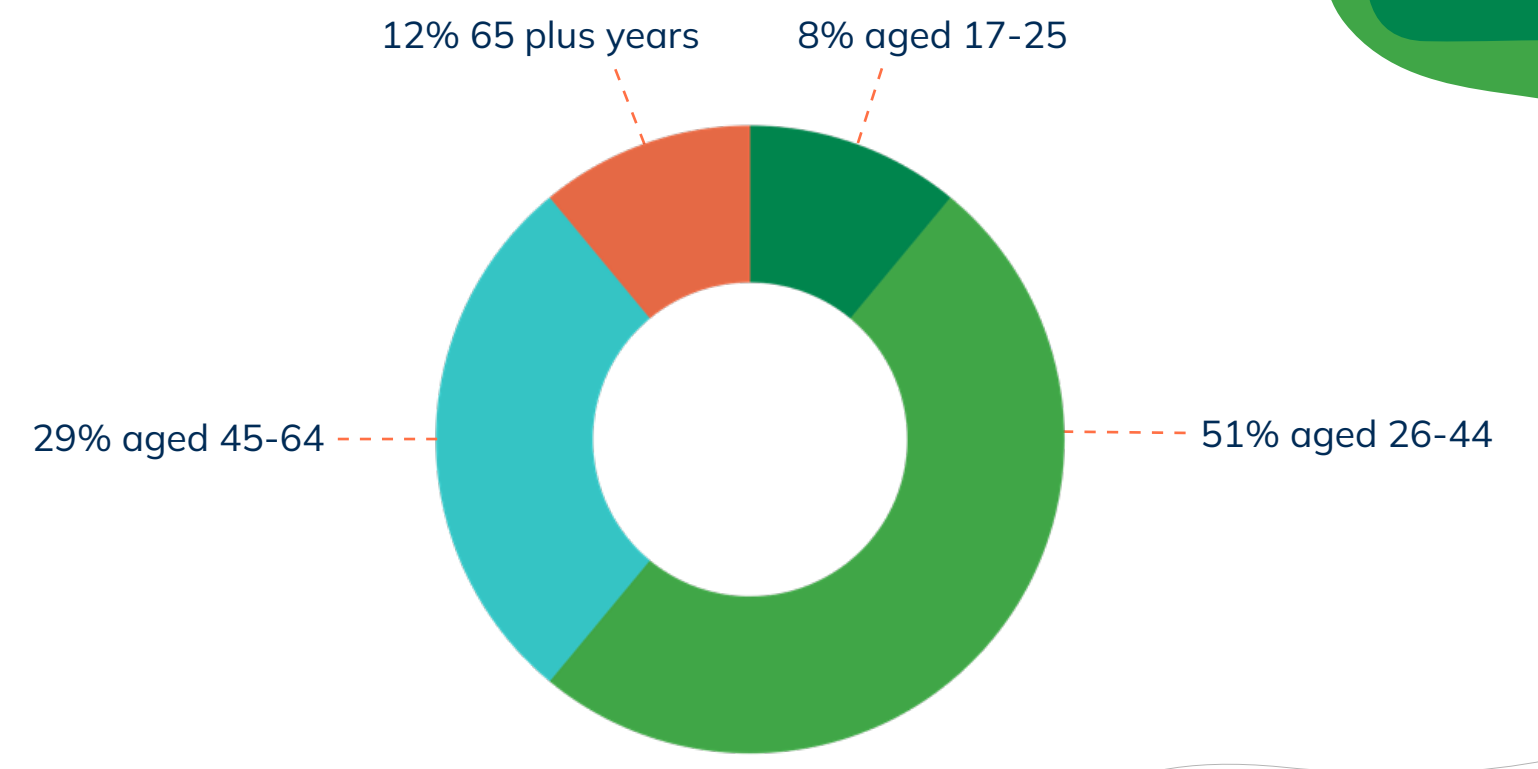
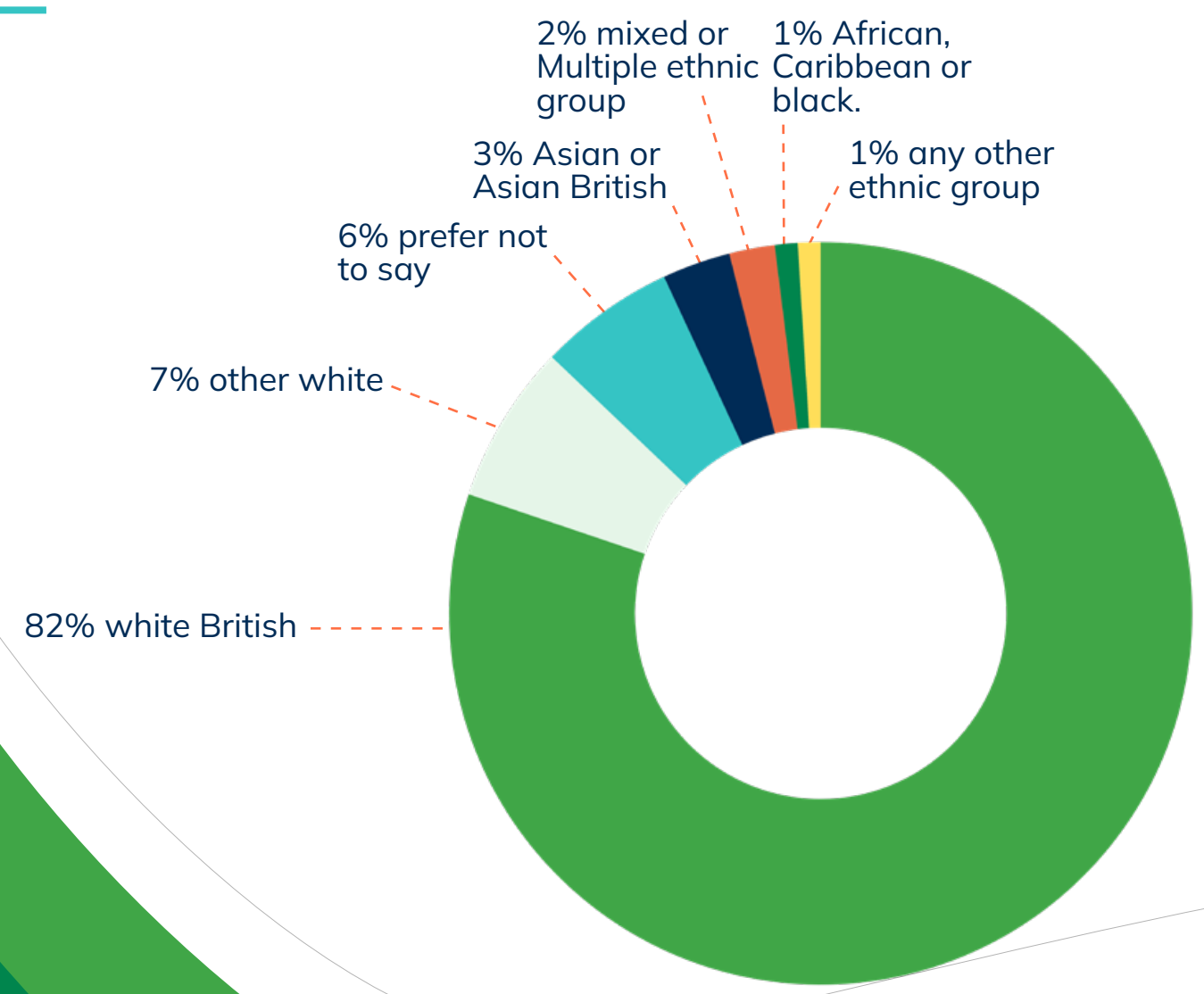
Volunteering

In 2024-2025:

- + 102 volunteering opportunities
- + 1,691 people registered on the volunteer portal
- + 3,415 confirmed volunteer hours, valuing £68,300
- + 85% said they would volunteer again
- + 98% said it was beneficial to their mental / physical health



Our volunteers



Number of people living within 10 miles of our sites*:

Ed Woods
nr Shepton Mallet

149k people

Hazeland
nr Calne

175k people

Pudding Brook Wood
nr Chippenham

186k people

Great Avon Wood
nr Bristol

895k people

Lower Chew Forest
nr Bristol and Bath

787k people



*according to Population around a point (tomforth.co.uk)

People Impact: Case Studies

Pensford Primary School

Pensford Primary is the school closest to ANT's Great Avon Wood site and so the new woodland forms an important part of the young people's landscape. We have formed a strong relationship with the school and pupils have attended tree planting, forest schools and seed collection, while we have presented assemblies at the school. Year 5&6 also took part in a two day story creation workshop to create a new story of the landscape entitled 'The Riddle Tree' based inspired by the 1,000 year oak at our site.



“Our children have become more knowledgeable about their local environment and passionate about caring for it.”
Warrick Barton (Headteacher)

The kids said:

"The butterflies were my favourite part—one wouldn't leave my hand!"

"Checking on our trees with friends—and cake—was the best bit."

"Our story had all of our ideas—it felt amazing to see it published."

"I loved digging the holes and planting trees—there were lots of worms!"



Young Muslim Women's Group

Avon Needs Trees staff have developed informal links with a group of young Muslim women from Bristol. They come together to share their faith and support each other spiritually and socially. Many are studying at one of the city's universities. They are enthusiastic about connecting with nature and planting a tree is an act of charity in Islam. But many lack the confidence about how to access the countryside: "I simply have no idea. Everytime I search I just get redirected to normal parks, plus I'm not sure how safe the place can be." As well as transport and clothing, we also understand the need to provide events for specific groups, space for ablutions and for prayer. We have hosted three visits to Great Avon Wood, for wildlife walks, picnics and prayer in the summer and tree planting in the winter. In June we met the women at the bus station and all came together by bus to increase their confidence for visiting the site independently.

Participants said:

"I learned how to gently catch and handle butterflies and insects, which was completely new to me. I also got to practise being more observant in nature – spotting different species in the grassland and understanding how to use the containers and tools properly. It was a great hands-on learning experience!"

"I really enjoyed spending the day at Avon woods, the atmosphere was great. I felt moved and emotional being around a group of supportive women in nature."



"I truly loved how guided it was, from the moment we got there we were informed really well, and we were well provided for - down to the clothing and food, it was such a comfortable and joyful experience. The demonstration was really clear and helpful, and we were aided throughout which helped eased us into it and granted us confidence."

People Impact: Case Studies

Black2Nature

Black2Nature is dedicated to connecting Visibly Minority Ethnic (VME) kids with nature. ANT has continued to build the connection with Black2Nature to bring young people to our winter tree planting days and on summer visits for tree care and nature exploration at our Great Avon Wood site.

B2N Programme Leader said:

"Black2Nature are extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to work with Avon Needs Trees at the Great Avon Wood over the last few years. Our young people have benefitted hugely with their mental and physical health, enjoying their time out in nature, planting and caring for trees."



Into University

Into University works to break down barriers to social mobility, providing local learning centres where young people can broaden their horizons and are inspired to achieve. ANT has been working with their Bristol South centre in Withywood. Young people have attended tree planting days, tree care sessions and Forest School workshops.

Into University Programme Leader said:

"Our students love working with Avon Needs Trees! Giving these young people opportunities to experience the outdoors in a way they may not usually be able to is a fantastic experience. They still talk about the tree planting in particular, even despite all the mud. We saw sides to students we've known for years come out that we hadn't seen before. We're so excited to keep working with Avon Needs Trees and providing our young people with unique experiences they wouldn't usually get."



Youth Adventure Trust

The Youth Adventure Trust (YAT) use outdoor adventure and one-to-one support to empower young people to fulfil their potential and lead positive lives in the future. In April we hosted YAT for a day at our Hazeland forest school. Around 15 young people plus their facilitators joined us for some outdoor activities including shelter building, stick whittling and cooking and also games like hide and seek. YAT have booked to return to Hazeland this April. Feedback from the day included:

"Thank you so much for the day. It was a pleasure working with you both. I look forward to organising something similar in the future".

"This is one of the best days of my life! I wish I could come back here on my birthday."

Young person from into university attending a tree planting



People Impact: Case Studies

Grief Encounter helps bereaved children, young people and their families find hope and healing after the death of someone close. Planting a tree in memory of a loved one is a symbolic act with its promise of new life. The charity organises outings for families throughout the year in and around Bristol. The centre is in Knowle, next to the bus route to GAW and only 5 miles away.

In July 2024 we organised a family day with a visit to the Publow Oak, where we wrote messages on paper leaves and hung them from the tree. Several of the families came back (plus some new ones) in February 2025 to plant trees with us. They buried clay hearts with them and wrote messages on the tree tubes. They returned in the summer for a walk around the heritage trail, a picnic, wildlife spotting and to check on the trees they had planted. It was wonderful to see the children running free across the site and delighting in catching butterflies to observe and release. The charity chose a 300 year old oak tree at the site to be their special Grief Encounter tree.

There were so many beautiful moments—planting over 100 trees with heartfelt messages of love (the oaks are certainly blessed to start their journeys with so much love and care), children and families gathering to share stories, parents and children gradually relaxing as the day went on, enjoying picnics together, rolling down the "rolly polly" hill, gathering around the magnificent Publow oak and Jeanna reading 'Michaels song', jumping in the leaves and finally walking back to the carpark seeing the snowdrops and spring flowers emerging, it truly felt like a sign of hope. (Claire Fender, GE staff team)

Participants shared the following about what they enjoyed:

"Planting trees and remembering Mummy."

"Everything and rolling down the hills."

"I enjoyed it when I lay down by the baby trees"

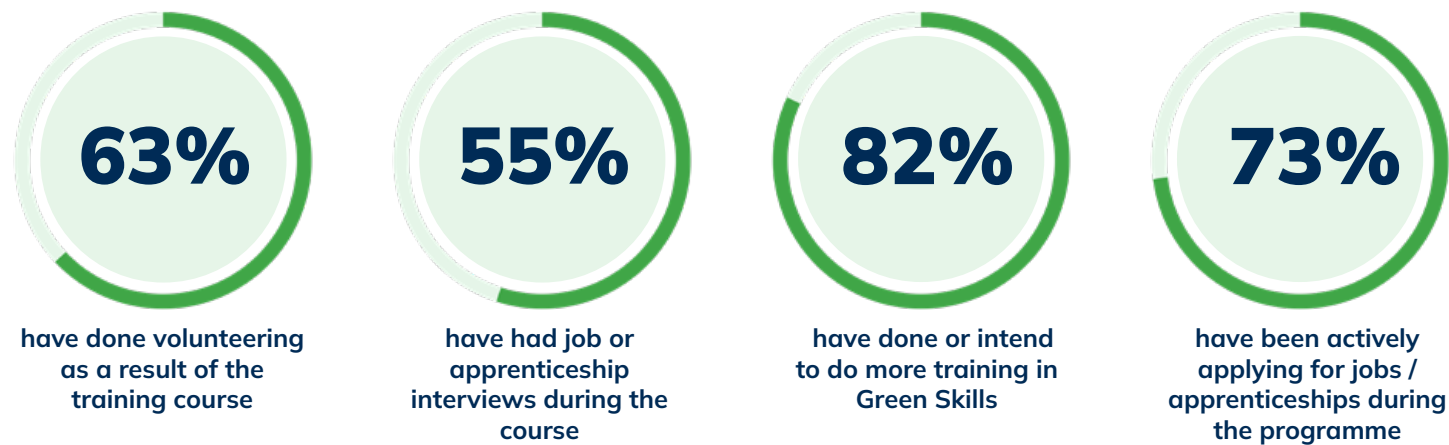
"We had a lovely day tree planting with staff and friends at Grief Encounter, this memory will be with us forever and knowing we can go back and visit our special trees planted in memory of Julie, it is such a wonderful place."

Claire Fender, GE staff



Our green skills programme

ANT's first ever Woodland Skills training programme ran January - June 2024 with 15 participants and 5 pro-bono training partners. The course consisted of 9 day-long workshops and site visits and 2 webinars. All course participants had the opportunity to shadow a member of ANT or FOAT staff for a day.



Of the people beginning new jobs:

- + 3 people moving into full time work in the green sector
- + 3 people have taken jobs not in the green sector (a stepping stone towards a green job)
- + 3 people taking on new self-employed work in the green sector

Of the people undertaking further training:

- + 2 people have trained as an ANT Volunteer Leader
- + 1 person has received subsidised training for chainsaw licence and brushcutter
- + 1 person has begun training in renewable energy consultation
- + 2 people are starting short courses with the Field Studies Council

Key Statistics:

- + 14 / 15 people completed the course with great attendance
- + 9 people have begun new jobs during the course (60%)
- + 5 people have gone onto further training courses by the end of the course (33%)

This means that 80% (12/15 people) have accomplished the objectives of the course within 6 months of enrolment.

We also measured learning about environment, employment and confidence:



Our graduates

Quotes from the latest cohort of course participants:



It has been the perfect introduction for me to start considering how I might access a green skills career, providing a toolkit to make CV changes, resources and networks to research and explore as well as practical skills that have helped to shape what areas of work would be of interest/possible in my circumstances."



As an unemployed parent looking to transfer into the green sector, this free course has helped me to gain confidence and clarity with my future career options. It gave me purpose, structure and sense of belonging and at a time when I was lost and uncertain in term my career and needed specific support around environmental and green sector career pathways."



The course has far exceeded my expectations, it has filled me with encouragement, added greatly to my experiences and skills. It has given me a much greater insight into the range of opportunities available both in job roles and training within the green sector. I am finishing the course feeling a great sense of accomplishment. I am so thankful and happy to have been accepted on such an invaluable course led by such a thoughtful, dedicated and caring team."



The course has been the best part of my life for the past six months"



Each and every day of the course has been brilliant!"



Outreach

Events in 2024/25:

Spring Tree Id walk
 Dundry Earth Day Festival
 Corsham Eco Fair
 Early Morning Bird Walk
 Green Skills Heritage Trail tour
 Forest School with Into University
 Walking the new Great Avon Wood
 Marksbury Primary
 Foraging Day
 Summer Tree ID walk at Hermitage
 Heritage Trail tour at GAW for AWT
 Muslim Women's group visit to GAW
 WENP board - tour of LCF
 Windmill Hill Cubs tour
 Oasis Academy visit to GAW
 Compton Dando Summer Fete
 Summer Tree Id walk
 Family Nature Activities
 Landscape Recovery Landowner Meeting
 UoB Biology Dept site visit to GAW and LCF
 Muslim Women's Group

Grief Encounter's visit
 Family Nature Activities
 Tree Nursery Launch
 Family Nature Activities
 Stories Under the Ancient Oak
 Bat walk
 Stockwood Youth Group explore
 Chew Stoke Harvest Home
 East Harptree Flower Show
 Autumn Tree id walk
 Out in Nature' Autumn
 Wellbeing session at GAW
 Wells Food Festival
 Introduction to NFM - online
 Forest School with Into University
 Story Creation Workshop at Pensford Primary
 Ancient and Veteran trees - online

We ran
 more than
34
 events

attended by
542
 people
 in total

Structure, management and governance

Constitution

ANT is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), formed in April 2019 and registered as a charity in July 2019. The affairs of ANT are governed by its Constitution which established the objects and powers of ANT. In the event of the charity being wound up the trustees have no liability for its debts.

Appointment of Trustees

The governance of ANT is the responsibility of the Trustees who are appointed under the terms of the Constitution. Trustees remain in post until they retire or otherwise cease under the provisions of the Charity constitution. New Trustees are elected by the Trustees then in post after an observation period of at least three meetings, as detailed in the Trustee Policy, along with an induction learning journey and training.

Organisational structure and decision-making policies

Operational decisions are delegated by Trustees to the Chief Executive, in consultation with relevant lead Trustees for HR, safeguarding, health & safety, data protection, fundraising and public engagement and operational reports are reviewed a monthly meetings of Trustees. Policy decisions are made at Trustee monthly meetings with regular and ad hoc Trustee subgroups in operation to advise.

The Chief Executive leads the staffing structure and delegates responsibilities to other members of staff as necessary, based on trustee board decisions and a schedule of authority. The Chief Executive manages the senior leadership team, who in turn manage their own teams. In the year 2024/25 these teams were a) people and operations, b) engagement, communications and fundraising, c) woodland and impact, and d) business development.

During the reporting year a new pay policy was instituted by trustees. Trustees set the salary and terms for the CEO and the CEO sets salaries and terms for other staff. Salary bands for job families are benchmarked to other landowning nature charities, within the same region where possible. These are reviewed annually. Pay progression within salary bands is based on performance against annual objectives and ANT's behaviour framework.

Risk Management policy

The Trustees have identified the potential risks to ANT and ranked them according to likelihood and severity. For each risk they have identified mitigation and a responsible person, and the risk register is reviewed at every regular meeting of the Trustees.

Public Benefit

the Trustees have reviewed the Charity Commission's guidance on the requirement to report on public benefit. They are satisfied that the work of ANT, as described above, accords with its stated objects and provides tangible public benefit to an appropriate section of those who reside within ANT's area of benefit.

The charity maintains service delivery contracts with individuals, funders and partner organisations. Other collaboration with partner organisations are informal, except for a formal collaboration agreement with Forest of Avon Trust governing the joint ownership of Great Avon Wood. On 16th May 2024 ANT registered a wholly owned trading subsidiary, Avon Needs Trees Trading Ltd. The founding directors were ANT trustees Mark Funnell and Theodore Blanchard, and ANT CEO Dave Wood. In this reporting period the following directors also joined the above three: ANT Head of Business Development Aran Shaunak and unconflicted persons Hilary Jeffkins and Carrie Spittlehouse. As at the end of the year 2024/25 the company had not yet traded or entered into any contracts. Avon Needs Trees and Avon Needs Trees Trading Limited are now VAT grouped..

Future plans

At the time of writing trustees are about to launch a recruitment campaign for new trustees.

As the scope and complexity of the organisation has grown trustees have further sharpened focus on strategic, financial and legal matters. Policies and strategies are trustee board owned but at the time of writing a number of supporting protocols and processes have been delegated to the Chief Executive and Senior Leadership. These are mainly employee related protocols.

Avon Needs Trees Trading Ltd is not trading as of March 2026, but is expected to commence trading in 2026.

Our staff demographics

Avon Needs Trees is committed to the monitoring of the diversity and gender pay gaps of our workforce to understand its changing nature and progress toward greater diversity and equity. ANT is not obliged to publish this data but we are committed to understanding our diversity and paygaps and publishing reasonable amounts information.

Because only 25 staff were employed at this time ANT has decided not to publish the full results, except for age, to avoid individuals being identifiable.

All staff employed with ANT up to 30th June 2025 were invited to complete an anonymous survey monitoring diversity and gender pay.

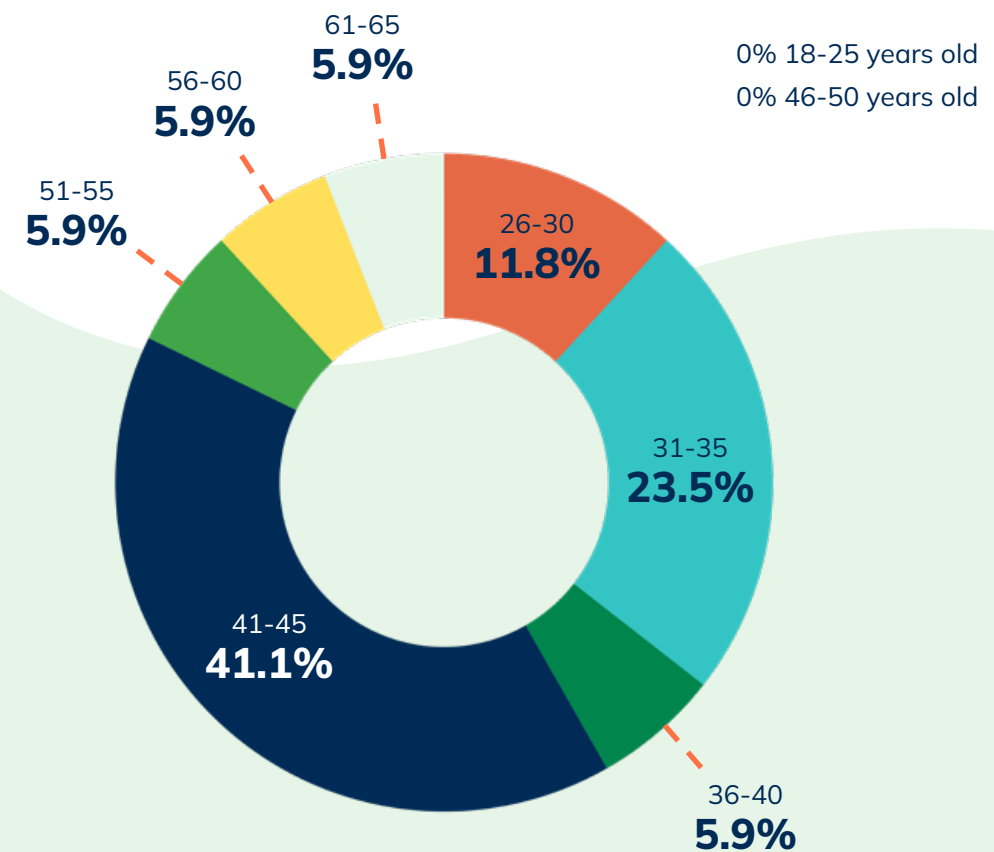
Based on variation from average (mean) FTE salary is reported below. The highest paid demographic is reported in each case, again to reduce any likelihood of individuals being identifiable:

- Non-binary staff were paid above average
- Bisexual staff were paid above average
- Ethnicity: Not published to avoid releasing data about identifiable individuals
- Staff with disabilities were paid above average
- Lower socio-economic background staff were paid above average
- Staff who were not religious were paid above average
- Staff with caring responsibilities were paid above average

To prevent any risk of individuals being identifiable, the largest groups for demographic are reported below:

- Gender: female, 47.1%
- Sexual orientation: heterosexual, 52.9%
- Ethnicity: white British, 88.2%
- Disability: not disabled, 64.7%
- Socio-economic: not lower socio-economic background, 81.3%
- Religion: not religious, 76.4%
- Caring responsibilities: no caring responsibilities, 52.9%

Age of staff:



Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the group and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the charity and the group for the year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and the group and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the charity have no liability to contribute to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson Limited were appointed as auditors to the charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 27th April 2026 and signed on their behalf by



Mark Funnell, Chair

Financial Review

Total funds (net assets) carried forward at the year end were £6,271,283 (2024: £5,514,522). This balance is primarily represented by land and property assets held by the charity, funded through a combination of restricted grants and long-term financing. During the year, the charity continued to invest in woodland establishment and the development of Wick Farm properties, alongside receiving funding in advance to support these activities.

While this has strengthened the charity's overall balance sheet position, the year also included planned investment in woodland establishment and property development, resulting in a reduction in unrestricted reserves.

Total net income for the year was £756,761 (2024: £4,239,324). This surplus was driven by restricted funding for woodland establishment and complementary projects, offset by an unrestricted deficit of £(22,018) (2024: £(68,366)).

The charity's main source of unrestricted income continues to be donations and unrestricted grants, which decreased by 15% compared to the prior year. Unrestricted expenditure exceeded income in the year primarily due to planned investment in the establishment of new woodland at Lower Chew Forest, including costs incurred in advance of associated grant income. This reflects both the timing of project delivery and the strategic use of unrestricted reserves to support growth in the charity's activities.

Staff costs increased significantly in the year, rising by 163% (2024: 82%), reflecting the continued growth of the organisation, with average headcount increasing from 12 to 23 employees. This increase was driven by the delivery of funded projects, with additional staff recruited to support woodland establishment and related activities. While this expansion has enabled the charity to deliver its strategic objectives, it has also increased the underlying cost base.

As a result of this investment phase, unrestricted reserves reduced to £490,231 at the year end (2024: £512,249). However, this includes the value of fixed assets (land and buildings) and long term finance. Unrestricted net current assets were £434,967 at the year end. The movement in reserves reflects the intentional use of unrestricted funds to enable woodland establishment and progress the development of income-generating assets. The Trustees recognise the importance of maintaining adequate levels of unrestricted reserves and will seek to rebuild these over the medium term through a combination of fundraising, development of commercial income streams and careful cost management.

At the year end, the charity held cash and short-term deposits totalling £1,092,824 (2024: £488,631), of which a significant proportion relates to restricted funding for specific projects. The Trustees have considered the availability of unrestricted cash within their forecasts to ensure sufficient liquidity to meet operational requirements.

The charity also continues to manage its long-term loan facility in line with expectations, with interest payments beginning May 2026 and no capital repayments due until 2029.

The charity's financial position reflects a period of significant growth and investment, with increased activity funded predominantly through restricted grants alongside the planned utilisation of unrestricted reserves.



Finance Review

Reserves policy

The charity's reserves policy takes account of the cashflow requirements arising from grant-funded activities, particularly where expenditure is incurred in advance of claims being submitted to funders. Major projects require upfront investment, with reimbursement often received on a quarterly or annual basis.

Based on these factors, the Trustees consider it appropriate to hold free reserves of approximately £218,000, consistent with the prior year policy. These reserves are intended to provide sufficient working capital to manage timing differences in grant receipts and to cover unforeseen expenditure.

At the year end, unrestricted free reserves were £490,231 (2024: £512,249), which is in line with the level set by the Trustees. The reduction in reserves during the year reflects the planned use of unrestricted funds to support woodland establishment and the development of income-generating assets.

The Trustees will seek to maintain reserves at an appropriate level going forward through a combination of fundraising, development of commercial income streams and careful cost management.

Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which the Trustees consider appropriate in accordance with FRS 102, after reviewing the charity's forecasts and current financial position for a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of these financial statements.

At the year end, the charity held cash and short-term deposits totalling £1,092,824 and maintained a positive net current asset position. The Trustees have prepared detailed cash flow forecasts covering the period to at least April 2027, reflecting the current cost base and planned activity levels.

These forecasts include assumptions regarding the timing and level of future income, including the development of commercial income streams. The Trustees recognise that there is inherent uncertainty in the timing and delivery of these income streams and have therefore considered scenarios where income is delayed or lower than expected.

In these scenarios, the charity is able to take mitigating actions, including the deferral of discretionary expenditure and adjustment of project phasing. This approach is consistent with the charity's reserves policy and ensures that sufficient liquidity is maintained throughout the forecast period. Since the year end, financial performance has been in line with expectations and the charity continues to maintain adequate cash balances to meet its obligations as they fall due.

Based on this assessment, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and therefore continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. For the financial year ending 30th June 2025, Godfrey Willson Limited were re-appointed as auditors.

Fundraising

At the start of the reporting period, ANT developed a new 3 year fundraising strategy. Four priority areas were identified; trusts & foundations, corporate relationships, one-off crowdfunder style campaigns and philanthropists

Much of our fundraising activity took place through formal application processes and relationship building through existing networks, using channels like email and social media, following GDPR rules and guidelines. Any reach to new audiences at scale was through press and PR activity.

Avon Needs Trees continues not to use fundraising practices at scale to cold audiences which have the potential to be an unreasonable intrusion on personal space, for example street fundraising. All activities are carried out by ANT personnel. We aim to use channels that minimise extensive use of materials in an unsustainable manner, for example letterbox door drops.

Due to this selective use of fundraising approaches, ANT has not been required to sign up to bodies that largely regulate cold fundraising at scale and seek to minimise any potential negative or intrusive impacts of these activities.

ANT has a donation policy which lays out a clear process for carrying out appropriate due diligence on supporters. In practice this means, for example, that we carry out checks on potential corporate partners to check they broadly align with our sustainable principles and don't work in sectors that would be in direct contradiction to our work and charitable objectives. A similar process is in place for individual donors.

There were no complaints received by the charity about fundraising activity and any activities carried out were in line with fundraising regulations including the guidelines of the Charity Commission.



Funding and Donations

ANT is very grateful to the grant-makers, members of the public and companies who helped make our work possible in the reporting year. Along with CrowdFunder, Bradenstoke Solar Park Community Benefit Fund and Alastair Sawday Publishing Grassroots Fund, this includes:



We are also grateful to the following for their donations: Nicholas Pearson Associates, Elemis, Ecosurety, Piper Maddox, GCP Architects, NHS Shared Business Services, Offspring Films, ZapMap, Burges Salmon, Bristol Uni CAPC, Equans, Loom Digital, Granger Reis, Burges Salmon, Inside Travel, BaseKit, EDP, AHMM, Goodrich Consulting LLP, Savills, Southby & Co Financial Planning, University of Bristol, School of Physics, Sunhouse Creative and EDF

Independent auditors' report to the members of Avon Needs Trees

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Avon Needs Trees (the 'charity') for the year ended 30 June 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 30 June 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 7 to the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the trustees' report, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Independent auditors' report to the members of

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The procedures we carried out and the extent to which they are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, are detailed below:

- (1) We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, and assessed the risk of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Throughout the audit, we remained alert to possible indications of non-compliance.
- (2) We reviewed the charity's policies and procedures in relation to:
 - Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations, and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risk of fraud, and whether they were aware of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
 - Designing and implementing internal controls to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.
- (3) We inspected the minutes of trustee meetings.
- (4) We enquired about any non-routine communication with regulators and reviewed any reports made to them.

(5) We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and assessed their compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

(6) We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected transactions or balances that may indicate a risk of material fraud or error.

(7) We assessed the risk of fraud through management override of controls and carried out procedures to address this risk. Our procedures included:

- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries;
- Assessing judgements and accounting estimates for potential bias;
- Reviewing related party transactions; and
- Testing transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. Irregularities that arise due to fraud can be even harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Date: 30th April 2026

Godfrey Wilson Limited

Godfrey Wilson Limited
Chartered accountants and statutory auditors
5th Floor Mariner House
62 Prince Street
Bristol BS1 4QD

Audited Accounts

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	3	127,094	99,810	226,904	266,262
Charitable activities	4	1,725,698	20,000	1,745,698	4,553,811
Investments		-	8,840	8,840	2,760
Other income		-	2,321	2,321	-
Total income		<u>1,852,792</u>	<u>130,971</u>	<u>1,983,763</u>	<u>4,822,833</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds		-	9,009	9,009	3,909
Charitable activities					
Maintain existing woodland		-	26,402	26,402	38,930
Establish new woodland		794,589	140,213	934,802	365,212
Land acquisition		-	-	-	128,788
Complementary projects		256,789	-	256,789	46,670
Total expenditure	6	<u>1,051,378</u>	<u>175,624</u>	<u>1,227,002</u>	<u>583,509</u>
Net income / (expenditure)		801,414	(44,653)	756,761	4,239,324
Transfers between funds		<u>(22,635)</u>	<u>22,635</u>	-	-
Net movement in funds	7	778,779	(22,018)	756,761	4,239,324
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		<u>5,002,273</u>	<u>512,249</u>	<u>5,514,522</u>	<u>1,275,198</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u><u>5,781,052</u></u>	<u><u>490,231</u></u>	<u><u>6,271,283</u></u>	<u><u>5,514,522</u></u>

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 17 to the accounts.

Balance Sheet at 30 June 2025

	Note	£	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets				
Tangible assets	10		8,149,220	8,116,132
Investments	11		<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
			8,149,221	8,116,133
Current assets				
Debtors	12	345,486		206,059
Current asset investments	13	680,500		-
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>412,324</u>		<u>488,631</u>
		1,438,310		694,690
Liabilities				
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	14	<u>92,687</u>		<u>71,877</u>
Net current assets			<u>1,345,623</u>	<u>622,813</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			9,494,844	8,738,946
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than 1 year	15		<u>3,223,561</u>	<u>3,224,424</u>
Net assets	16		<u><u>6,271,283</u></u>	<u><u>5,514,522</u></u>
Funds	17			
Restricted funds			5,781,052	5,002,273
Unrestricted funds				
Designated funds			-	216,346
General funds			<u>490,231</u>	<u>295,903</u>
Total charity funds			<u><u>6,271,283</u></u>	<u><u>5,514,522</u></u>

Approved by the trustees on 27 April 2026 and signed on their behalf by



M. Funnell - Trustee

Statement of Cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash used in operating activities:		
Net movement in funds	756,761	4,239,324
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	10,022	8,601
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(8,840)	(2,760)
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	(139,427)	1,197
Increase in creditors	20,810	58,949
Interest payable	(863)	37,294
Net cash provided by operating activities	638,463	4,342,605
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	8,840	2,760
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(43,110)	(7,152,663)
Acquisition of investments	-	(1)
Net cash used in investing activities	(34,270)	(7,149,904)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Cash inflows from new borrowing	-	3,187,130
Net cash provided in financing activities	-	3,187,130
Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year	604,193	379,831
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	488,631	108,800
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	1,092,824	488,631
Cash and cash equivalents comprises:		
Current asset investments	680,500	-
Cash at bank and in hand	412,324	488,631
	1,092,824	488,631

Analysis of net changes in debt are given in note 18.

Notes to the Accounts

1. Accounting policies

a) General information and basis of preparation

Avon Needs Trees is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England and Wales.

The registered office address is:

Office 115 117 and 119
Regus Castlemead
Lower Castle Street
Bristol
BS1 3AG

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

Avon Needs Trees meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note.

b) Going concern basis of accounting

The trustees have prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis in accordance with FRS102, having reviewed the charity's current financial position and detailed cash flow forecasts covering a period of at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements. At the year end, the charity held cash and short-term deposits of £1,092,824 and maintained a positive net current asset position. Forecasts reflect the current cost base, planned activity levels and assumptions regarding future income, including the development of commercial income streams, and incorporate scenario analysis to address potential delays or shortfalls in income. The trustees have identified appropriate mitigating actions, including the deferral of discretionary expenditure and adjustment of project phasing, in line with the charity's reserves policy, to ensure ongoing liquidity. Since the year end, financial performance has been in line with expectations. Based on this assessment, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and therefore continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

c) Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from the government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

d) Donated services and facilities

Donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised as income when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use by the charity of the item, is probable and the economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), general volunteer time is not recognised.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

e) Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the bank.

f) Funds accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work or through terms of appeal are for specific projects being undertaken by the charity.

g) Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

h) Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities based on direct attribution where clear, and otherwise according to the percentage of directly attributed costs to each activity as follows:

	2025	2024
Raising funds	0.0%	0.0%
Charitable activities		
Maintain existing woodland	1.1%	5.1%
Establish new woodland	74.7%	45.6%
Land acquisition	0.0%	45.1%
Complementary projects	24.2%	4.2%

1. Accounting policies (continued)

i) Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write down the cost of each asset to its estimated residual value over its expected useful life. The depreciation rates in use are as follows:

Freehold property	0/2% land is held at cost and not depreciated, buildings and associated improvements are depreciated straight line over 50 years.
Plant and machinery	10% reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	25% reducing balance

No depreciation is charged on assets under development.

The charity's capitalisation threshold is £200 net of VAT for items considered to provide economic benefit over multiple years.

j) Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

k) Current asset investments

Current asset investments consist of cash held on deposit in interest bearing accounts with a term not more than 1 year which are intended to be held for short term investment purposes rather than to meet day to day cashflow requirements. Such investments are held at fair value.

l) Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

m) Creditors

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Loans and other financial liabilities are initially measured at transaction price net of any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method. Where the charity revises its estimates of future payments, for example due to changes in contractual interest rates, the carrying amount of loans is recalculated by computing the present value of future cash flows at the original effective interest rate. An adjustment is recognised in the SOFA as income or expense at the date of revision.

n) Financial instruments

The CIO only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are recognised as noted above in note 1(m).

1. Accounting policies (continued)

o) Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme for its employees. There are no further liabilities other than that already recognised in the SOFA.

p) Accounting estimates and key judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The key source of estimation uncertainty that has a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements is depreciation as described at note 1(i) and the amortisation of the bank loan as described at note 1(m).

2. Prior period comparatives: statement of financial activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total £
Income from:			
Donations and legacies	160,829	105,433	266,262
Charitable activities	4,552,311	1,500	4,553,811
Investments	-	2,760	2,760
Total income	4,713,140	109,693	4,822,833
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	-	3,909	3,909
Charitable activities			
Maintain existing woodland	30,125	8,805	38,930
Establish new woodland	289,057	76,155	365,212
Land acquisition	47,990	80,798	128,788
Complementary projects	38,278	8,392	46,670
Total expenditure	405,450	178,059	583,509
Net income / (expenditure)	4,307,690	(68,366)	4,239,324
Transfers between funds	(142,836)	142,836	-
Net movement in funds	4,164,854	74,470	4,239,324

3. Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 Total £
Individual donations	111,094	24,821	135,915
Corporate donations	6,000	27,532	33,532
Grants	10,000	47,457	57,457
Total income from donations and legacies	127,094	99,810	226,904
Prior period comparative:			2024
	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	Total £
Individual donations	160,829	59,529	220,358
Corporate donations	-	15,404	15,404
Grants	-	30,500	30,500
Total income from donations and legacies	160,829	105,433	266,262

4. Income from charitable activities

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2025 Total £
Maintain existing woodland:			
The Swire Charitable Trust	-	20,000	20,000
Establish new woodland:			
West of England Combined Authority	1,145,785	-	1,145,785
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	73,223	-	73,223
Garfield Weston Foundation	30,000	-	30,000
Ernest Cook Trust	20,011	-	20,011
Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts	20,000	-	20,000
The HDH Wills 1965 Charitable Trust	15,000	-	15,000
Complementary projects:			
DEFRA - Environment Agency	421,103	-	421,103
The Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum	576	-	576
Total income from charitable activities	1,725,698	20,000	1,745,698

4. Income from charitable activities (continued)
Prior period comparative:

	Restricted £	Unrestricted £	2024 Total £
Maintain existing woodland:			
Forest of Avon Trust	25,392	-	25,392
Great Western Community Forest	2,737	-	2,737
Establish new woodland:			
West of England Combined Authority	303,961	-	303,961
The National Lottery Heritage Fund	115,500	-	115,500
The Woodland Trust	23,653	-	23,653
Land acquisition:			
Cheshire and West Chester Council	4,043,880	-	4,043,880
Other funders	-	1,500	1,500
Complementary projects:			
DEFRA - Environment Agency	28,267	-	28,267
Other funders	8,921	-	8,921
Total income from charitable activities	4,552,311	1,500	4,553,811

5. Government grants

The charity receives government grants, defined as funding from the Environment Agency (DEFRA) and The West of England Combined Authority (WECA), to fund charitable activities (2024: as current year, in addition to Cheshire and West Chester Council, and Wiltshire County Council). The total value of such grants in the period ending 30 June 2025 was £1,566,963 (2024: £4,380,029). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the current or prior year, except the WECA grant of £850,000 (2024: £nil), as described further in note 20.

6. Total expenditure

	Direct costs £	Staff costs £	Support and governance costs £	2025 Total £
Raising funds	9,009	-	-	9,009
Maintain existing woodland	15,981	7,023	3,398	26,402
Establish new woodland	255,364	457,883	221,555	934,802
Complementary projects	37,080	148,065	71,644	256,789
Total expenditure	317,434	612,971	296,597	1,227,002
Support costs				2025 Total £
Publicity and promotion				5,224
Other interest payable				(863)
Employee costs				160,915
Motor and travel costs				108
Premises costs				37,008
Amortisation and depreciation				10,022
General administrative costs				29,154
Legal and professional costs				41,419
Auditors' fees				13,610
Total support costs				296,597

Total governance costs were £13,610 (2024: £9,960).

6. Total expenditure (continued)
Prior period comparative

	Direct costs £	Staff costs £	Support and governance costs £	2024 Total £
Raising funds	3,909	-	-	3,909
Maintain existing woodland	7,804	19,859	11,267	38,930
Establish new woodland	139,870	124,726	100,616	365,212
Land acquisition	27,978	1,376	99,434	128,788
Complementary projects	25,625	11,697	9,348	46,670
Total expenditure	205,186	157,658	220,665	583,509
				2024 Total £
Support costs				
Publicity and promotion				3,435
Event costs				4,034
Employee costs				76,239
Motor and travel costs				3,391
Premises costs				22,039
Amortisation and depreciation				8,601
General administrative costs				14,649
Legal and professional costs				78,317
Auditors' fees				9,960
Total support costs				220,665

7. Net movement in funds

This is stated after charging:

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation	10,022	8,601
Operating lease payments	-	16,250
Trustees' remuneration	229	2,100
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	540	354
Auditors' remuneration (excluding VAT):		
▪ Statutory audit	10,850	8,300
▪ Under accrual of prior year fees	2,280	-

One trustee in the current and prior year was paid remuneration in respect of running forest school sessions at one of the sites owned by the charity. Remuneration was paid in accordance with section 185 of the Charities Act and as permitted by the charity's constitution.

One trustee (2024: one trustee) was reimbursed expenses in respect of travel (2024: travel).

In common with other charities of our size and nature we use our auditors to assist with the preparation of the financial statements.

8. Staff costs and numbers

Staff costs were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Salaries and wages	692,877	265,950
Social security costs	57,064	21,144
Pension costs	19,679	5,331
	769,620	292,425

One employee earned between £60,000 and £70,000 in the current year.

No employee earned more than £60,000 during the prior year.

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees, Chief Executive Officer, Head of People and Operations, Head of Engagement, Communications and Fundraising, Head of Business Development, and Head of Woodlands and Impact. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel were £250,749. (2024: Trustees, Chief Executive Officer, Head of People and Operations: £85,900).

8. Staff costs and numbers (continued)

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Average head count	<u>23</u>	<u>12</u>

9. Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax as all its income is charitable and is applied for charitable purposes.

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Asset under construction £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 July 2024	8,045,340	-	74,986	4,407	8,124,733
Additions in year	<u>-</u>	<u>22,635</u>	<u>15,942</u>	<u>4,533</u>	<u>43,110</u>
At 30 June 2025	<u>8,045,340</u>	<u>22,635</u>	<u>90,928</u>	<u>8,940</u>	<u>8,167,843</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 July 2024	-	-	7,499	1,102	8,601
Charge for the year	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,343</u>	<u>1,679</u>	<u>10,022</u>
At 30 June 2025	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,842</u>	<u>2,781</u>	<u>18,623</u>
Net book value					
At 30 June 2025	<u>8,045,340</u>	<u>22,635</u>	<u>75,086</u>	<u>6,159</u>	<u>8,149,220</u>
At 30 June 2024	<u>8,045,340</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>67,487</u>	<u>3,305</u>	<u>8,116,132</u>

Land and buildings includes £4,870,396 (2024: £4,870,396) of land purchased with restricted funding and over which restrictive grant terms still apply.

11. Investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Investment in subsidiary company	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Avon Needs Trees owns 100% of the share capital of Avon Needs Trees Trading Ltd (company number 15771034). It was incorporated on 11 June 2024, and it has been excluded from consolidation as the company was dormant in the current and prior year.

12. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	990	-
Prepayments	19,492	11,691
Accrued income	289,155	179,568
Other debtors	<u>35,849</u>	<u>14,800</u>
	<u>345,486</u>	<u>206,059</u>

13. Current asset investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash held in deposit accounts	<u>680,500</u>	<u>-</u>

Current asset investments comprise cash held in notice accounts.

14. Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	22,820	46,385
Accruals	43,644	15,910
Deferred income	2,175	-
Other taxation and social security	20,195	8,083
Amounts owed to group undertakings (note 11)	1	1
Other creditors	<u>3,852</u>	<u>1,498</u>
	<u>92,687</u>	<u>71,877</u>

15. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	<u>3,223,561</u>	<u>3,224,424</u>
Analysis of debt maturity		
Debt due:		
▪ between one and five years	410,050	32,254
▪ in five years or more	<u>2,813,511</u>	<u>3,192,170</u>
	<u>3,223,561</u>	<u>3,224,424</u>

During the 2023/24 year, the charity agreed a loan facility with Triodos bank of up to £3,850,000 for the purpose of the acquisition of Wick Farm (now known as Lower Chew Forest). Triodos Bank holds a legal charge over the site and a floating charge over all assets and undertakings of the charity in respect of the loan. The loan term is 15 years with an interest rate of 2.75% above base rate. The charity took a drawdown on the facility of £3,300,000 during the 2023/24 year, and £150,000 of the loan was assigned to a bank account in the charity's name to be kept as a loan reserve fund. The remainder of the facility was reserved to cover initial interest accrued against the loan for the first two years. Capital repayments commence in June 2029.

Total capital outstanding at 30 June 2025 was £3,557,880 (2024: £3,322,000). The loan balance is shown less related fees with interest accrued at an effective annual rate of 8.213%, determined at initial recognition.

The total interest charged / credited to the statement of financial activities in the current year was £863 credit (2024: £37,294 charge). This comprises effective interest of £255,080 charged less a remeasurement adjustment of £255,943 to reflect changes to estimated cashflows arising from movements in underlying base rates during the year.

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	General funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	4,870,396	-	3,278,824	8,149,220
Investments	-	-	1	1
Current assets	910,656	-	527,654	1,438,310
Current liabilities	-	-	(92,687)	(92,687)
Non current liabilities	-	-	(3,223,561)	(3,223,561)
Net assets at 30 June 2025	<u>5,781,052</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>490,231</u>	<u>6,271,283</u>
Prior year comparative	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	4,870,396	216,346	3,029,390	8,116,132
Investments	-	-	1	1
Current assets	131,877	-	562,813	694,690
Current liabilities	-	-	(71,877)	(71,877)
Non current liabilities	-	-	(3,224,424)	(3,224,424)
Net assets at 30 June 2024	<u>5,002,273</u>	<u>216,346</u>	<u>295,903</u>	<u>5,514,522</u>

17. Movements in funds

	At 1 July 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 30 June 2025 £
Restricted funds					
Land purchase	4,870,396	-	-	-	4,870,396
Lower Chew Forest - development	-	850,000	-	(22,635)	827,365
Lower Chew Forest - operation and infrastructure	43,385	212,105	(225,490)	-	30,000
Environment Agency - Land Recovery Project	-	421,103	(375,014)	-	46,089
Great Avon Woods - operation and infrastructure	81,091	369,008	(450,099)	-	-
Pudding Brooks Woods - operation and infrastructure	7,401	-	(199)	-	7,202
The Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum	-	576	(576)	-	-
Total restricted funds	5,002,273	1,852,792	(1,051,378)	(22,635)	5,781,052
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
Fixed asset fund	216,346	-	-	(216,346)	-
<i>Total designated funds</i>	<i>216,346</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>(216,346)</i>	<i>-</i>
General funds	295,903	130,971	(175,624)	238,981	490,231
Total unrestricted funds	512,249	130,971	(175,624)	22,635	490,231
Total funds	5,514,522	1,983,763	(1,227,002)	-	6,271,283

Purposes of restricted funds

Land purchase Grant funding and donations to be directly invested in land. Funds invested in land for which the funder retains an ongoing right to clawback the funds should the charity breach land use restrictions are carried forward, this includes amounts in the current year received from CWAC for the purchase of Wick Farm. Where the funder or doner does not retain such right related restrictions are considered discharged on purchase.

17. Movements in funds (continued)

Purposes of restricted funds (continued)

Lower Chew Forest - development	To develop and maintain the woodland at Lower Chew Forest, funded by WECA.
Lower Chew Forest - operation and infrastructure	To establish and maintain the woodland at Lower Chew Forest.
Environment Agency - Land recovery project	Developing plans with other land owners to support sustainable landscape recovery.
Great Avon Woods - operation and infrastructure	To establish and maintain the woodland at Great Avon Woods.
Pudding Brooks Woods - operation and infrastructure	To establish and maintain the woodland at Pudding Brook Woods.
The Friends of Westonbirt Arboretum	To develop and maintain woodland.

Purposes of designated funds

Fixed asset fund To represent value of unrestricted funds used in fixed asset purchases, excluding any long term liabilities secured against those fixed assets. The acquisition of Wick farm for the sum of £7,073,270 is not represented in this fund due to this amount being covered by restricted funds and long term liabilities.

Transfers between funds

Transfers between funds represent the purchases of fixed assets with restricted funding, upon which there are no on-going restrictions, and the release of designated funds to general funds, for which the board has no on-going purpose.

17. Movements in funds (continued)

Prior year comparative	At 1 July 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers between funds £	At 30 June 2024 £
Restricted funds					
Land purchase Hazeland - operation and infrastructure	826,516	4,193,265	(23,482)	(125,903)	4,870,396
Puttying Brooks Woods - operation and infrastructure	2,305	-	(15,158)	12,853	-
Great Avon Woods - operation and infrastructure	7,967	2,737	(3,303)	-	7,401
Ed Woods - tree	631	454,558	(299,346)	(74,752)	81,091
Lower Chew Forest - operation and infrastructure	-	25,392	(26,992)	1,600	-
Environment Agency - Land Recovery Project	-	-	-	43,385	43,385
Wiltshire Council	-	28,267	(28,267)	-	-
WBNP - Healthier with Nature Development Grant	-	3,921	(3,902)	(19)	-
	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Total restricted funds	837,419	4,713,140	(405,450)	(142,836)	5,002,273
Unrestricted funds					
<i>Designated funds:</i>					
Fixed asset fund	145,554	-	(8,601)	79,393	216,346
<i>Total designated funds</i>	<i>145,554</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>(8,601)</i>	<i>79,393</i>	<i>216,346</i>
General funds	292,225	109,693	(169,458)	63,443	295,903
Total unrestricted funds	437,779	109,693	(178,059)	142,836	512,249
Total funds	1,275,198	4,822,833	(583,509)	-	5,514,522

18. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 July 2024 £	Cash flows £	Other non-cash movements £	At 30 June 2025 £
Cash and cash equivalents	488,631	604,193	-	1,092,824
Bank loans falling due after 1 year (note 15)	(3,224,424)	-	863	(3,223,561)
Total net debt	(2,735,793)	604,193	863	(2,130,737)

19. Related party transactions

There were no related party transactions in the current or prior period.

20. Contingent liabilities

There is a potential liability arising from additional obligations under the grant received from the West of England Combined Authority (WECA). Should any BNG units be sold as a direct result of creation activities funded by the grant, the charity is required to repay that sum to WECA up to the maximum value of the total grant claim (£850,000 as at 30 June 2025). Any repayment of the sale value, net of costs related to ongoing management of any habitat created, will only commence after repayment of the Triodos loan secured against the same land holding (note 15). At the year end date, any amounts payable and the timing of the cash outflow cannot be ascertained and therefore no liability has been recognised.



**Thank you to everyone
who supported us!**


Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

 Environment
Agency

 NATURAL
ENGLAND

Landscape Recovery

Avon Needs Trees is a registered charity in England and Wales.
Registration number: 1184386 Castlemead Lower Castle Street Bristol BS1 3AG

AVON NEEDS TREES

England & Wales - Charity number 1184386

Accounts

Annual report

Reporting back
on 2023/24

Charity No. 1184386
Trustees' Report and Audited Accounts
30 June 2024



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Trustees annual report

The trustees present their report with the audited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Reference and administrative details

Principal Office

Canningford House,
38 Victoria Street,
Bristol,
BS1 6BY

Registered Office

Canningford House,
38 Victoria Street,
Bristol,
BS1 6BY

Key Management Personnel

Chair M. Funnell
CEO D. Wood

Trustees

The following Trustees served during the year:
C.L. Bedford
T. Blanchard
A. Chester
J. Chew
M. Funnell
S. Hales
N.J.A. Murry
A.G. Spittlehouse

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson,
Mariner House,
62 Prince Street,
Bristol,
BS1 4QD

Accountant

Magic Bean Counters Limited
Unit 7,
The Old Co-op 38 Chelsea
Road
Bristol
BS5 6AF

Bankers

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

The Co-operative Bank p.l.c.
P.O. Box 101 1 Balloon Street
Manchester M60 4EP

Solicitors

Thrings Solicitors
2 Queen Square
Bath BA1 2HQ

Welcome



Welcome from the Chair

The intensifying impacts of the nature and climate crises are everywhere to see. 2024 was the warmest year on record, the first year temperatures were more than 1.5c above pre-industrial levels. In the UK extreme weather events resulted in more flooding, heat spikes and wildfires. Climate change disinformation and denialism is rife online. And so the need for practical, positive climate action has never been greater.

The good news is that we are seeing people increasingly taking solutions into their own hands. The 1,000 volunteers at Avon Needs Trees planted more trees over the course of 2024 than any previous year, with survival rates of 90% or more – well above average. They repeatedly reported boosts to their wellbeing and mental health, as well as feelings of pride and accomplishment in the difference they are making.

Our charity has also taken its work to the next level, securing our biggest site yet: Wick Farm. Together with Great Avon Wood a mile or so away, the Lower Chew Valley is fast becoming one of the UK's beacon sites for woodland creation and nature recovery. And with its history of flooding, local communities all the way down to Keynsham on the banks of the Avon will reap wider benefits from these projects, as new woodland traps rainfall and slows the flow of floodwaters into the river system.

A huge thank you to everyone involved in these success stories, from our staff, generous donors, volunteer leaders and of course the heroic volunteers themselves.

Mark Funnell, Chair



Introduction from the Chief Executive

2024 was also highly challenging but successful year for Avon Needs Trees. We assembled cutting-edge public/private finance on an unprecedented scale for creating priority habitats: £7m to purchase Wick Farm to create Lower Chew Forest, the biggest new woodland in the south west in a generation. We were also accepted into the second round development phase of Landscape Recovery, a 25-year plus DEFRA scheme in its new Environmental Land Management programme. Landscape recovery in the Lower Chew will see ANT join with a group of local landowners to plan ecological and social impact on an unprecedented scale over many years to come.

Our staff team doubled over the course of 2024 to meet the challenges of these significant projects. Projects on this ambitious scale cannot be achieved without the passion and hard work of our staff team, trustees and volunteers. We can also only do what we do with the help of our funders, partners, corporate supporters and the public who gave an amazing £172,000 to a single crowdfunder in 2024 alone. Thank you!

Dave Wood, CEO

Our objectives



Our purpose is to double woodland cover in our area by 2050

Our mission is to tackle the climate and nature emergency by buying land to create new, permanent woodland throughout the Bristol-Avon catchment area.

Our charitable objectives are:

- > i) The conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment for public benefit by the establishment and maintenance of trees, woodland and complementary habitats in such areas within the Bristol-Avon catchment area as the trustees shall determine.
- > ii) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment including by promoting woodlands as a means for the public to learn about wider environmental issues such as: sustainability, climate change, ecology and the mitigating need for trees.

Our short- to medium-term strategic aim is to transform our ownership and funding model to build a resilient and sustainable ANT that delivers maximum possible outcomes for nature, climate and people. Our activities that deliver this aim includes:

1. Fundraising to buy land to create new woodlands and complementary habitats and to meet our charitable objectives through the long-term conservation, protection and improvement of those habitats. ANT is evolving its model to make a greater impact by also creating woodland on land it does not own where legal mechanisms for permanence can be achieved, working in partnership with others. Fundraising activities will contribute to our objectives by facilitating long-term delivery, maintenance and protection of woodlands and complementary habitats.

2. Meeting ANT's education objective through public engagement in woodland creation, conservation activities, heritage, ecology and climate change through volunteering opportunities, free-to-access education events, outreach and green skills programmes, as well as participating in research activities.

Our long-term strategic aim is to create a financially self-sustaining ANT that works in partnership with communities to create woodlands and complementary habitats at an increasingly impactful, landscape scale across our catchment area. Fundraising for a growing and stronger ANT operating across a wider geography will maximise impact now and into the long term.



Our organisational values guide our work and inform our organisational behaviours. Our organisational values are:

Ambitious. Our people are nimble and take opportunities, take urgent action to tackle the climate and nature emergencies, are bold in our ambition and scale

Reasoned. We are thoughtful, ethical and reasoned in how we deliver our ambitions

Positive. We are optimistic about the future and our ability to shape it, meeting our mission and challenges with positivity

How we're different

We buy and own land

Avon Needs Trees is different because we buy land to ensure that our new woodlands will be around permanently.

We provide quality aftercare

Because we own most of our land, we can and do plan for the long term care and maintenance of trees. This means our trees have exceptionally high survival rates.

We plant thoughtfully

We plant thoughtfully. Native trees in suitable places - where they should be.

We plant unproductive land

We plant on the least productive land, reintroducing space for nature into the countryside, alongside sustainable food production.

We don't greenwash

Our planting isn't just a numbers game. We plant sensitively and appropriately, and not to hit targets to greenwash private finance.

Our projects are near cities

From planting to pruning, we actively encourage participation from all communities at every stage - especially those with limited access to nature.

The Highlights 2023/24

- + Planted over 15k trees
- + Secured £4m loan in private funding
- + Raised over £170k via Crowdfunder
- + Awarded place in Landscape Recovery round two
- + Set up a Trading Body
- + Recruited 5 new staff roles
- + Launched Green Skills Course
- + Launched new Volunteer Portal
- + Purchased a 422 acre site

...the list goes on!



15,000+
trees planted



422 acre
site purchase
Located between Bristol and Bath



Volunteer Portal

launched a bespoke information and sign-up service for our volunteers



£4 Million
loan secured
and £170k raised via Crowdfunder

Woodland Creation

2024 has been a further substantial year of growth for the charity, with the number of acres of land managed for nature and woodland creation increasing from 169 acres across four sites to 591 acres across five sites.

Our new woodlands this year

On 10th May 2024 we completed purchase of 422 acres at Hunstrete, just south of Bristol, of what will become Lower Chew Forest. The site will become the biggest woodland creation project in the South West in a generation. This purchase was funded by a combination of DEFRA grant, Triodos natural capital loan and community fundraising.

Our existing woodlands

On our existing sites volunteers planted the next phase of 14,931 trees at Great Avon Wood, bringing the total to 21,088. A further 400 trees were planted at Ed Woods, including 28 orchard trees. Post planting maintenance and conservation continued at Hazeland and Pudding Brook Wood, as well as at Great Avon Wood and Ed Woods.

Maximising ecological and climate impact

Delivering multi-layered benefits is central to maximising impact for climate and ecology. Woodland creation can deliver a range of benefits to biodiversity, wildlife and natural flood management and climate resilience. These factors were considered strongly during site selection and design this year when purchasing Lower Chew Forest. This was achieved through considering Nature Recovery Networks and emerging Local Nature Recovery Strategy when selecting sites, taking advice from the Environment Agency on the natural flood management potential of each site, commissioning independent ecologists to input into site design, as well as assessing site design against outcomes for climate resilience (especially soil improvement in open space land use) and food security.

Future Plans

In the next reporting period ANT's main focus will be on the first planting season at Lower Chew Forest, completing planting at Great Avon Wood and woodland creation and connectivity opportunities as part of Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew. ANT also intends to scope funding options to work with communities to identify wider opportunities for woodland creation across our catchment area.

Land - a year of growth

Purchase of 422 acres between Bristol and Bath, to create Lower Chew Forest, which will see 100,000 native trees planted, the creation of new wetlands, miles of new hedgerows and species-rich grassland habitats.

This 422 acre site will be the South West's biggest woodland creation project in a generation, and saw huge growth in ANT's collective estate.



Trees planted in 2024

In the 2023/24 planting season, 14,931 trees were planted at Great Avon Wood.



21,088

total number of trees
now planted
at Great Avon Wood
near Bristol

400

new trees planted at Ed Woods
including 28 orchard trees
near Shepton Mallet

**Post planting
Maintenance**

at Hazeland
near Calne

**Post planting
Maintenance**

at Pudding Brook Wood
nr Chippenham

Future plans: Lower Chew Forest

Our woodlands at Lower Chew Forest

Over 30 different native species, such as Hawthorn, Oak, Hazel, and Willow- a mix of vital habitats for a wide range of birds, insects and mammals. Host to aphids, caterpillars and butterflies, which form the base of many food chains.

An important food source for some of the UK's vanishing butterflies. Purging buckthorn is the main food source for the brimstone, the beautiful early spring butterfly; large and sulphurous yellow. The spindle is home to the holly blue, an increasingly rare and beautiful blue butterfly.

Planting for a changing climate. Species such as Sessile Oak, Hornbeam and Small-leaved Lime

Benefits to vulnerable and indicator species such as the Lesser Spotted Woodpecker and the Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary (for woodlands).

A focus on species

Large areas of open space will favour notable species such as Brown Hare which are prevalent on site.

Glades and open fields with woodland edge will benefit Barn Owls, Farmland birds and the Bat species that are present on site

Large areas of scrub with Blackthorn will benefit Brown Hairstreak Butterflies, a priority species in the area

Removal of Maize production particularly on the steeper eastern section of the site will benefit river species and reduce silt buildup

Hazel features as a large percentage of the overall species mix and will benefit Hazel Dormouse which are historically recorded as nearby.

Hedgerows

In the UK, over the last 75 years hedgerows have declined by as much as 50%. This has had devastating consequences for the creatures that depends on them - some species such as hazel dormouse facing much steeper losses and an uncertain future.

At Lower Chew Forest, we're planting 4 km of new hedgerows. These restored nature superhighways will provide an invaluable shelter for much of the UK's beleaguered biodiversity - providing space for nature to rest, feed and ultimately thrive.

They will connect isolated wildlife habitats and provide refuge for farmland wildlife, supporting rare species like the hairstreak butterfly, cirl bunting, and dormouse.

Our wildflower meadows

The UK was once famous for species-rich grasslands, which developed over a period of around 6,000 years. Since the 1930s we have lost 97% of these spaces.

Wetland and waterways

Once a common and essential part of the landscape - but over the last 500 years England has lost 90% of these natural wonders.

Species like the Daubentons Bat will use our wetlands to feed. By flying low and skimming over the water's surface, these remarkable creatures will feed on the Mayflies, Midges and Caddisflies that need wet environments to survive.

Indicator & vulnerable species that will benefit include the otter and European Eel and Atlantic Salmon

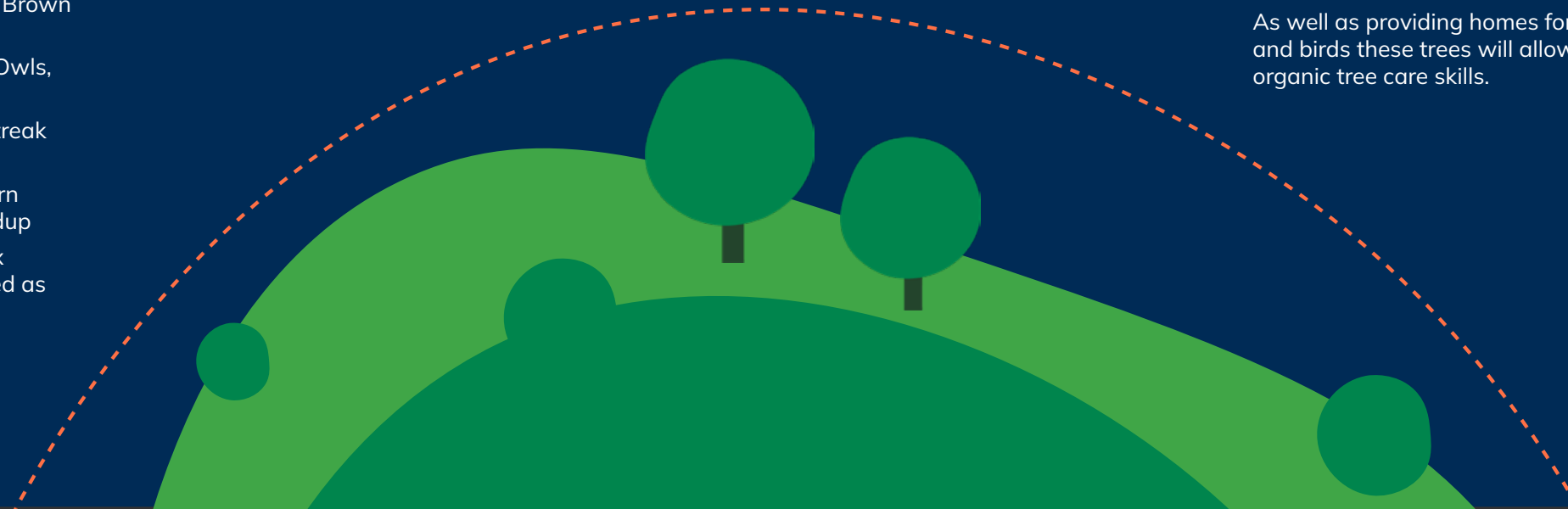
The orchard

We're creating a traditionally managed orchard for rare heritage fruit trees.

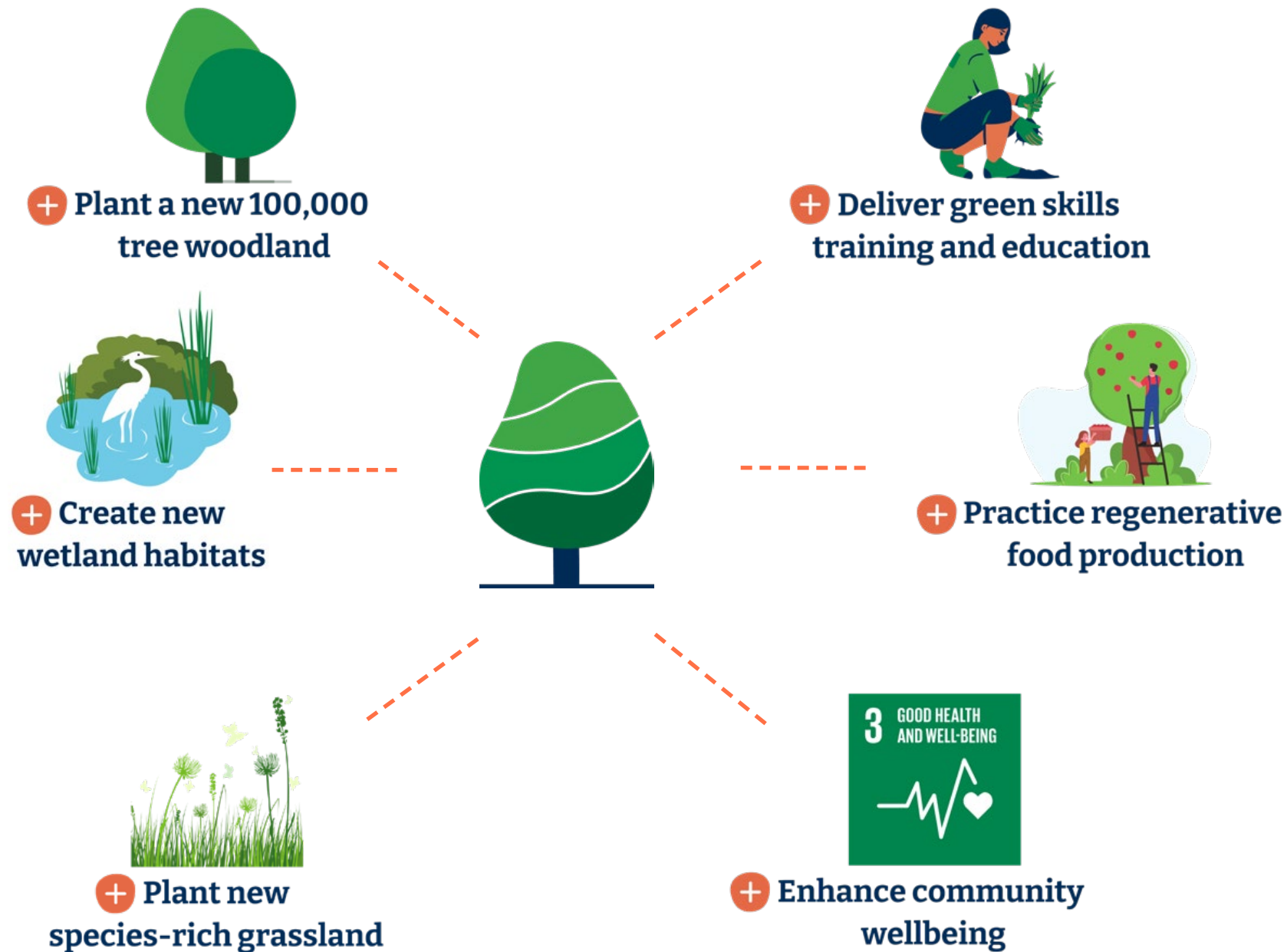
Traditional orchards have declined by as much as 81% in England and Wales since 1900, taking with them hundreds of years of precious crop diversity.

We will be providing space for these historic varieties that are a unique part of our environmental and culinary heritage, creating a living seed bank that bears fruit.

As well as providing homes for native pollinators including bats, bees and birds these trees will allow volunteers the opportunity to learn organic tree care skills.



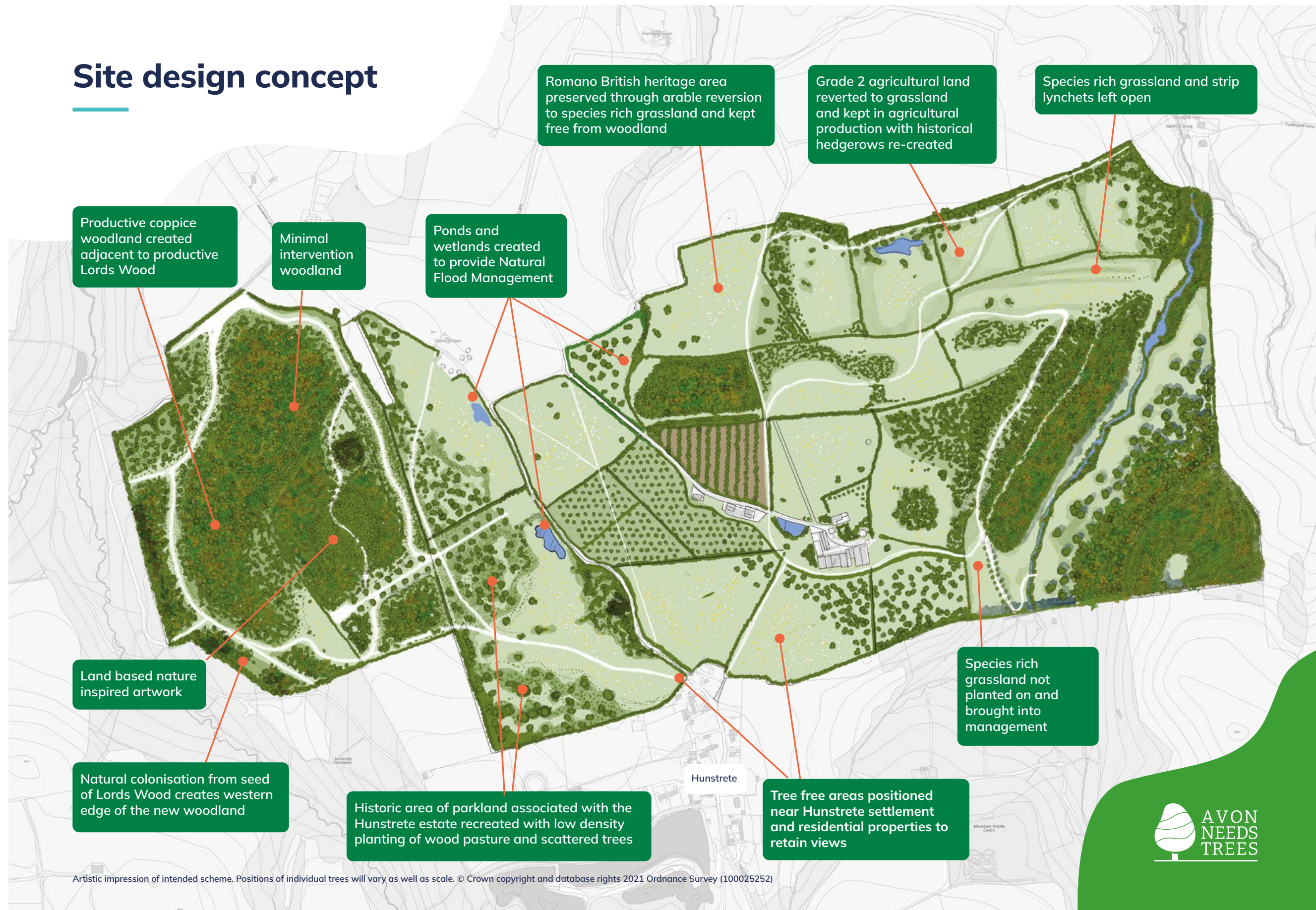
Future Plans: Lower Chew Forest



Our new forest will have a significant impact on climate nature and people:

- + Store or avert 54,000 tonnes of carbon over the next 30 years
- + Create £162m economic benefit
- + 246% net increase in habitat value for wildlife by 2030
- + 5km of new footpaths
- + Give marginalised groups access to outdoor spaces
- + Develop a climate and nature education hub

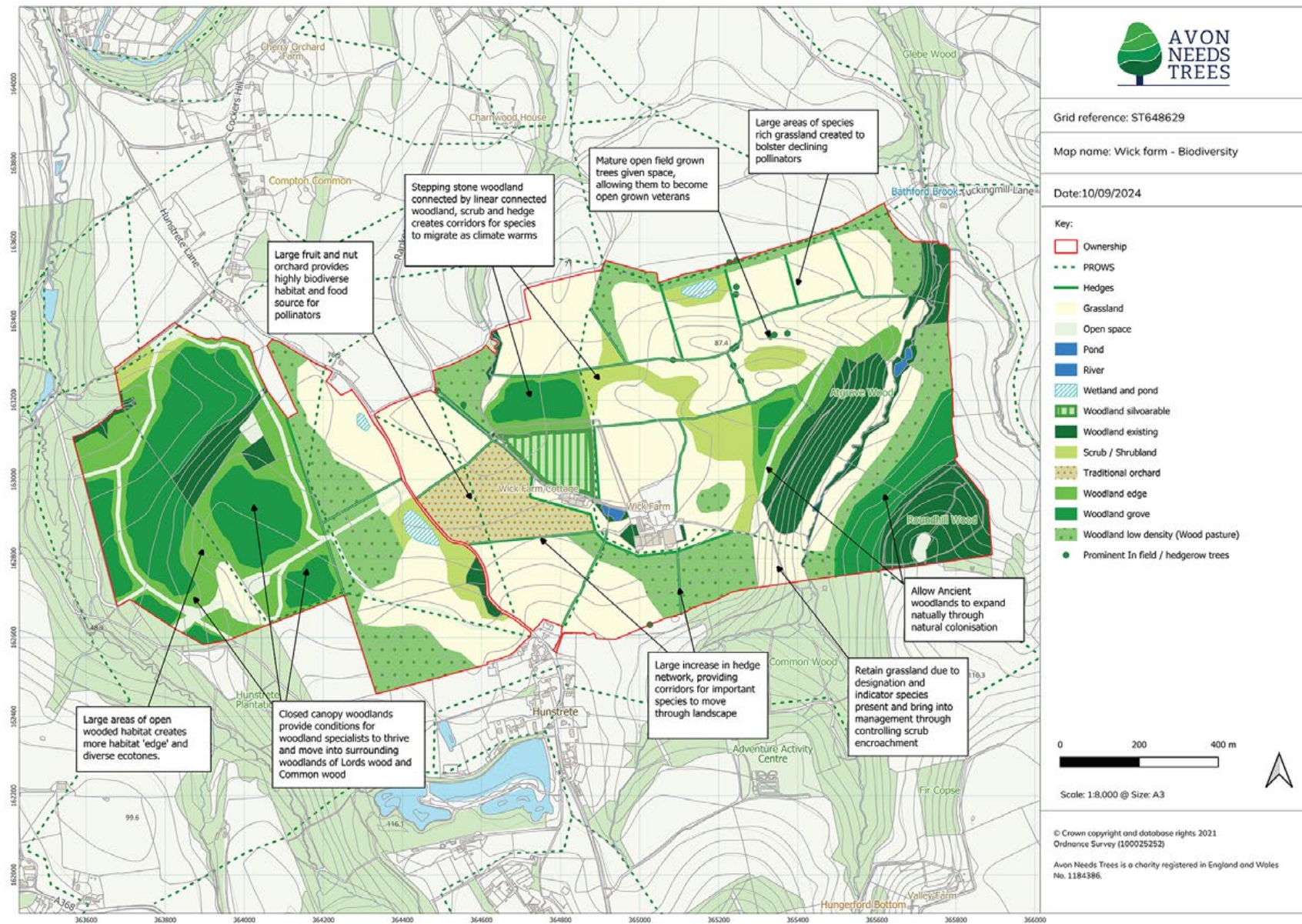
Site design concept



Artistic impression of intended scheme. Positions of individual trees will vary as well as scale. © Crown copyright and database rights 2021 Ordnance Survey (100025252)



Lower Chew Forest: Creating Biodiverse Habitats



* Current projected net increase based on Natural England's statutory biodiversity metric



246% net increase in habitat value for wildlife by 2030*

At Lower Chew Forest we are creating the conditions and habitat for wildlife to flourish and contribute to our regional and national biodiversity targets.

The varied wooded habitat and large areas of species rich meadows will provide refuge and connectivity in a fragmented landscape. Not just for woodland flora and fauna but also for species that require open fields.

Edge habitat and diverse ecotones are maximised through the varied nature of the scheme, providing landscape permeability for a large number of species.

Ponds and wetlands further add to the mix, creating more room for a rich assemblage of wildlife to thrive and move through the landscape.

Lower Chew Forest

Phase 1: Purchase and fees - £8m

- £4m ECF/DEFRA
- £3.85m Triodos loan - BNG credits
- £177,000 Crowdfunder

Phase 2: Establishment and development - £5m

- £1.85m from Forest of Avon Trust
- £2m from WECA
- CPRE hedgerow non-cash contributions
- £350,000 to meet via fundraising (e.g. tree guards, mulch mats and grass seed)
- In progress: £400,000 Tree Fund for purchase of trees



Impact for People

ANT's objectives of woodland creation and conservation, and education about climate and nature, bring multi-layered benefits to individual people and the wider public. ANT has a particular focus on individuals and communities most likely to be impacted by climate change, for example young people, marginalised communities and the climate anxious.

Volunteering

Over 1,000 volunteers helped meet our charitable objectives, mostly through planting trees, conservation, and providing aftercare. Specialist volunteers and trustees are heavily involved in planning woodland creation, public engagement and outreach. We monitor skills, knowledge and wellbeing outcomes to maximise our impact.

Events: We ran dozens of free-to-access public events at our sites across the year to deliver, monitor and evaluate natural heritage and ecological education, knowledge and wellbeing outcomes. Events range from forest schools to family days to forest schools and story creation events.

Jobs and skills

This year we ran a pilot Green Skills course with funding from the West of England Combined Authority, particularly focussed on long-term unemployed people, young people and those who have faced barriers accessing environmental jobs. 13 people completed the course and 9 went onto employment, further training or volunteering.

Outreach

This year we ran an organised presence at a range of community events to ensure ANT's opportunities are available to a wider audience. Many of these were stalls at very localised general community events or town-wide climate-focused events.



Equity and inclusion

Inclusion is central to our cross-cutting theme of multilayered benefit delivery. National and local government statistics concur that marginalised communities are both less likely to access high quality green space or engage with opportunities, and more likely to benefit from taking these steps. We monitor internal equalities information to establish how representative our direct beneficiaries are of the general population and take action to redress lack of representation. The following communities are less likely to get involved in our activities without proactive steps: disabled people, children, older people and ethnic minorities. Our marketing, use of imagery and design of events has a focus on children and ethnic minorities, with most of our on-site events designed for one or both communities.

Co-design with communities

We embrace the principles of co-design and this year we have been working towards good practice. This year we held community drop-in events during the woodland creation process to directly engage local people in the design of our new woodlands. We also met with local farmers and landowners to form a group that applied successfully for Landscape Recovery Round 2. We continue to discuss new projects of any kinds widely amongst potential beneficiaries, people who face barriers to involvement, local communities and regional stakeholders.

Future plans

In the coming reporting period ANT plans to create an Engagement Strategy to implement the engagement priorities of the new 5-Year Strategy. This intends to have a sharper focus on directing our engagement and outreach to priority communities.

Two further intakes of the Green Skills Course are planned and funded. Recruitment of Volunteer Leaders and other volunteers is a priority.

A focus of the coming reporting period will be designing the implementation of Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew. This will involve stakeholder engagement on a new scale and designing wide-ranging benefits for people in a project that will last at least 25 years.

Preparing for commercial trading

In June 2024 ANT established Avon Needs Trees Trading Ltd (ANTTTL) with two trustees and the ANT CEO as founding directors. Since then a further member of ANT staff and two unconflicted directors have been appointed. ANTTTL is a wholly owned subsidiary of ANT and intends to donate its profits to the charity.

ANTTTL will undertake commercial activities that are complementary to our charitable objectives and activities, such as ecotourism that is expected to be launched in summer 2025.

ANT is also preparing to market and sell Biodiversity Net Gain credits in the coming reporting period.

Both commercial activities will fund ANT's charitable activities. In the short term this will include helping ANT to meet its loan obligations from purchase of Wick Farm to create Lower Chew Forest.

Landscape Recovery in the Lower Chew

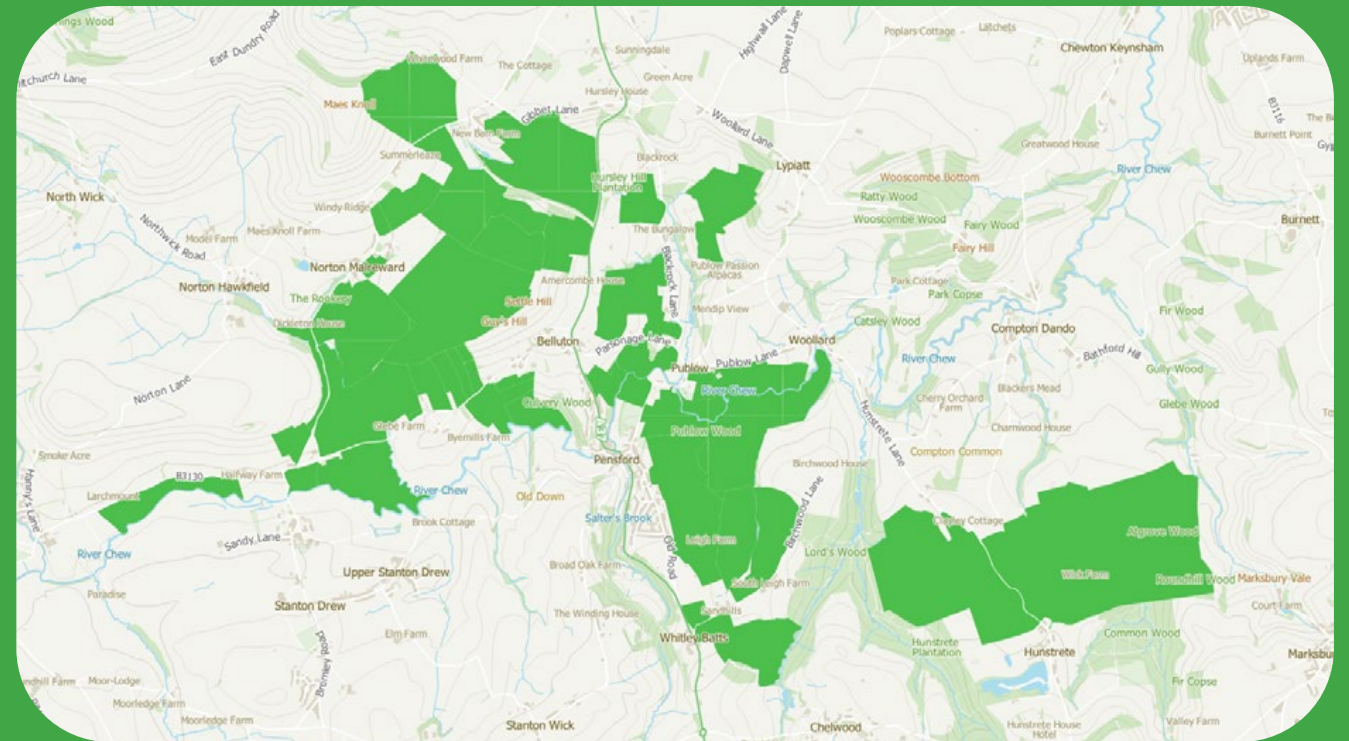
The Lower Chew Valley Landscape Recovery Project formally started in April 2024, after ANT was successful in its application to DEFRA for Round Two of its 'pilot' roll out of Landscape Recovery Projects. LRP represents the third arm of the government's Environmental Land Management schemes (the others two being Countryside Stewardship and the Sustainable Farming Initiative), 22 projects were approved in Round 1 in 2023, and another 34 projects, including ANT's Lower Chew Valley were approved in Round 2 in 2024. ANT, as landowners in Lower Chew, is now leading the project that combines 683 hectares of farmland, woodland and watercourses in 6 farms. An expected addition of one more farm should bring the total area of the project to almost 800 ha.

The story so far

As of April 2024, ANT began a 20-month period of Project Development in preparation for the 20-30 year Project Implementation Period which will start in early 2026 if all the six project plans meet DEFRA's approval. ANT secured almost £750,000 from DEFRA to finance this project development phase (PDP).

The project intends to have measurable impact in meeting the key objectives of improving biodiversity through the creation, restoration, or continued effective management of a mosaic of wildlife-rich habitats, while also contributing towards Net Zero ambitions for the region. As secondary goals, the project intends to restore water-based habitats to improve water-dependent biodiversity and Natural Flood Management, enhance landscape character and enhance heritage. Additionally, through increasing access and engagement to the project area for people we intend to have a significant social impact, while maintaining a high level of food production from the area.

By June 2024, ANT had successfully recruited a core team of 4 staff to manage different aspects of the project, as well as identifying where other existing and new ANT staff would contribute to the work. Project programming, planning and landowner liaison was well underway, not to mention solid working relationships were established with the project-dedicated DEFRA Project Liaison Officer, as well as relevant Forestry Commission, Natural England and Environment Agency staff. Baseline ecological studies and habitat condition assessments had already started. The most productive and impactful period of the project development phase of this LRP will be the July 2024-June 2025 reporting period.



Achievements & Performance: Towards a new 5-Year Strategy

During the reporting period ANT was operating under its 5-Year Strategy (2021-26), which was given an interim update in September 2023. By the end of 2023/24 ANT had far exceeded several of its 2021-26 goals, whilst others are more advanced:



1. Plant at least two Pudding Brook Wood sized woodlands each year

- a. This target of 84 acres of woodland by 2026 has been greatly exceeded. At the end of 2023/24 ANT owns or controls 591 acres of land for new woodlands, with over 100 acres planted

2. Trustee and volunteer resilience

- a. Trustee roles are now more sustainable, especially by creating staff supporting in finance and land management, and trustee turnover was 0% in 2023/24
- b. Through recruitment, volunteering numbers and especially Volunteer Leader numbers have grown to a sustainable level

3. Staffing for a sustainable ANT

- a. The proportion of running costs met through cost recovery on projects has markedly improved, meaning fundraising can now focus more on greater levels of habitat creation
- b. Staff numbers have grown to a level where delivering ANT's charitable purposes is more sustainable
- c. Plans to increase ANT's levels of regular fundraising income are better developed



4. Developing our funding and ownership model, securing long-term care for our woodlands

- a. ANT has successfully explored expanding impact through new models of permanence to complement land ownership. This includes 30-year agreements at Ed Woods and Landscape Recovery in development, bringing together a range of landowners
- b. ANT is actively developing long-term funding models like Biodiversity Net Gain and Landscape Recovery, in addition to developing regular and commercial income
- c. Hazeland and Pudding Brook Wood have moved into their post-planting phase, but are continuing to cultivate thriving volunteering and public access

Future Plans:

During the reporting period ANT started to develop a new 5-Year Plan (2024-29). This has since been finalised, with a more comprehensive strategy, theory of change and new goals:

1. Create new woodlands at a landscape scale to tackle the climate and nature emergencies
2. Achieve financial sustainability so we can deliver more
3. Develop our people for today and tomorrow
4. Help our communities adapt and mitigate climate change
5. Extend our impact by our embracing our leadership role

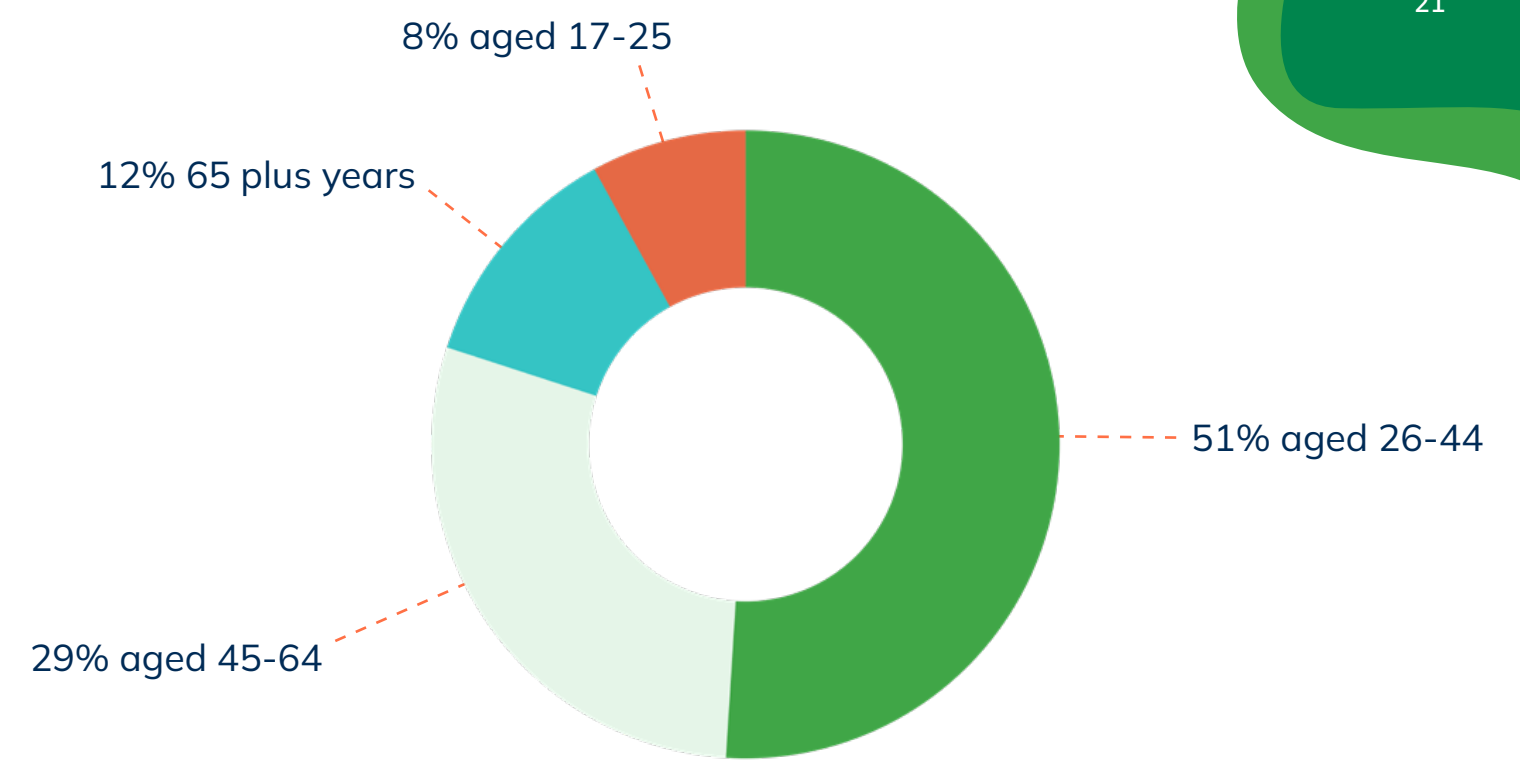
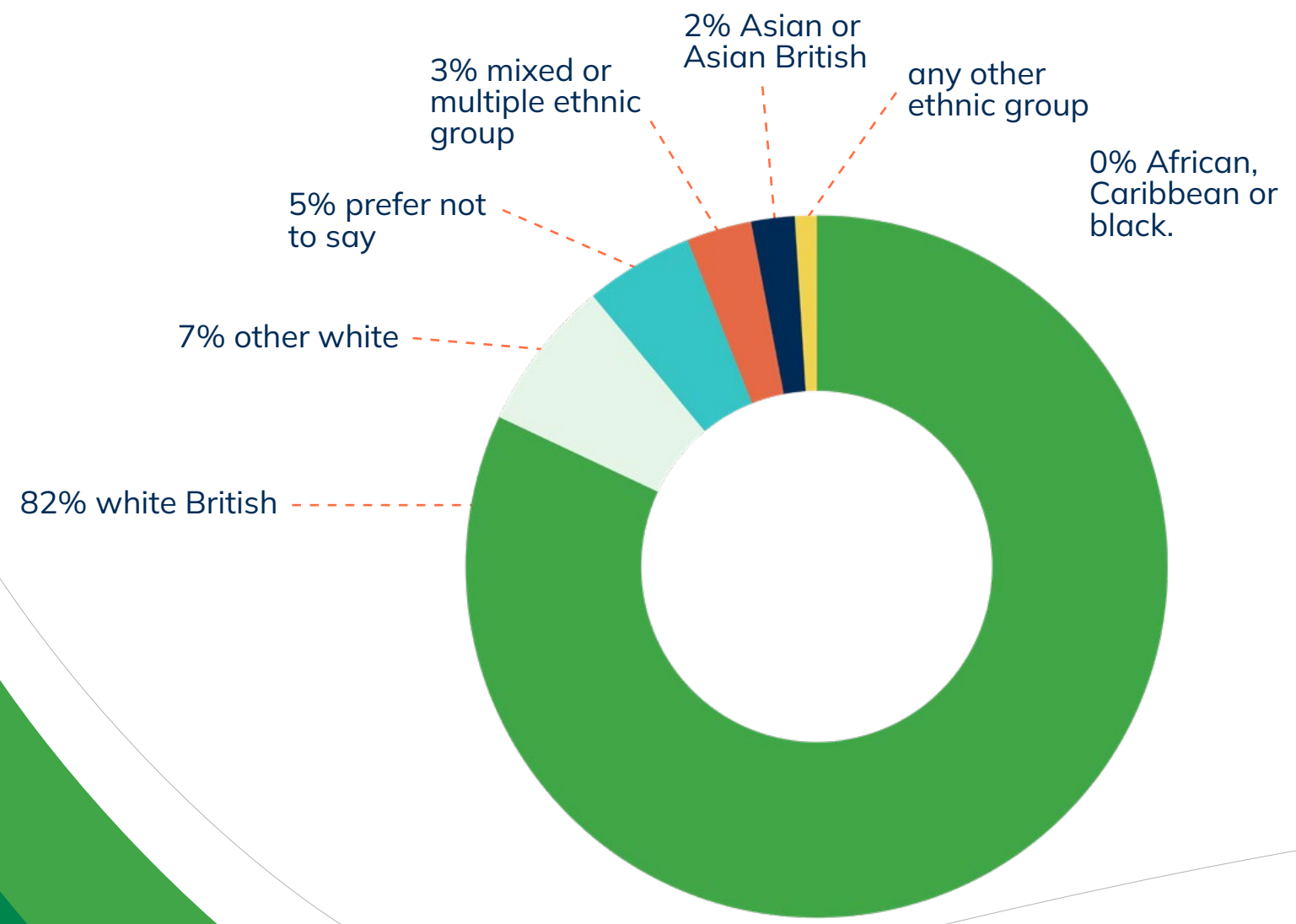
Volunteering

In 2023-2024:

- + 1,638 volunteer days
- + 136 volunteering opportunities
- + 1,005 people registered on the volunteer portal
- + 92.3% said they would volunteer again
- + 4,571 confirmed volunteer hours, valuing £91,420
- + 84% said Yes, it was beneficial to their mental health



Our volunteers



Number of people living within 10 miles of our sites*:

Ed Woods
nr Shepton Mallet

148k people

Hazeland
nr Calne

175k people

Pudding Brook Wood
nr Chippenham

184k people

Great Avon Wood
nr Bristol

897k people

Lower Chew Forest
nr Bristol and Bath

725k people



*according to Population around a point (tomforth.co.uk)

People Impact: Case Studies

Black2Nature

Black2Nature is dedicated to connecting Visibly Minority Ethnic (VME) kids with nature.

ANT has worked with Black2Nature to bring young people to two dedicated tree planting days during both tree planting seasons at our Great Avon Wood site. This has been built on with a summer visit for tree care and nature exploration. We plan to continue this connection with Black2Nature and our woodland creation projects.

www.black2nature.org



Bristol Muslim Home Ed Network

ANT has been connecting with this informal network of Muslim Home Educating Families across Bristol. Women and young people who are part of the network have attended a family nature day, a block of 5 Forest School sessions and a tree planting day at Great Avon Wood. We plan to continue working to build connections with these families.



Into University

Into University works to break down barriers to social mobility, providing local learning centres where young people can broaden their horizons and are inspired to achieve.

ANT has been working with their Bristol South centre in Withywood. Young people attended a tree planting day last winter at GAW and have followed this up with a Spring and Autumn Forest School session. This schedule is planned to repeat next year with some additional sessions too.

<https://intouniversity.org/centre/intouniversity-bristol-south/>

Bristol University Inclusion Team and LGBTQ student community

ANT has been working with the Inclusive Communities Officer at Bristol University to welcome LGBTQ students to Great Avon Wood. Students attended an 'Out in Nature' Spring Wellbeing session at the site delivered by a specialist art therapist and will return for a follow up in the autumn. These sessions will repeat next year with the hope of including students in tree planting too.

People Impact: Case Studies

We have identified that older people and vulnerable adults are two of the communities that are less likely to get involved in our activities. We wanted to see what we could do to improve their health and wellbeing by providing activities in nature.

The Wiltshire Project Coordinator went to a number of local groups where older people come together to talk about our work and the importance of trees and we also did some tree related artwork together. This photo is of the Reconnected Group in Calne.

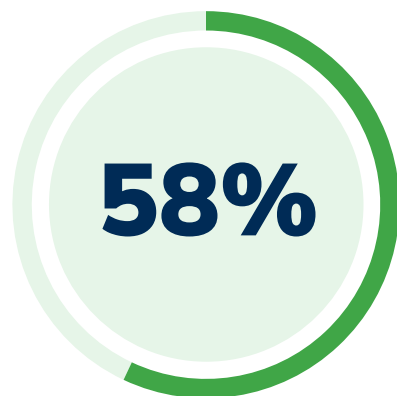


“Thanks so much for coming along to Forget me not club last Friday. The activities were great. Hope the funding for the project continues as so good to get people thinking about getting out and enjoying nature.”

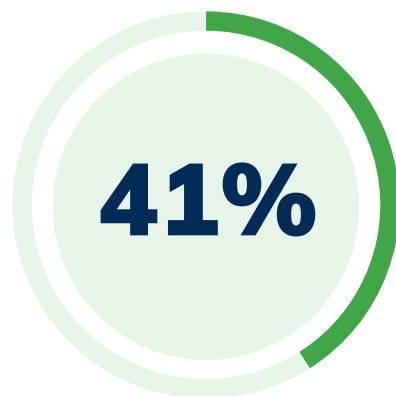


Our green skills programme

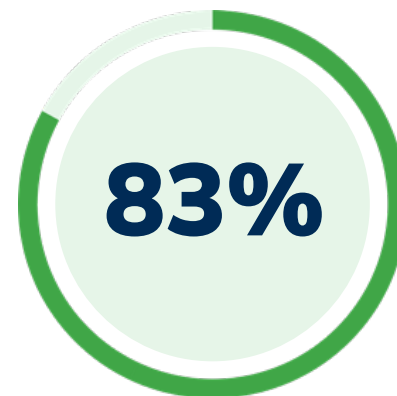
ANT's first ever Woodland Skills training programme ran January - June 2024 with 15 participants and 5 pro-bono training partners. The course consisted of 9 day-long workshops and site visits and 2 webinars. All course participants had the opportunity to shadow a member of ANT or FOAT staff for a day.



have done volunteering as a result of the training course



have had job or apprenticeship interviews during the course (June 2024)



have been actively applying for jobs / apprenticeships during the programme

- + 13 / 15 people completed the course with great attendance
- + 3 people have begun full time work in the green sector (subsequently rising to 6)
- + 2 people set up self-employment and made links to clients in the green sector
- + 1 person has been offered an apprenticeship
- + 1 person is stepping up to become an ANT Volunteer Leader
- + 1 person has joined the New Wave young persons Heritage programme at National Trust
- + 2 people have been awarded grants for forestry training fund to further their skills training in the green sector
- + 2 people are starting Horticulture courses in September 2024



Responses to green skills programme survey:

83% I have learned new skills and knowledge about woodland creation, tree care and land management
respondents agreed

75% I have learned new information about local environment / heritage
respondents agreed

92% I have improved my job application skills such as CV writing, interview skills and job searching
respondents agreed

100% I have increased understanding of local environmental jobs working with trees and landscapes
respondents agreed

100% I have learned about possible career pathways for local environmental jobs
respondents agreed

75% I have increased my confidence to apply for jobs in the green sector
respondents agreed

67% I have created a self-directed career plan to help you map your next steps
respondents agreed

Our first graduates

Quotes from the first cohort of course participants:



"I was looking for almost exactly what the course was offering.. I feel a lot more confident that while I don't have formal qualifications in conservation or ecology, this is no barrier to my getting a job within the sector."



"It was enjoyable, engaging, supportive and knowledgeable learning environment"



"I really enjoyed the course and felt part of a community. The other attendees were considerate and approachable. It was a safe space to learn in."



Outreach

Events in 2024:

Family Open Day
 All Things Trees
 Muslim Home Ed Family Forest Day
 Muslim Home Ed Family Forest School (x5)
 Autumn Forest School Pensford Primary
 Storytelling on site
 Muslim Home Ed Group tree planting
 Storytelling online event
 Soul Trail Wellbeing Hiking group tree planting
 Black 2 Nature Tree Planting
 Into University Tree Planting - Hazel Coppice
 Black 2 Nature Tree Planting
 Pensford Primary Tree Planting
 Ancient Forests online event
 Tales from the Landscape
 Early Morning Bird Walk
 Walking the New Great Avon Wood
 Spring Tree ID walk
 LGBTQ wellbeing - Spring
 Forest School with Into University
 Story Creation Workshop

We ran
more than
20
events

attended by
542
people
in total

Structure, management and governance

Constitution

ANT is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), formed in April 2019 and registered as a charity in July 2019. The affairs of ANT are governed by its Constitution which established the objects and powers of ANT. In the event of the charity being wound up the trustees have no liability for its debts.

Appointment of Trustees

The governance of ANT is the responsibility of the Trustees who are appointed under the terms of the Constitution. Trustees remain in post until they retire or otherwise cease under the provisions of the Charity constitution. New Trustees are elected by the Trustees then in post after an observation period of at least three meetings, as detailed in the Trustee Policy, along with an induction learning journey and training.

Organisational structure and decision-making policies

Operational decisions are delegated by Trustees to the Chief Executive, in consultation with relevant lead Trustees for HR, safeguarding, health & safety, data protection, fundraising and public engagement and operational reports are reviewed at monthly meetings of Trustees. Policy decisions are made at Trustee monthly meetings with regular and ad hoc Trustee subgroups in operation to advise.

The Chief Executive leads the staffing structure and delegates responsibilities to other members of staff as necessary, based on trustee board decisions and a schedule of authority. The Chief Executive manages the senior leadership team, who in turn manage their own teams. In the year 2023/24 these teams were a) people and operations, b) engagement, communications and fundraising and c) woodland and impact.

During the reporting year a new pay policy was instituted by trustees. Trustees set the salary and terms for the CEO and the CEO sets salaries and terms for other staff. Salary bands for job families are benchmarked to other landowning nature charities, within the same region where possible. These are reviewed annually.

Pay progression within salary bands is based on performance against annual objectives and ANT's behaviour framework.

Risk Management policy

The Trustees have identified the potential risks to ANT and ranked them according to likelihood and severity. For each risk they have identified mitigation and a responsible person, and the risk register is reviewed at every regular meeting of the Trustees.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have reviewed the Charity Commission's guidance on the requirement to report on public benefit. They are satisfied that the work of ANT, as described above, accords with its stated objects and provides tangible public benefit to an appropriate section of those who reside within ANT's area of benefit.

The charity maintains service delivery contracts with individuals, funders and partner organisations. Other collaboration with partner organisations are informal, except for a formal collaboration agreement with Forest of Avon Trust governing the joint ownership of Great Avon Wood. On 16th May 2024 ANT registered a wholly owned trading subsidiary, Avon Needs Trees Trading Ltd. The founding directors were ANT trustees Mark Funnell and Theodore Blanchard, and ANT CEO Dave Wood. As at the end of the year 2023/24 the company had not yet traded or entered into any contracts.

Future plans

Trustees are discussing priorities for trustee recruitment.

Since the end of 2023/24 ANT has adopted a formal, comprehensive scheme of delegation to complement the schedule of authority.

Staff numbers have increased from 16 to 26, including a business development and finance team.

Risk management has been separated into strategic risks and operational risks, enabling trustees to be most focused on strategic risk.

Avon Needs Trees Trading Ltd is not trading as of March 2025, but is expected to commence trading in summer 2025. An additional member of ANT staff and two unconflicted people have been appointed as directors.

Our staff demographics

Avon Needs Trees is committed to the monitoring of the diversity and gender pay gaps of our workforce to understand its changing nature and progress toward greater diversity and equity. ANT is not obliged to publish this data but we are committed to understanding our diversity and paygaps and publishing reasonable amounts information.

Because only sixteen staff were employed at this time ANT has decided not to publish the full results, except for age, to avoid individuals being identifiable.

All staff employed with ANT up to 30th June 2024 completed an anonymous survey monitoring diversity and gender pay gaps. Based on HR records 75% of staff were part-time.

Based on variation from average (mean) FTE salary is reported below. The highest paid demographic is reported in each case, again to reduce any likelihood of individuals being identifiable:

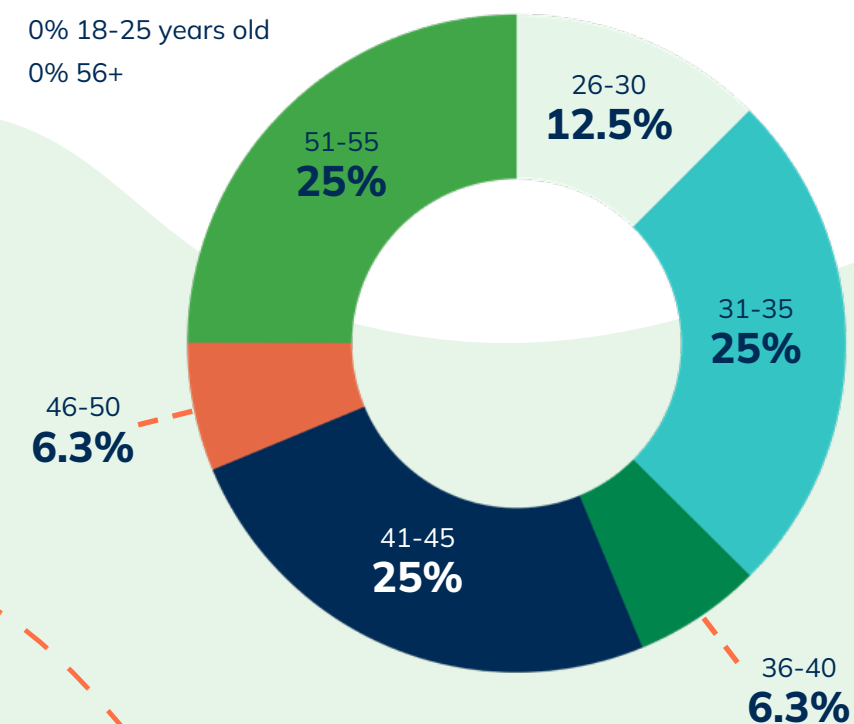
- Non-binary staff were paid 15.6% above average
- Bisexual staff were paid 15.7% above average
- White British staff were paid 0% above average
- Staff with disabilities were paid 3.5% above average
- Lower socio-economic background staff were paid 4.2% above average
- Staff who were not religious were paid 1% above average
- Staff with caring responsibilities were paid 6.1% above average
- Full-time staff were paid 0.1% above average

To prevent any risk of individuals being identifiable, the largest groups for demographic are reported below:

- Gender: female, 56.3%
- Sexual orientation: heterosexual, 43.8%
- Ethnicity: white British, 100%
- Disability: not disabled, 50%
- Socio-economic: not lower socio-economic background, 81.3%
- Religion: not religious, 87.5%
- Caring responsibilities: no caring responsibilities, 56.25%

Age of staff:

0% 18-25 years old
0% 56+



Future Plans:

Since the end of 2023/24 ANT has introduced a new pay policy, including salary bands, behaviours framework and performance-based pay increase and promotion processes.

Staff numbers have increased from 16 to 26 and weaker diversity demographics have improved.

Recruitment diversity is monitored, anonymously, and will be reviewed in the 2024/25 reporting period.

Statement of responsibilities of the trustees

The trustees are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the group and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure, of the charity and the group for the year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and the group and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the constitution. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Members of the charity have no liability to contribute to the assets of the charity in the event of winding up. The trustees are members of the charity but this entitles them only to voting rights. The trustees have no beneficial interest in the charity.

Auditors

Godfrey Wilson Limited were appointed as auditors to the charity during the year and have expressed their willingness to continue in that capacity.

Approved by the trustees on 29th April 2025 and signed on their behalf by



Mark Funnell, Chair

Finance Review

Total funds carried forward in this period were £5,514,522 (2023: £1,275,198: increase of 332%). This was principally due to the acquisition of Wick Farm to create Lower Chew Forest.

The charity maintained a positive financial position throughout the year, with the year closing on an increased general funds position of £3,678 (2023: increase of £27,912)

The charity's main source of unrestricted income continues to be from donations and unrestricted grants, which increased by 22% on the previous year (2022: increase of 92%). Unrestricted expenditure exceeded income in the year, but predominantly due to professional fees surrounding the planning and acquisition of the site known as Wick Farm.

Staff costs grew in the year by 82% (2023: increase of 176%), a representation of the rapid growth the charity has seen – starting the 22/23 year with three employees and ending the 23/24 year with 14 on payroll.

The charity's growth in activities is predominantly funded via restricted grants. While total grants each year are often heavily skewed towards those received for land acquisition, underlying this there has been a consistent growth in grants for activities. The 2024 year-end saw activity-based grant income of £508,431 (2023: £202,970) representing an increase of 150% (2023: increase of 152%).

The largest financial impact on the year related to the acquisition of Wick Farm which was funded through a combination of grant and debt funding.. Development plans for the site were drawn up prior to purchase and a period of development is underway.

The charity's reserves policy must consider the cashflow requirements of the organisations that are impacted by grants claimed in arrears. Major projects like Great Avon Woods require upfront expenditure based on quarterly or annual reclaims from funders, cashflow projections indicate a number of quarters where the capital sums expended but awaiting reclaim will exceed £200,000. In addition to this the charity considered it sensible to hold an additional reserve to cover unforeseen costs or in the event of other changes in circumstance. Based on the factors considered the charity's current reserves policy is to hold £218,000 of general funds.

The charity had total funds of £5,514,522 at year end (2023: £1,275,198) which is comprised of £5,002,273 restricted funds (2023: £837,419), £216,346 designated funds (2023: £145,554) and £295,903 general funds (2023: £292,225). All designated funds relate to fixed asset values held and so do not relate to future expenditure, but do represent funds that could only be realised by disposing of those fixed assets.

Current reserves exceed the stated policy amount, this is due to the charity building funds for the development of what will be Lower Chew Forest on the site of Wick Farm.

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they have adopted the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.



Fundraising

ANT's fundraising approach was a combination of grant applications and receipt of donations from individuals, companies and trusts.

All fundraising took place either through a formalised process, for example grant applications, or by promoting through email or websites any opportunities to give online, or by responding to direct requests from potential corporate or individual givers. ANT did not undertake any fundraising that would require persistent contact, unreasonable intrusion on personal privacy, or undue pressure on a person to give money or other property.

ANT undertakes a rigorous process of vetting any company that may want to enter into an informal partnership with the charity involving a donation. This process particularly focusses on greenwashing – being the attempt by a company to improve its image by marketing rather than by greening their operations. ANT only accepts donations from vetted companies that the charity is happy to be publicly linked to. ANT regularly rejects potential partnerships in this way. Prior to accepting donations the charity also completes checks on individuals who would like to donate £10,000 or more, including cumulatively, for due diligence. The charity is also mindful of the background of any source of trust funding before making funding applications.

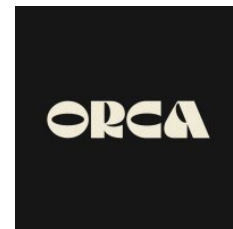
All fundraising activity was undertaken by in-house ANT personnel. The standards of fundraising followed were those outlined by the Charity Commission. In the future if the charity planned to engage in more proactive ways – for example through public collections, lotteries, events or by direct verbal communication – then ANT would voluntarily register with an appropriate scheme.

There were no complaints received by the charity about fundraising activity and no known failure to comply with fundraising regulations



Funding and Donations

ANT is very grateful to the grant-makers, members of the public and companies who helped make our work possible in the reporting year. Along with our generous CrowdFunder givers, Genetts Charitable Trust and the Vernet Trump Charitable Trust, this includes:



Independent auditors' report to the members of Avon Needs Trees

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Avon Needs Trees (the 'charity') for the year ended 30 June 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, balance sheet, statement of cash flows, and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 30 June 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charity's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out in the trustees' report, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Independent auditors' report to the members of

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The procedures we carried out and the extent to which they are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, are detailed below:

- (1) We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, and assessed the risk of non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Throughout the audit, we remained alert to possible indications of non-compliance.
- (2) We reviewed the charity's policies and procedures in relation to:
 - Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations, and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - Detecting and responding to the risk of fraud, and whether they were aware of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
 - Designing and implementing internal controls to mitigate the risk of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud.
- (3) We inspected the minutes of trustee meetings.
- (4) We enquired about any non-routine communication with regulators and reviewed any reports made to them.

(5) We reviewed the financial statement disclosures and assessed their compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

(6) We performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected transactions or balances that may indicate a risk of material fraud or error.

(7) We assessed the risk of fraud through management override of controls and carried out procedures to address this risk. Our procedures included:

- Testing the appropriateness of journal entries;
- Assessing judgements and accounting estimates for potential bias;
- Reviewing related party transactions; and
- Testing transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. Irregularities that arise due to fraud can be even harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Date: 29th April 2025

Godfrey Wilson Limited

Godfrey Wilson Limited
Chartered accountants and statutory auditors
5th Floor Mariner House
62 Prince Street
Bristol
BS1 4QD

Godfrey Wilson Limited is eligible for appointment as auditor of the charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Audited Accounts

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Restated Total funds 2023 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	105,433	160,829	266,262	86,393
Charitable activities	4	1,500	4,552,311	4,553,811	677,970
Investments	5	2,760	-	2,760	827
Total		109,693	4,713,140	4,822,833	765,190
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	3,909	-	3,909	297
Charitable activities	10	174,150	405,450	579,600	306,057
Total		178,059	405,450	583,509	306,354
Net income	11	(68,366)	4,307,690	4,239,324	458,836
Transfers between funds		142,836	(142,836)	-	-
Net movement in funds		74,470	4,164,854	4,239,324	458,836
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		437,779	837,419	1,275,198	816,362
Total funds carried forward		512,249	5,002,273	5,514,522	1,275,198

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those stated above. Movements in funds are disclosed in note 19 to the accounts.

Prior period expenditure has been restated due to a change in the basis for allocating support costs to provide a more accurate reflection of the use of resources by the charity and to be comparable with the current year. There is no change to the total expenditure or net movement in funds.

Balance Sheet at 30 June 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	8,116,132	972,070
Investments	15	1	-
		<u>8,116,133</u>	<u>972,070</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	16	206,059	207,256
Cash at bank and in hand		488,631	108,800
		<u>694,690</u>	<u>316,056</u>
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	17	(71,877)	(12,928)
Net current assets		<u>622,813</u>	<u>303,128</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		8,738,946	1,275,198
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	18	(3,224,424)	-
Total net assets		<u>5,514,522</u>	<u>1,275,198</u>
The funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	19		
Restricted income funds		5,002,273	837,419
		<u>5,002,273</u>	<u>837,419</u>
Unrestricted funds	19		
General funds		295,903	292,225
Designated funds		216,346	145,554
		<u>512,249</u>	<u>437,779</u>
Total funds		<u>5,514,522</u>	<u>1,275,198</u>

Approved by the board on 29 April 2025

And signed on its behalf by:



M. Funnell
Trustee

Statement of Cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income per Statement of Financial Activities	4,239,324	458,836
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	8,601	-
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	(4,942)
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(2,760)	(827)
Decrease/ (Increase) in trade and other receivables	1,197	(171,913)
Increase in trade and other payables	58,949	1,143
Interest payable	37,294	-
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>4,342,605</u>	<u>282,297</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment	-	30,872
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(7,152,663)	(475,000)
Payments for investments	(1)	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	2,760	827
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(7,149,904)</u>	<u>(443,301)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities		
Proceeds from new borrowings	3,187,130	-
Net cash from financing activities	<u>3,187,130</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase/ (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	379,831	(161,004)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	108,800	269,804
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u>488,631</u>	<u>108,800</u>
Components of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash and bank balances	488,631	108,800
	<u>488,631</u>	<u>108,800</u>

Analysis of net changes in debt are given in note 21.

Notes to the Accounts

1 Accounting policies

Avon Needs Trees is a charitable incorporated organisation registered in England and Wales. The registered office address is:

Canningford House
38 Victoria Street
Bristol
BS1 6BY

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Avon Needs Trees Trading Ltd (15771034) is a registered company, incorporated on 11 June 2024. It is a wholly controlled subsidiary of Avon Needs Trees. The trustees have opted not to prepare consolidated accounts on the basis of immateriality, in application of statutory instrument 2008/629 regulation 19. In the period to 30 June 2024, the subsidiary made no income or expenditure and had a net assets position of £nil.

Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

Going Concern

The accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the charity is able to continue as a going concern, which the trustees consider appropriate having regard to the current level of unrestricted reserves.

In coming to their conclusion the trustees have also taken in to account the bank loan received during the year secured against, and for the purchase of, the property known as Wick Farm. The first payment against this loan is due more than 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved, nevertheless the trustees have no reason to question the progress of the charity's plans towards developing the site in a way as to manage these repayments by the time they become due.

There are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern. The trustees consider that the charity will continue as a going concern for a period of at least 12 months from the date on which these financial statements are approved.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.

Designated funds These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Income	
Recognition of income	Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Income with related expenditure	Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.
Donations and legacies	Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.
Volunteer help	The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.
Investment income	This is included in the accounts when receivable.
Expenditure	
Recognition of expenditure	Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.
Expenditure on raising funds	These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
Expenditure on charitable activities	These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.
Grants payable	All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.
Governance costs	These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.
Other expenditure	These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Allocation of support and governance costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the charity, including the costs of complying with constitutional and statutory requirements and any costs associated with the strategic management of the charity's activities. These costs have been allocated between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities based on direct attribution where clear, and otherwise according to the percentage of directly attributed costs to each activity as follows:

	2024	2023
Raising funds	0%*	0%*
Charitable activities		
Maintain existing woodland	5%	18%
Establish new woodland	46%	80%
Land acquisition	45%	2%
Establish new woodland	4%	0%

* Only directly attributable support costs have been assigned to Raising funds.

Taxation

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

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

Freehold property	0/2% Land is held at cost and not depreciated, buildings and associated improvements are depreciated straight line over 50 years
Plant and machinery	10% Reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% Reducing balance

No depreciation is charged on assets under development. The charity has adopted a policy of capitalisation of borrowing costs while associated building are under development.

The charity's capitalisation threshold is £200 net of VAT for items considered to provide economic benefit over multiple years.

Financial Instruments

The CO only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently recognised at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the charity's cash management.

Trade and other creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the charity pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the charity has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as expenses when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the charity in independently administered funds.

Receipt of donated goods, facilities and services

All donated goods, facilities and services received are recognised within incoming resources and expenditure at an estimate of the value to the charity.

Accounting estimates and key judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. The key sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements is depreciation as described under the Fixed Assets above.

2 Statement of Financial Activities - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	58,326	28,067	86,393
Charitable activities	-	677,970	677,970
Investments	827	-	827
Total	59,153	706,037	765,190
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	297	-	297
Charitable activities	43,205	262,852	306,057
Total	43,502	262,852	306,354
Net income	15,651	443,185	458,836
Transfers between funds	(13,669)	13,669	-
Net income before other gains/ (losses)	1,982	456,854	458,836
Other gains and losses:			
Net movement in funds	1,982	456,854	458,836
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	435,797	380,565	816,362
Total funds carried forward	437,779	837,419	1,275,198

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£
			2024
Individual donations	59,529	160,829	220,358
Corporate donations	15,404	-	15,404
Unrestricted grants	30,500	-	30,500
	105,433	160,829	266,262
			2023
Individual donations	19,629	8,594	28,223
Corporate donations	21,548	19,474	41,022
Unrestricted grants	17,148	-	17,148
	58,325	28,068	86,393

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Maintain existing woodland	-	28,129	28,129	15,787
Establish new woodland	-	443,114	443,114	187,183
Land acquisition	1,500	4,043,880	4,045,380	475,000
Complementary projects	-	37,188	37,188	-
	<u>1,500</u>	<u>4,552,311</u>	<u>4,553,811</u>	<u>677,970</u>

The totals for the prior period (2023) all relate to restricted income.

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£	£
Bank interest	2,760	2,760	827
	<u>2,760</u>	<u>2,760</u>	<u>827</u>

The totals for the prior period (2023) all relate to unrestricted income.

6 Government grants

The charity receives government grants, defined as funding from the Environment Agency, Cheshire and West Chester Council, Wiltshire County Council, and The West of England Combined Authority, to fund charitable activities. The total value of such grants in the period ending 30 June 2024 was £4,380,029 (2023: £604,858). There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies attaching to these grants in the current or prior year.

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted	Total 2024	Restated Total 2023
	£	£	£
Costs of generating voluntary income			
Individual donations	3,909	3,909	297
	<u>3,909</u>	<u>3,909</u>	<u>297</u>

The totals for the prior period (2023) all relate to unrestricted expenditure.

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Maintain existing woodland	315	27,348	27,663
Establish new woodland	338	264,258	264,596
Land acquisition	5,872	23,482	29,354
Complementary projects	1,348	35,974	37,322
	<u>7,873</u>	<u>351,062</u>	<u>358,935</u>
	Restated Unrestricted	Restated Restricted	Restated Total 2023
	£	£	£
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Maintain existing woodland	1,333	36,292	37,625
Establish new woodland	-	190,842	190,842
Land acquisition	-	10,589	10,589
	<u>1,333</u>	<u>237,723</u>	<u>239,056</u>

9 Support and governance costs

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2024
	£	£	£
Support costs			
Publicity and promotion	-	3,435	3,435
Event costs	118	3,916	4,034
Other interest payable	-	-	-
Employee costs	39,468	36,771	76,239
Motor and travel costs	2,516	875	3,391
Premises costs	18,173	3,866	22,039
Amortisation, depreciation, impairment, profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets	8,601	-	8,601
General administrative costs	9,124	5,525	14,649
Legal and professional costs	78,317	-	78,317
Governance costs			
Independent examiner's fees	-	-	-
Auditor's fees	9,960	-	9,960
	<u>166,277</u>	<u>54,388</u>	<u>220,665</u>

	Restated Unrestricted	Restated Restricted	Restated Total 2023
	£	£	£
Support costs			
Publicity and promotion	-	1,354	1,354
Event costs	57	1,979	2,036
Other interest payable	36	-	36
Employee costs	37,044	-	37,044
Motor and travel costs	732	3,248	3,980
Premises costs	2,186	5,999	8,185
Amortisation, depreciation, impairment, profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets	(4,942)	-	(4,942)
General administrative costs	4,292	12,549	16,841
Legal and professional costs	667	-	667
Governance costs			
Independent examiner's fees	1,800	-	1,800
	<u>41,872</u>	<u>25,129</u>	<u>67,001</u>

10 Summary analysis of expenditure

Activity or programme	Activities undertaken directly £	Support Costs £	Total 2024 £
Maintain existing woodland	27,663	11,267	38,930
Establish new woodland	264,596	100,616	365,212
Land acquisition	29,354	99,434	128,788
Complementary projects	37,322	9,348	46,670
	<u>358,935</u>	<u>220,665</u>	<u>579,600</u>

Activity or programme	Restated Activities undertaken directly £	Restated Support Costs £	Restated Total 2023 £
Maintain existing woodland	37,625	11,898	49,523
Establish new woodland	190,842	53,897	244,739
Land acquisition	10,589	1,206	11,795
	<u>239,056</u>	<u>67,001</u>	<u>306,057</u>

11 Net income before transfers

	2024	2023
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	8,601	-
Operating lease payments	16,250	-
Auditors' remuneration (excl. VAT)	8,300	-
Independent Examiner's fee (excl. VAT)	-	1,500
Other fees paid to the auditor or independent examiner (excl. VAT)	-	200

12 Trustee remuneration and expenses

One or more of the trustees has been paid remuneration in the current or prior periods.

Trustee	2024	2023
	£	£
J Chew	2,100	1,100

All amounts were paid in respect of operation of forest school sessions at one of the sites owned by the charity. Remuneration has been paid in accordance with section 185 of the Charities Act and as permitted by the charity's constitution.

One or more of the trustees has been paid expenses in the current or prior periods.

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Number of trustees paid expenses	1	2
The nature of the reimbursed expenses	All expenses are either in respect of travel or reimbursal of costs expensed on behalf of the charity.	
	£	£
Total expenses reimbursed to trustees	354	872

13 Staff costs

	2024	2023
Salaries and wages	265,950	153,229
Social security costs	21,144	4,031
Pension costs	5,331	3,120
	<u>292,425</u>	<u>160,380</u>

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000 in the current or prior year.

Total employee benefits received by key management personnel	85,900	56,472
--	--------	--------

The average monthly number of full time equivalent employees during the year was as follows:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Administration	3	2
Conservation	3	2
Education	2	1
	<u>8</u>	<u>5</u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme.

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings £	Plant and machinery £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
Cost or revaluation				
At 1 July 2023	972,070	-	-	972,070
Additions	7,073,270	74,986	4,407	7,152,663
At 30 June 2024	<u>8,045,340</u>	<u>74,986</u>	<u>4,407</u>	<u>8,124,733</u>
Depreciation and impairment				
Depreciation charge for the year	-	7,499	1,102	8,601
At 30 June 2024	<u>-</u>	<u>7,499</u>	<u>1,102</u>	<u>8,601</u>
Net book values				
At 30 June 2024	<u>8,045,340</u>	<u>67,487</u>	<u>3,305</u>	<u>8,116,132</u>
At 30 June 2023	<u>972,070</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>972,070</u>

Land and buildings includes £4,870,396 (2023: £826,516) of land purchased with restricted funding and over which restrictive grant terms still apply.

15 Investments

	Investment in Subsidiaries £	Total £
Cost or revaluation		
Additions	1	1
At 30 June 2024	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Net book values		
At 30 June 2024	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Investment in Subsidiaries

The company has the following subsidiary undertakings:

Name of company	Class of shares held	% age of shares held %	Capital and reserves at end of the relevant year £	Profit/ (loss) for the relevant year £
Avon Needs Trees Trading Ltd	Ordinary	100	1	-

Avon Needs Trees Trading Ltd was incorporated on 11th June 2024. It has been excluded from consolidation as it was dormant between this date and the charity's year end.

16 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Other debtors	14,800	-
Prepayments and accrued income	191,259	207,256
	<u>206,059</u>	<u>207,256</u>

17 Creditors:

amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	46,385	3,247
Amounts owed to group undertakings	1	-
Other taxes and social security	8,083	6,174
Other creditors	1,498	965
Accruals	15,910	2,542
	<u>71,877</u>	<u>12,928</u>

18 Creditors:

amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	3,224,424	-
	<u>3,224,424</u>	<u>-</u>
Liabilities repayable in more than five years after the balance sheet date		
Amount repayable by instalments	3,224,424	
	<u>3,224,424</u>	

During the year the charity agreed a loan facility with Triodos Bank of up to £3,850,000 for the purpose of the acquisition of Wick Farm. Triodos Bank holds a legal charge over Wick Farm and a floating charge over all assets and undertakings of the charity in respect of the loan. The loan term is 15 years with an interest rate of 2.75% above base rate. The charity took a drawdown on the facility of £3,300,000 during the year, but £150,000 of the loan was assigned to a bank account in the charity's name to be kept as a loan reserve fund. The remainder of the facility was reserved to cover initial interest accrued against the loan for the first two years. Capital repayments are due to start from the sixth year of the loan on a straight line basis. Additional capital repayments will be due during the term of the loan based on the net sales proceeds of Biodiversity Net Gain units sold in relation to Wick Farm. The loan balance is shown less related fees with interest accrued at an effective annual rate of 8.3%.

The total interest expense charged to the statement of financial activities in the current year was £37,294.

19 Movement in funds

	At 1 July 2023	Incoming resources (including other gains/ losses) £	Resources expended £	Gross transfers £	At 30 June 2024 £
Restricted funds:					
Restricted income funds:					
Land purchase	826,516	4,193,265	(23,482)	(125,903)	4,870,396
Hazeland - operation and infrastructure	2,305	-	(15,158)	12,853	-
Pudding Brook Woods - operation and infrastructure	7,967	2,737	(3,303)	-	7,401
Great Avon Woods - operation and infrastructure	631	454,558	(299,346)	(74,752)	81,091
Ed Woods - tree planting	-	25,392	(26,992)	1,600	-
Lower Chew Forest - operation and infrastructure	-	-	-	43,385	43,385
Environment Agency - Land Recovery Project	-	28,267	(28,267)	-	-
Wiltshire Council	-	3,921	(3,902)	(19)	-
WENP - Healthier with Nature Development Grant	-	5,000	(5,000)	-	-
Total	<u>837,419</u>	<u>4,713,140</u>	<u>(405,450)</u>	<u>(142,836)</u>	<u>5,002,273</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds:					
General funds	292,225	109,693	(169,458)	63,443	295,903
Designated funds:					
Fixed asset fund	145,554	-	(8,601)	79,393	216,346
Total unrestricted funds	<u>437,779</u>	<u>109,693</u>	<u>(178,059)</u>	<u>142,836</u>	<u>512,249</u>
Total funds	<u>1,275,198</u>	<u>4,822,833</u>	<u>(583,509)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,514,522</u>

Gross transfers includes:

Land purchase

£82,518 of crowdfunded donations towards the purchase costs of Wick Farm discharged to general funds following purchase. £43,385 of crowdfunded donations to 'Lower Chew Forest - operation and infrastructure'.

Hazeland - operation and infrastructure

£12,853 has been transferred to the fund to cover a deficit.

Great Avon Woods - operation and infrastructure infrastructure

£74,752 of grant costs capitalised as fixed assets, being infrastructure on the land.

Ed Woods - tree planting £1,600 has been transferred to the fund to cover a deficit.

Purposes and restrictions in relation to the funds:

Restricted funds:

Land purchase Grant funding and donations to be directly invested in land. Funds invested in land for which the funder retains an ongoing right to clawback the funds should the charity breach land use restrictions are carried forward, this includes amounts in the current year received from OWAC for the purchase of Wick Farm. Where the funder or donor does not retain such right related restrictions are considered discharged on purchase.

Hazeland - operation and infrastructure To establish and maintain the woodland at Hazeland.

Pudding Brook Woods - operation and infrastructure To establish and maintain the woodland at Pudding Brook Woods.

Great Avon Woods - operation and infrastructure To establish and maintain the woodland at Pudding Brook Woods.

Ed Woods - tree planting To establish a woodland at the site known as Ed Woods.

Lower Chew Forest - operation and infrastructure To establish and maintain the woodland at Lower Chew Forest.

Environment Agency - Land Recovery Project Developing plans with other land owners to support sustainable landscape recovery.

Wiltshire Council Health & wellbeing workshops & events.

WENP - Healthier with Nature Development Grant Organisational development.

Designated funds:

Fixed asset fund To represent value of unrestricted funds used in fixed asset purchases, excluding any long term liabilities secured against those fixed assets. The acquisition of Wick Farm for the sum of £7,073,270 is not represented in this fund due to this amount being covered by restricted funds and long term liabilities (See Note 18).

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

	Prior year		Incoming resources (including other gains/ losses) £	Resources expended £	Gross transfers £	At 30 June 2023 £
	At 1 July 2022					
Restricted funds:						
Restricted income funds:						
Land purchase	351,516		475,000	-	-	826,516
Hazeland - operation and infrastructure	29,049		2,141	(28,885)	-	2,305
Pudding Brook Woods - operation and infrastructure	-		22,211	(14,244)	-	7,967
Great Avon Woods - operation and infrastructure	-		153,717	(163,536)	10,450	631
Ed Woods - tree planting	-		52,968	(56,187)	3,219	-
Total	380,565		706,037	(262,852)	13,669	837,419
Unrestricted funds:						
General funds						
	264,313		59,153	(43,502)	12,261	292,225
Designated funds:						
Fixed asset fund						
	171,484		-	-	(25,930)	145,554
Total unrestricted funds	435,797		59,153	(43,502)	(13,669)	437,779
Total funds	816,362		765,190	(306,354)	-	1,275,198

20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Current year			
Fixed assets	3,245,736	4,870,396	8,116,132
Investments	1	-	1
Net current assets	490,936	131,877	622,813
Creditors due in more than one year and provisions	(3,224,424)	-	(3,224,424)
	<u>512,249</u>	<u>5,002,273</u>	<u>5,514,522</u>

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Prior year			
Fixed assets	145,554	826,516	972,070
Net current assets	292,225	10,903	303,128
	<u>437,779</u>	<u>837,419</u>	<u>1,275,198</u>

21 Reconciliation of net debt

	At 1 July 2023	Movements	At 30 June 2024
	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	108,800	379,831	488,631
	<u>108,800</u>	<u>379,831</u>	<u>488,631</u>
Cash movements			
Bank loans falling due after more than one year	-	(3,187,130)	(3,187,130)
Non-cash movements			
Interest due	-	(37,294)	(37,294)
	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,224,424)</u>	<u>(3,224,424)</u>
Net debt	<u>108,800</u>	<u>(2,844,593)</u>	<u>(2,735,793)</u>

22 Commitments

Pension commitments

	2024	2023
	£	£
The pension cost charge to the company amounted to:	<u>1,656</u>	<u>3,120</u>
Unpaid contributions due to the fund are included in other creditors and amounted to:	<u>1,498</u>	<u>965</u>

23 Related party disclosures

There were no related party transactions in the current or prior period.

Controlling party

The Charity is controlled by the Trustees as a body.



Thank you to everyone who supported us!



Landscape Recovery

Avon Needs Trees is a registered charity in England and Wales.
Registration number: 1184386 Canningford House, 38 Victoria Street, Bristol, BS1 6BY

AVON NEEDS TREES

England & Wales - Charity number 1184386

Accounts

Annual report

2022/23

Charity No. 1184386

Trustees' Report and Unaudited Accounts

30 June 2023



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Trustees annual report

The trustees, present their report with the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Reference and administrative details

Charity No. 1184386

Principal Office

Office 4
1-3 Gloucester Road
Bishopston
Bristol
BS7 8AA

Registered Office

1-3 Gloucester Road
Bishopston
Bristol
BS7 8AA

Directors and Trustees

The Directors of the charitable company are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law. The following Directors and Trustees served during the year:

C.L. Bedford
T. Blanchard
T. Castle (Resigned 29 November 2022)
A. Chester
J. Chew
M. Funnell
S. Hales
N.J.A. Murry
A.G. Spittlehouse

Key Management Personnel

Chair M. Funnell
CEO D. Wood

Accountant

Magic Bean Counters Limited
Unit 7, The Old Co-op
38 Chelsea Road
Bristol
BS5 6AF

Bankers

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4JQ

The Co-operative Bank p.l.c.
P.O. Box 101
1 Balloon Street
Manchester
M60 4EP

Monmouthshire Building Society
John Frost Square
Newport
Gwent
NP20 1PX

Solicitors

Thrings Solicitors
2 Queen Square
Bath
BA1 2HQ

Welcome



Message from the Chair

After four years operating in one of the country's most tree-depleted regions, Avon Needs Trees (ANT) has marked a step change in woodland creation over the last year.

Founded in 2019, we have gone from one small site in Wiltshire to completing three woodland schemes last year, as well as starting the charity's most ambitious project yet – the 113-acre Great Avon Wood five miles south of Bristol, jointly purchased with Forest of Avon Trust. Over the next few years, volunteers will help to plant and care for 40,000 trees supplied by the Woodland Trust.

Our mission is to create permanent woodland in the Bristol-Avon river catchment to address both the causes and impacts of the climate emergency, as well create more space for nature to recover. Our charity is set on making the biggest contribution possible, doing so hand-in-hand with local communities.

Volunteers planted 6,500 trees in just seven weeks at Great Avon Wood earlier in this reporting period. In the next reporting period ANT is aiming to plant more than double that in the fields just outside Pensford, as well as at kicking off woodland creation projects at further sites. To achieve these ambitious targets we are doubling our number of trained volunteer leaders to around 25.

People want to see solutions to these massive challenges, they want to get involved, and they want to pass on a legacy of a more wooded landscape to future generations. That drive and enthusiasm has been inspirational.



Introduction from the Chief Executive

As a charity we are focussed on impact. Impact for nature and climate by woodland creation at scale. Impact for people through opportunities for volunteering, education, skills development, health and wellbeing.

ANT's achievements wouldn't have been possible without huge support from the public, incredible staff, funding bodies and our wide range of partners in the region and nationally.

Donations from local people, as well as funds from Government, West of England Combined Authority and National Lottery Heritage Fund have unlocked these schemes, and we've enjoyed unprecedented support from all sorts of businesses too. But none of it could happen without our hundreds of volunteers planting thousands of trees in the winter months and then taking care of them throughout the summer. In total they've put in 5,695 hours of time, with a total value £113,900.

Our charity created layered benefits by using our woodland creation sites to host dozens of free-to-access public events at sites across the reporting period to support natural heritage education. Events range from forest schools to bat walks, butterfly counts to wellbeing days, with groups as diverse as children's forest schools, refugee charities and charities promoting inclusive access.

Great Avon Wood is a game changer for the region. Over the next 50 years it is projected to lock up over 25,000 tonnes of carbon and it will slow the flow of torrential rainfall into local rivers like the Chew, reducing flood risk. And we are confident this is just the start.

We have begun to explore how we might join schemes up across the wider landscape, creating new corridors for wildlife and mosaics of nature-rich habitat. Increasing our impact for nature and people by working at a landscape will be a key focus of the next reporting period.



Original photo credit: Daisy Brasington (Edited image)

Our objectives



Our purpose is to double woodland cover in our area by 2050

Our mission is to tackle the climate and nature emergency by buying land to create new, permanent woodland throughout the Bristol-Avon catchment area.

Our charitable objectives are:

- > i) The conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment for public benefit by the establishment and maintenance of trees, woodland and complementary habitats in such areas within the Bristol-Avon catchment area as the trustees shall determine.
- > ii) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment including by promoting woodlands as a means for the public to learn about wider environmental issues such as: sustainability, climate change, ecology and the mitigating need for trees.

Our short- to medium-term strategic aim is to transform our ownership and funding model to build a resilient and sustainable ANT that delivers maximum possible outcomes for nature, climate and people. Our activities that deliver this aim includes:

1. Fundraising to buy land to create new woodlands and complementary habitats and to meet our charitable objectives through the long-term conservation, protection and improvement of those habitats. ANT is evolving its model to make a greater impact by also creating woodland on land it does not own where legal mechanisms for permanence can be achieved, working in partnership with others. Fundraising activities will contribute to our objectives by facilitating long-term delivery, maintenance and protection of woodlands and complementary habitats.

2. Meeting ANT's education objective through public engagement in woodland creation, conservation activities, heritage, ecology and climate change through volunteering opportunities, free-to-access education events, outreach and green skills programmes, as well as participating in research activities.

Our long-term strategic aim is to create a financially self-sustaining ANT that works in partnership with communities to create woodlands and complementary habitats at an increasingly impactful, landscape scale across our catchment area. Fundraising for a growing and stronger ANT operating across a wider geography will maximise impact now and into the long term.



Our organisational values guide our work and inform our organisational behaviours. Our organisational values are:

Ambitious: Our people are nimble and take opportunities, take urgent action to tackle the climate and nature emergencies, be bold in our ambition and scale

Reasoned: We are thoughtful, ethical and reasoned in how we deliver our ambitions

Positive: We are optimistic about the future and our ability to shape it, meeting our mission and challenges with positivity

Woodland creation

2023 has been a substantial year of growth for the charity, with the number of acres of land managed for nature and woodland creation increasing from 46ac across two sites, to 169ac across four sites.



Our new woodlands this year:

In February 2023 we completed purchase of 113 acres at Publow, just south of Bristol, of what will become Great Avon Wood. The site is jointly owned by ANT and our partners at Forest of Avon Trust and is the biggest woodland creation project on record in the West of England. The first 6,000 of 40,000 trees were planted in spring 2023.

We experimented with new models for woodland creation in our second woodland creation project of 2023 – Ed Woods – where over 4,000 trees were planted across 10 acres in our first 'land partnership' project. Whilst on private land this new woodland will be managed by ANT and protected by a Conservation Covenant, a new legal mechanism that ensures legal permanence of the woodland without ownership.



Our existing woodlands:

On our existing sites volunteers planted the final 1,719 trees at Hazeland completing the final phase of planting at this 10,000 tree new woodland that links with ancient woodland we maintain on site.

The penultimate phase of planting at Pudding Brook Wood saw volunteers plant a further 2,780 trees. The final phase of planting at this 10,000 tree new woodland will take place in winter 2024.



Maximising ecological and climate impact:

Delivering multi-layered benefits is central to maximising impact for climate and ecology. Woodland creation can deliver a range of benefits to biodiversity, wildlife and natural flood management and climate resilience. These factors were considered strongly during site selection and design this year when purchasing Great Avon Wood and in researching our next site acquisition. This was achieved through considering Nature Recovery Networks when selecting sites, taking advice from the Environment Agency on the natural flood management potential of each site, commissioning independent ecologists to input into site design, as well as assessing site design against outcomes for climate resilience (especially soil improvement in open space land use) and food security.



Plans for the future:

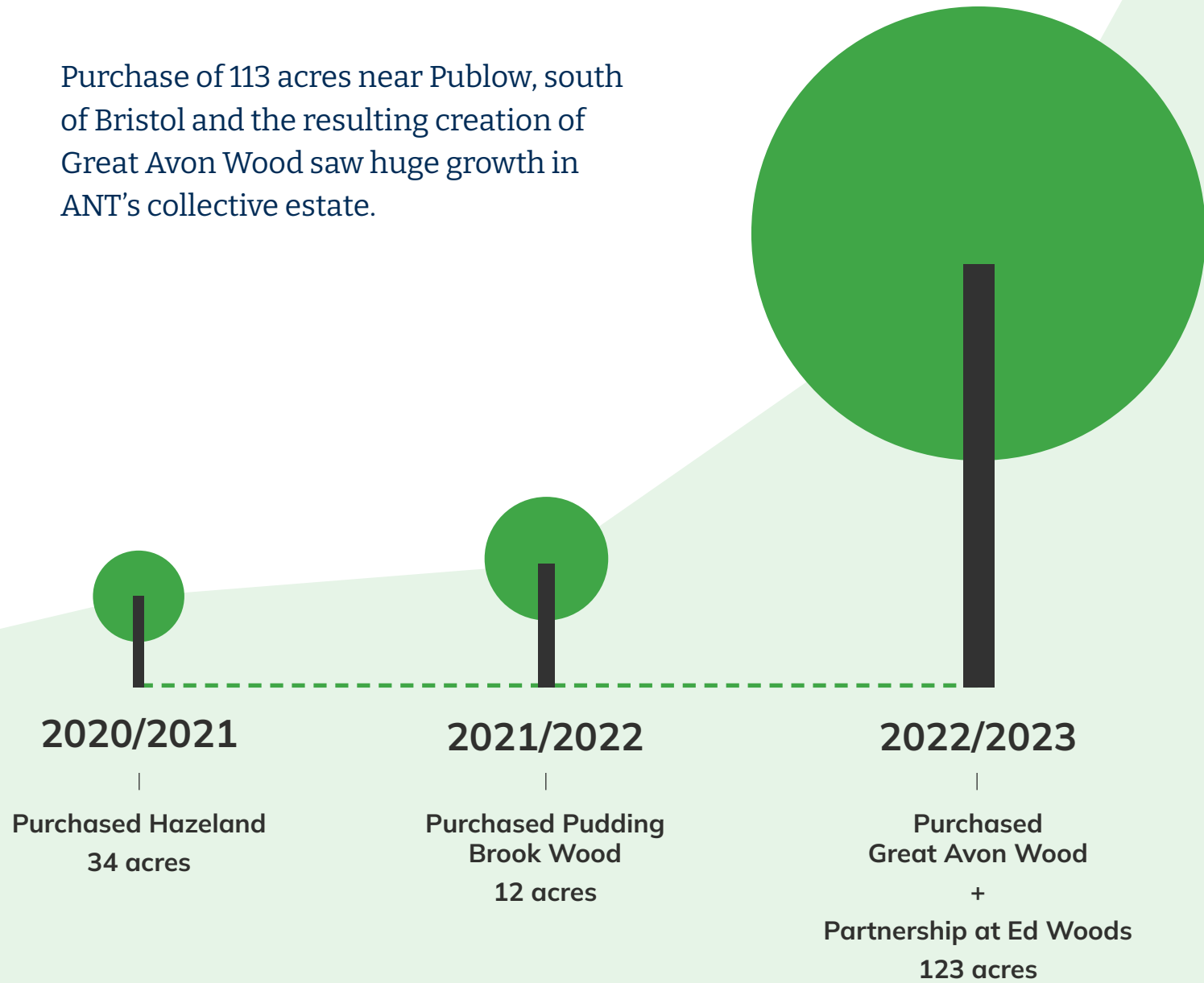
We are preparing the case for a new, larger woodland creation project for 2023/24. The scale of this project has the potential for alternative land use within the site, and landscape-scale working in and beyond the site.

Complementary land uses and habitats within the potential site will allow further multi-layered benefits to be identified and delivered, including climate resilience, food production and soil enhancement.

A landscape scale project would allow for woodland connectivity and complementary habitats and land uses in a much larger area, guided by ecological processes for maximising layered benefits.

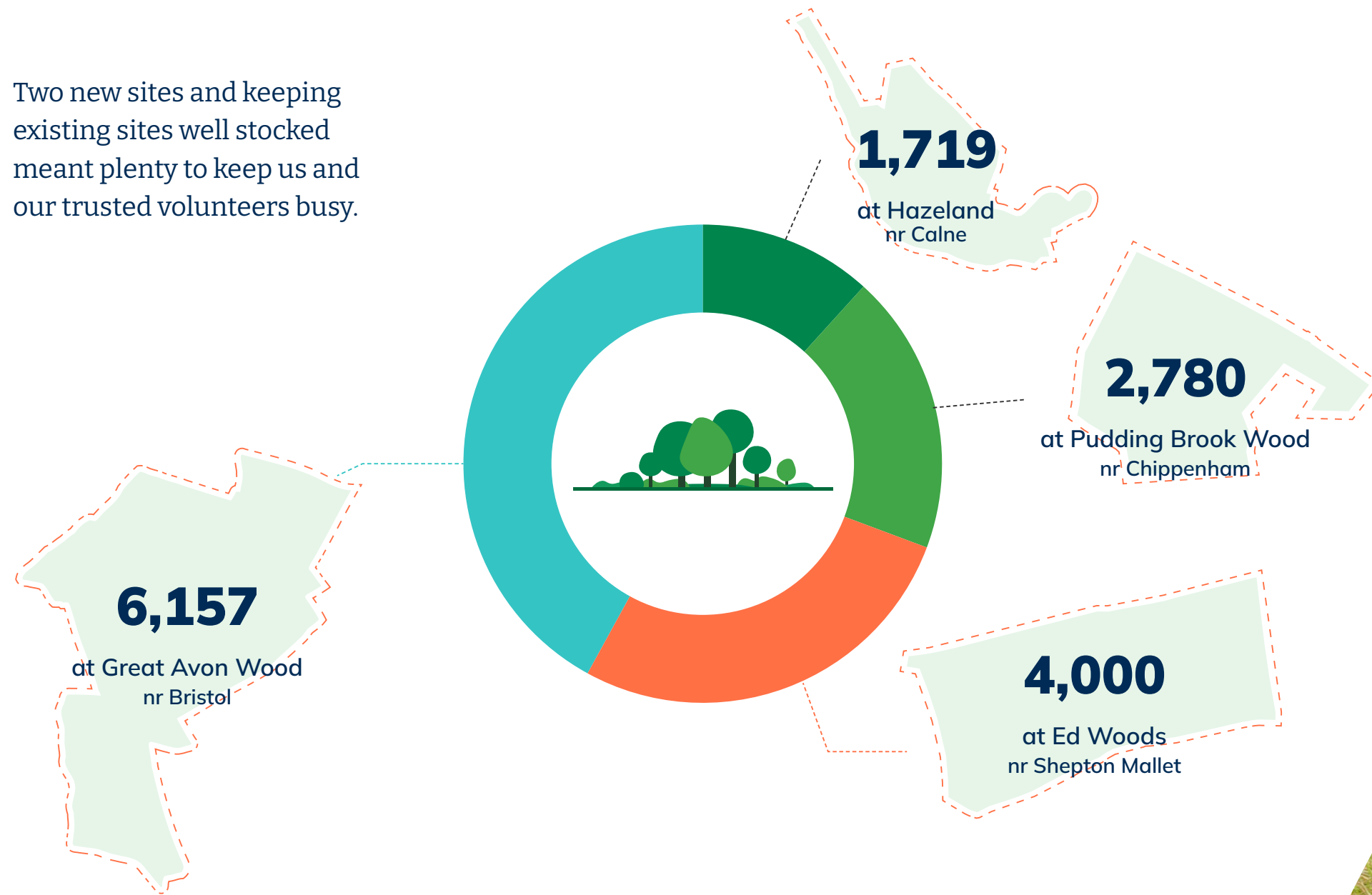
2023 Land - a year of growth

Purchase of 113 acres near Publow, south of Bristol and the resulting creation of Great Avon Wood saw huge growth in ANT's collective estate.



Trees planted in 2023

Two new sites and keeping existing sites well stocked meant plenty to keep us and our trusted volunteers busy.



Impact for people

ANT's objectives of woodland creation and conservation, and education about climate and nature, brings multi-layered benefits to individual people and the wider public.

Volunteering:

Over 1,000 volunteers helped meet our charitable objectives, mostly through planting trees and conservation, providing and aftercare. Specialist volunteers and trustees are heavily involved in planning woodland creation, public engagement and outreach. We monitor skills, knowledge and wellbeing outcomes to maximise our impact.

Events:

We ran dozens of free-to-access public events at our sites across the year to deliver, monitor and evaluate natural heritage and ecological education, knowledge and wellbeing outcomes. Events range from forest schools to bat walks, butterfly counts to wellbeing days.

Jobs and skills:

This year another three ANT volunteers used this experience to switch sectors and gain employment in the green economy. In addition to the skills delivered through volunteering, this year we secured funding for a pilot Woodland Skills Programme to run in the coming year. The programme will be a structured 'taster' to different skills and possible careers paths in the green economy.

Outreach:

This year we ran an organised presence at a range of community events to ensure ANT's opportunities are available to a wider audience. Many of these were stalls at very localised general community events or town-wide climate-focused events. Larger events included a tent at the Festival of Nature, South Gloucestershire Show and the Sustainable Agriculture Conference.

Others were bespoke like a landowner event with the Forestry Commission encouraging landowners to engage in woodland creation.

Equity and inclusion:

Inclusion is central to our cross-cutting theme of multi-layered benefit delivery. National and local government statistics concur that marginalised communities are both less likely to access high quality green space or engage with opportunities, and more likely to benefit from taking these steps.

We monitor internal equalities information to establish how representative our direct beneficiaries are of the general population and take action to redress lack of representation. The following communities are less likely to get involved in our activities without proactive steps: disabled people, children, older people and ethnical minorities.

Our marketing, use of imagery and design of events has a focus on children and ethnic minorities, with most of our on-site events designed for one or both communities.

A number of steps so far have been taken to address inclusion of disabled people and older people. Online equivalents of on-site events are more inclusive to people with mobility issues and this year we have run some of our forest schools for SEND schoolchildren at the familiar environment of their school. We are planning further steps including an accessibility review and events targeted at older people.

Co-design with communities:

We embrace the principles of co-design and this year we have been working towards good practice. This year we held a community drop-in event as a very early stage of the woodland creation process, several months before we completed on the land purchase, to directly engage local people in the design of our new woodlands. We also met with local farmers and landowners to hear their priorities and challenges with managing land for nature and used this as a starting point for landscape-scale work in future years.

We attempt to discuss new projects of any kinds widely amongst potential beneficiaries, people who face barriers to involvement, local communities and regional stakeholders.



Future plans:

For the coming reporting period we are preparing for potential projects that have strong potential for continued development of impacts and benefits to people.

Potential woodland creation projects includes creation of woodland open green space for 95% percentile EDI deprived community in south Bristol. There are strong potential outcomes for local green space, wellbeing and skills outcomes by working in depth, over time with this community.

A potential public engagement project in the next reporting period would expand impact for people by expanding the range of volunteering opportunities available, alongside other direct actions to benefit nature and climate.

A potential landscape scale project would offer transformational opportunities to further the education and engagement of the public in nature and climate. In 2023/24 an assessment of this potential and making plans to harness it will be a substantial project.



Volunteering

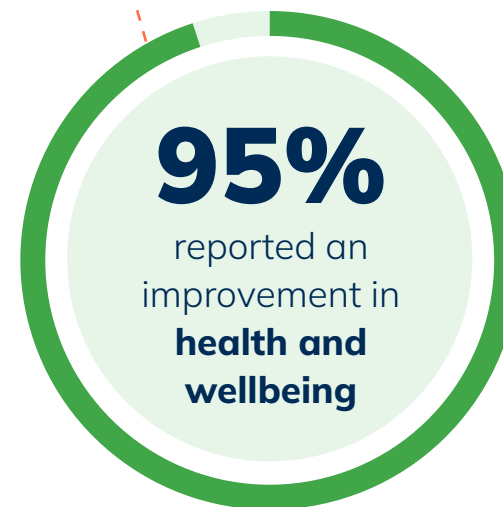
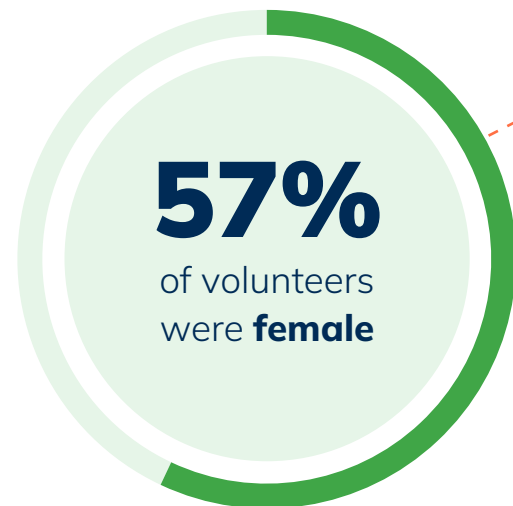
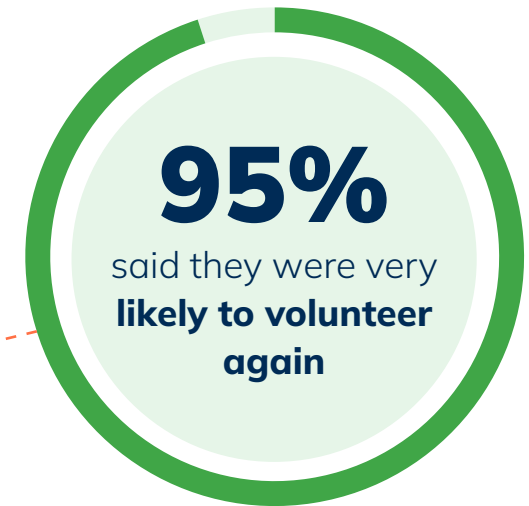
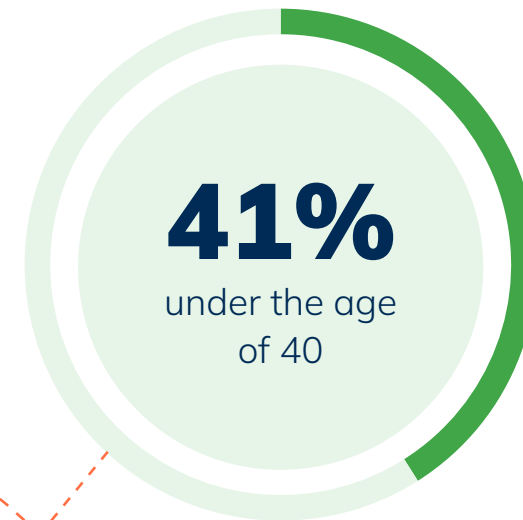
In 2022-2023:

- + We ran 137 volunteer days, planting and caring for our trees
- + 1,139 people volunteered
- + 5,695 volunteer hours
- + Valuing £113,900



Image credit: Ecosulis

Our volunteers



Outreach

29 Events

run, online and outdoors,
which nearly 700 people
signed up to.

2,086

subscribed to our Newsletter.

Image credit: Alex Carl Turner



Financial review

This year was the start of a period of substantial growth and change for the charity with the acquisition of Great Avon Wood at Publow. Purchase, establishment and other activities were secured through grants of over £2m from DEFRA, West of England Combined Authority, National Lottery Heritage Fund and non-cash contributions from the Woodland Trust. Most of these grants are phased over several years with fundraising for the year totalling £764,363 (2022: £219,714) as a combination of proportion of grant funds received, corporate and individual donations. Corporate giving increased slightly to £41,022 (2022: £28,216) and individual donations dipped slightly to £28,224 (2022: £46,618). In 2022 donations were secured in an intensive land purchase campaign and longer-term costs were covered by a DEFRA grant, whereas in 2023 a DEFRA grant secured the purchase and individual and corporate giving will pay for longer-term costs. This shift in the charity's fundraising model shifted from substantial donations to secure land purchase to longer-term individual giving to support long-term establishment goals stretched individual giving targets over three years rather than three months.

Great Avon Wood being a substantial land acquisition of 113 acres (2022: 14 acres) ANT's personnel grew to reflect increased volunteer co-ordination (volunteer numbers doubled from 500 to over 1,000), communications, administration, finance, outreach, project management and operational management.

Project staff were funded by WECA until the end of the establishment period at March 2025, as were a portion of core costs and core staff to support the project. This recovery of core costs was supplemented by other grants, full cost recovery from other projects and unrestricted income to meet the charity's core costs.

During the period additional management capacity was created, by employing an Operations Manager, to increase fundraising activities. This investment has meant further grants were secured after this reporting period, and development work on other fundraising streams (including environmental credit sale, regular giving, corporate giving and individual giving) took place this year, with the delivery phase in the coming year.

ANT's principal financial risks going forward is securing core costs in 2025/26 when grant funding for a portion of core costs comes to an

end. Plans to manage this risk includes developing a range of successor projects to contribute towards core costs, as well as developing a range of non-project based income streams including commercial income, credit sales and enhanced regular, individual and corporate giving. Trustees are committed to resource allocation that facilitates both operational function and growth of fundraising.

ANT does not currently make investments but an investment policy is programmed for the coming reporting period. ANT's procurement policy follows the Social Value Act principles of creating secure local supply lines, climate resilience and tackling inequality. ANT is not a grant-making body.

Reserves and assets:

ANT's total funds in 2023 are £1,275,198 (2022: £816,362) of which £972,070 (2022: £523,000) are fixed assets in land. Funds restricted to projects in 2023 are £837,419 (2022: £380,565). General funds are

£292,225 (2022: £264,313). Designated reserves represent the value of fixed assets funded from unrestricted funds and stood at £145,554 (2022: £171,484).

ANT's reserves policy was amended in the reporting period to reflect the large scale of new projects undertaken by the charity. This policy internally designates unrestricted reserves as funds to support capital reclaim. As major projects like Great Avon Wood require upfront capital expenditure based on quarterly or annual reclaims from funders, cashflow projections indicate a number of quarters were the capital sums expended but awaiting reclaim will exceed £200,000.

As ANT takes on new major projects in the coming year the charity will need increased working capital to run multiple projects simultaneously. Plans are in place to increase funds held to allow for this growth.

Going concern - after making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that ANT has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they have adopted the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.



Structure, governance and management

Constitution – ANT is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), formed in April 2019 and registered as a charity in July 2019. The affairs of ANT are governed by its Constitution which established the objects and powers of ANT. In the event of the charity being wound up the trustees have no liability for its debts.

Appointment of Trustees - the governance of ANT is the responsibility of the Trustees who are appointed under the terms of the Constitution. Trustees remain in post until they retire or otherwise cease under the provisions of the Charity constitution. New Trustees are elected by the Trustees then in post after an observation period of at least three meetings, as detailed in the Trustee Policy, along with an induction learning journey and training.

Organisational structure and decision-making policies – operational decisions are delegated by Trustees to the Chief Executive, in consultation with relevant lead Trustees for HR, safeguarding, health & safety, data protection, fundraising and public engagement and operational reports are reviewed a monthly meetings of Trustees. Policy decisions are made at Trustee monthly meetings with regular and ad hoc Trustee subgroups in operation to advise.

The Chief Executive leads the staffing structure and delegates responsibilities to other members of staff as necessary. The Chief Executive manages the Operations Manager who in turn manages the Woodland Creation Manager, Finance Officer, Administrator, Communications Officer, Hazeland Co-ordinator, Land Acquisition Co-ordinator and Great Avon Wood Project Manager. The latter manages the Volunteer

Co-ordinator, Outreach Co-ordinator and Conservation & Heritage Co-ordinator. Pay arrangements of the Chief Executive are decided by the Trustees and pay arrangements for other staff are delegated to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair of Trustees.

Risk Management policy – The Trustees have identified the potential risks to ANT and ranked them according to likelihood and severity. For each risk they have identified mitigation and a responsible person, and the risk register is reviewed at every regular meeting of the Trustees.

Public Benefit - the Trustees have reviewed the Charity Commission's guidance on the requirement to report on public benefit. They are satisfied that the work of ANT, as described above, accords with its stated objects and provides tangible public benefit to an appropriate section of those who reside within ANT's area of benefit.

The charity maintains service delivery contracts with individuals, funders and partner organisations. Other collaboration with partner organisations are informal, except for a formal collaboration agreement with Forest of Avon Trust governing the joint ownership of Great Avon Wood.

Trustees annual report

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011 and the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period.

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions set out in the Charities Act 2011 and in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

Signed on behalf of the board

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Funnell', is written over a faint, light-colored rectangular stamp or watermark.

M. Funnell Trustee

05 December 2023

Independent Examiners Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Avon Needs Trees

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Avon Needs Trees for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the Charity are not required to be audited under section 144 of the 2011 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's financial statements 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

As the charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ACCA, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act ; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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
- the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



Ryan Corkery ACCA

Magic Bean Counters Limited
Unit 7, The Old Co-op
38 Chelsea Road Bristol
BS5 6AF

15 December 2023

Avon Needs Trees
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 30 June 2023

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
	Notes				
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	58,326	706,037	764,363	169,194
Charitable activities	4	-	-	-	50,000
Investments	5	827	-	827	520
Total		59,153	706,037	765,190	219,714
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	109	-	109	1,480
Charitable activities	7	3,133	97,423	100,556	68,345
Other	8	40,260	165,429	205,689	99,738
Total		43,502	262,852	306,354	169,563
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	-
Net income		15,651	443,185	458,836	50,151
Transfers between funds		(13,669)	13,669	-	-
Net income before other gains/(losses)		1,982	456,854	458,836	50,151
Other gains and losses					
Net movement in funds		1,982	456,854	458,836	50,151
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		435,797	380,565	816,362	766,211
Total funds carried forward		437,779	837,419	1,275,198	816,362

Avon Needs Trees
Summary Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Income	764,363	219,194
Interest and investment income	827	520
Gross income for the year	765,190	219,714
Expenditure	311,260	169,563
Interest payable	36	-
Depreciation and charges for impairment of fixed assets	(4,942)	-
Total expenditure for the year	306,354	169,563
Net income before tax for the year	458,836	50,151
Net income for the year	458,836	50,151

**Avon Needs Trees
Balance Sheet
at 30 June 2023**

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	972,070	523,000
		<u>972,070</u>	<u>523,000</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	12	207,256	35,343
Cash at bank and in hand		108,800	269,804
		<u>316,056</u>	<u>305,147</u>
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	13	(12,928)	(11,785)
Net current assets		303,128	293,362
Total assets less current liabilities		1,275,198	816,362
Net assets excluding pension asset or liability		1,275,198	816,362
Total net assets		<u>1,275,198</u>	<u>816,362</u>
The funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	14		
Restricted income funds		837,419	380,565
		<u>837,419</u>	<u>380,565</u>
Unrestricted funds	14		
General funds		292,225	264,313
Designated funds		145,554	171,484
		<u>437,779</u>	<u>435,797</u>
Reserves	14		
Total funds		<u>1,275,198</u>	<u>816,362</u>

**Avon Needs Trees
Balance Sheet**

Approved by the board on 27 November 2023

And signed on its behalf by:



M. Funnell
Trustee
27 November 2023

Avon Needs Trees
Statement of Cash flows
for the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities		
Net income per Statement of Financial Activities	458,836	50,151
Adjustments for:		
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(4,942)	-
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(827)	(520)
Other gains/losses	-	-
(Increase)/Decrease in trade and other receivables	(171,913)	12,677
Increase in trade and other payables	1,143	2,098
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>282,297</u>	<u>64,406</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment	30,872	-
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(475,000)	(198,000)
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	827	520
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(443,301)</u>	<u>(197,480)</u>
Net cash from financing activities	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(161,004)	(133,074)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	269,804	402,878
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	<u>108,800</u>	<u>269,804</u>

Avon Needs Trees
Statement of Cash flows

Components of cash and cash equivalents

Cash and bank balances	108,800	269,804
	<u>108,800</u>	<u>269,804</u>

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

for the year ended 30 June 2023

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds	These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.
Designated funds	These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
Revaluation funds	These are unrestricted funds which include a revaluation reserve representing the restatement of investment assets at their market values.
Restricted funds	These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

Income

Recognition of income	Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.
Income with related expenditure	Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.
Donations and legacies	Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.
Tax reclaims on donations and gifts	Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.
Donated services and facilities	These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.
Volunteer help	The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.
Investment income	This is included in the accounts when receivable.
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets	This includes any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.
Gains/(losses) on investment assets	This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments.

Avon Needs Trees

Notes to the Accounts

Expenditure

Recognition of expenditure	Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.
Expenditure on raising funds	These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.
Expenditure on charitable activities	These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.
Grants payable	All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.
Governance costs	These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.
Other expenditure	These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Taxation

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

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

Freehold property	0% Held at cost
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Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Avon Needs Trees

Notes to the Accounts

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the company's cash management.

Trade and other creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the company has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as expenses when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the company in independently administered funds.

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

2 Statement of Financial Activities - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	45,047	124,147	169,194
Charitable activities	50,000	-	50,000
Investments	520	-	520
Total	95,567	124,147	219,714
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds	1,480	-	1,480
Charitable activities	2,415	65,930	68,345
Other	49,049	50,689	99,738
Total	52,944	116,619	169,563
Net income	42,623	7,528	50,151
Transfers between funds	(15,882)	15,882	-
Net income before other gains/(losses)	26,741	23,410	50,151
Other gains and losses:			
Net movement in funds	26,741	23,410	50,151
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	409,056	357,155	766,211
Total funds carried forward	435,797	380,565	816,362

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Individual donations	19,630	8,594	28,224	46,618
Corporate donations	21,548	19,474	41,022	28,216
Grants	17,148	677,969	695,117	94,360
	58,326	706,037	764,363	169,194
4 Income from charitable activities			Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Establishment and maintenance of woodland			-	50,000
			-	50,000
5 Income from investments		Unrestricted £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Bank interest		827	827	520
		827	827	520

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted	Total	Total
		2023	2022
	£	£	£
<i>Costs of generating voluntary income</i>			
Individual donations	109	109	1,480
	<u>109</u>	<u>109</u>	<u>1,480</u>

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
			2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>				
Establishment and maintenance of woodland	1,333	94,576	95,909	63,718
Repair and conservation work	-	2,847	2,847	2,347
<i>Governance costs</i>				
Independent examiner's fees - current year	1,800	-	1,800	1,440
Independent examiner's fees - underprovided in prior year	-	-	-	840
	<u>3,133</u>	<u>97,423</u>	<u>100,556</u>	<u>68,345</u>

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

8 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
			2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Publicity and promotion	188	1,354	1,542	8,026
Event costs	57	1,979	2,036	2,108
Other interest payable	36	-	36	-
Employee costs	37,044	129,536	166,580	71,162
Motor and travel costs	732	3,248	3,980	3,021
Premises costs	2,186	5,999	8,185	2,700
Amortisation, depreciation, impairment, profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets	(4,942)	-	(4,942)	-
General administrative costs	4,292	12,549	16,841	5,924
Legal and professional costs	667	10,764	11,431	6,797
	<u>40,260</u>	<u>165,429</u>	<u>205,689</u>	<u>99,738</u>

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

6 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted	Total	Total
		2023	2022
	£	£	£
<i>Costs of generating voluntary income</i>			
Individual donations	109	109	1,480
	<u>109</u>	<u>109</u>	<u>1,480</u>

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
			2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>				
Establishment and maintenance of woodland	1,333	94,576	95,909	63,718
Repair and conservation work	-	2,847	2,847	2,347
<i>Governance costs</i>				
Independent examiner's fees - current year	1,800	-	1,800	1,440
Independent examiner's fees - underprovided in prior year	-	-	-	840
	<u>3,133</u>	<u>97,423</u>	<u>100,556</u>	<u>68,345</u>

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

8 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
			2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Publicity and promotion	188	1,354	1,542	8,026
Event costs	57	1,979	2,036	2,108
Other interest payable	36	-	36	-
Employee costs	37,044	129,536	166,580	71,162
Motor and travel costs	732	3,248	3,980	3,021
Premises costs	2,186	5,999	8,185	2,700
Amortisation, depreciation, impairment, profit/loss on disposal of fixed assets	(4,942)	-	(4,942)	-
General administrative costs	4,292	12,549	16,841	5,924
Legal and professional costs	667	10,764	11,431	6,797
	<u>40,260</u>	<u>165,429</u>	<u>205,689</u>	<u>99,738</u>

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

9 Trustee remuneration and expenses

One of the trustees received remuneration from the charity in the current year, J. Chew was paid a total of £1,100 to run forest school sessions at one of the sites owned by the charity. No trustees received remuneration in the previous year.

Trustee	Remuneration	Pension	Other benefits
J. Chew	1,100	-	-

One or more of the trustees has been paid expenses in the current or prior periods.

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Number of trustees paid expenses	2	2
The nature of the reimbursed expenses	All expenses are either in respect of travel or reimbursal of costs expensed on behalf of the charity.	
	£	£
Total expenses reimbursed to trustees	872	1,467

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

10 Staff costs

	2023	2022
Salaries and wages	153,229	57,250
Social security costs	4,031	-
Pension costs	3,120	946
	<u>160,380</u>	<u>58,196</u>

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The average monthly number of full time equivalent employees during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Operations	8	3
	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	£	£
Cost or revaluation		
At 1 July 2022	523,000	523,000
Additions	475,000	475,000
Disposals	(25,930)	(25,930)
At 30 June 2023	<u>972,070</u>	<u>972,070</u>
Net book values		
At 30 June 2023	<u>972,070</u>	<u>972,070</u>
At 30 June 2022	<u>523,000</u>	<u>523,000</u>

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

12 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other debtors	-	2,827
Prepayments and accrued income	207,256	32,516
	<u>207,256</u>	<u>35,343</u>

13 Creditors:
amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	3,247	6,841
Other taxes and social security	6,174	2,935
Other creditors	965	569
Accruals	2,542	1,440
	<u>12,928</u>	<u>11,785</u>

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

14 Movement in funds

	At 1 July 2022	Incoming resources (including other gains/losses) £	Resources expended £	Gross transfers £	At 30 June 2023 £
Restricted funds:					
Restricted income funds:					
Hazeland - purchase	307,515	-	-	-	307,515
Hazeland - operation and infrastructure	29,049	2,141	(28,885)	-	2,305
Pudding Brook Wood (nee Stanley Lane) - operation and infrastructure	44,001	22,211	(14,244)	-	51,968
Great Avon Woods - purchase	-	475,000	-	-	475,000
Great Avon Woods - operation and infrastructure	-	153,716	(163,536)	10,450	631
Ed Woods - tree planting	-	52,968	(56,187)	3,219	-
<i>Total</i>	<u>380,565</u>	<u>706,037</u>	<u>(262,852)</u>	<u>13,669</u>	<u>837,419</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds					
General funds held in land	171,484	-	-	(25,930)	145,554
<i>Total</i>	<u>171,484</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(25,930)</u>	<u>145,554</u>
Total funds	<u>816,362</u>	<u>765,190</u>	<u>(306,354)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,275,198</u>

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

Purposes and restrictions in relation to the funds:

Restricted funds:

Hazeland - purchase	To purchase the site known as Hazeland
Hazeland - operation and infrastructure	To establish and maintain the woodland at Hazeland
Pudding Brook Wood (nee Stanley Lane) - operation and infrastructure	To purchase the site known as Stanley Lane
Great Avon Woods - purchase	To purchase the site known as Publow
Great Avon Woods - operation and infrastructure	To establish and maintain the woodland at Publow
Ed Woods - tree planting	To establish a woodland at the site known as Bodden
Designated funds:	
General funds held in land	To represent value of unrestricted funds used in land purchase

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	£	£	£
Fixed assets	145,554	826,516	972,070
Net current assets	303,128	-	303,128
	<u>448,682</u>	<u>826,516</u>	<u>1,275,198</u>

Avon Needs Trees
Notes to the Accounts

16 Reconciliation of net debt

	At 1 July 2022	Cash flows	At 30 June 2023
	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	269,804	(161,004)	108,800
	<u>269,804</u>	<u>(161,004)</u>	<u>108,800</u>
Net debt	<u>269,804</u>	<u>(161,004)</u>	<u>108,800</u>

17 Commitments

Pension commitments

	2023	2022
	£	£
The pension cost charge to the company amounted to:	<u>3,120</u>	<u>946</u>
Unpaid contributions due to the fund are included in other creditors and amounted to:	<u>965</u>	<u>569</u>

Avon Needs Trees
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 30 June 2023

	Unrestrict ed funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies				
Individual donations	19,630	8,594	28,224	46,618
Corporate donations	21,548	19,474	41,022	28,216
Grants	17,148	677,969	695,117	94,360
	<u>58,326</u>	<u>706,037</u>	<u>764,363</u>	<u>169,194</u>
Charitable activities				
Establishment and maintenance of woodland	-	-	-	50,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50,000</u>
Investments				
Bank interest	827	-	827	520
	<u>827</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>827</u>	<u>520</u>
Total income and endowments	59,153	706,037	765,190	219,714
Expenditure on:				
Costs of generating donations and legacies				
Individual donations	109	-	109	1,480
	<u>109</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>109</u>	<u>1,480</u>
Total of expenditure on raising funds	109	-	109	1,480
Charitable activities				

Avon Needs Trees
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Establishment and maintenance of woodland	1,333	94,576	95,909	63,718
Repair and conservation work	-	2,847	2,847	2,347
	<u>1,333</u>	<u>97,423</u>	<u>98,756</u>	<u>66,065</u>
Governance costs				
Independent examiner's fees - current year	1,800	-	1,800	1,440
Independent examiner's fees - underprovided in prior year	-	-	-	840
	<u>1,800</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,800</u>	<u>2,280</u>
Total of expenditure on charitable activities	3,133	97,423	100,556	68,345
Other expenditure				
Publicity and promotion	188	1,354	1,542	8,026
Event costs	57	1,979	2,036	2,108
Other interest payable	36	-	36	-
	<u>281</u>	<u>3,333</u>	<u>3,614</u>	<u>10,134</u>
Employee costs				
Salaries/wages	39,704	113,525	153,229	57,250
Employer's NIC	(4,213)	8,244	4,031	-
Pension costs	954	2,166	3,120	946
Staff recruitment	544	1,501	2,045	175
Staff training	55	-	55	266
Temporary staff	-	4,100	4,100	12,525
	<u>37,044</u>	<u>129,536</u>	<u>166,580</u>	<u>71,162</u>
Motor and travel costs				
Travel and subsistence	732	3,248	3,980	3,021
	<u>732</u>	<u>3,248</u>	<u>3,980</u>	<u>3,021</u>
Premises costs				
Rent	2,186	5,999	8,185	2,700

Avon Needs Trees

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

	2,186	5,999	8,185	2,700
General administrative costs, including depreciation and amortisation				
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(4,942)	-	(4,942)	-
Equipment expensed	(10)	12,370	12,360	2,848
General insurances	1,247	179	1,426	700
Postage and couriers	36	-	36	-
Software, IT support and related costs	1,081	-	1,081	-
Stationery and printing	173	-	173	-
Sundry expenses	1,765	-	1,765	2,376
	(650)	12,549	11,899	5,924
Legal and professional costs				
Audit/Independent examination fees	240	-	240	-
Other legal and professional costs	427	10,764	11,191	6,797
	667	10,764	11,431	6,797
Total of expenditure of other costs	40,260	165,429	205,689	99,738
Total expenditure	43,502	262,852	306,354	169,563
Net gains on investments	-	-	-	-
Net income	15,651	443,185	458,836	50,151
Transfers between funds	(13,669)	13,669	-	-
Net income before other gains/(losses)	1,982	456,854	458,836	50,151
Other Gains	-	-	-	-

Avon Needs Trees

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Net movement in funds	1,982	456,854	458,836	50,151
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	435,797	380,565	816,362	766,211
Total funds carried forward	437,779	837,419	1,275,198	816,362

Thank you to everyone who supported us

Avon Needs Trees is a registered charity in England and Wales.

Registration number: 1184386 1-3 Gloucester road, Bristol, BS7 8AA

Supported by players of



AVON NEEDS TREES

England & Wales - Charity number 1184386

Accounts

Avon Needs Trees

Charity No. 1184386

Trustees' Report and Unaudited Accounts

30 June 2022

Avon Needs Trees
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity No. 1184386

Registered Office

1-3 Gloucester Road
Bishopston
Bristol
BS7 8AA

Trustees

The following Trustees served during the year:

C.L. Bedford

T. Castle

A. Chester

J. Chew

M. Funnell (Appointed 23 May 2022)

S. Hales

N.A. Jones (Resigned 26 July 2021)

A. Mullett (Resigned 10 May 2022)

N.J.A. Murry

A.G. Spittlehouse

Key Management Personnel

Chair M. Funnell

Director D. Wood

Accountants

Magic Bean Counters Limited

Unit 7, The Old Co-op

38 Chelsea Road

Bristol

BS5 6AF

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of Avon Needs Trees ("ANT") are:

- 1) The conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment for the public benefit by the establishment and maintenance of trees, woodland and complementary habitats in such areas within the Bristol-Avon catchment area as the trustees shall determine.
- 2) To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment including by promoting woodlands as a means for the public to learn about wider environmental issues such as: sustainability, climate change, ecology and the mitigating need for trees.

VOLUNTEERS

ANT had over 500 volunteers during the year and is most grateful for the immense contribution that they make; without them ANT would not exist. As part of the NLHF conditions for grant funding, volunteer time is recorded. At Hazeland from 30th June 2021 to 30th June 2022 we have recorded: 190 hrs of Professional time, costed at £50/hr, 1,110 hrs of Skilled time at £20/hr, and 2216 hrs of Volunteer time at £10/hr, which equates to a value of £52,748. At Pudding Brook Wood (nee Stanley Lane) over the same period volunteers gave 448 hours of Skilled time and 3294 hours of Volunteer time. This equates to £41,900.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

In April 2019 Avon Needs Trees was set up with the intention of buying land in the Bristol-Avon Catchment Area to create new, permanent woodland through reforestation and rewilding. Our operational objectives are to lock up carbon, improve biodiversity, create natural flood management and to provide public amenity space for the local community.

Following the establishment of Hazeland in 2020/21 – a National Lottery Heritage funded project delivering public engagement to December 2023 – ANT secured a site at Stanley Lane, close to Chippenham in Wiltshire. An offer of £198,000 was accepted on the land on 31st May 2021 and purchase completed that November. The six hectare site was ideally located alongside the Chippenham to Calne foot and cycle path, allowing volunteers to travel actively and allowing the local population to benefit from a picnic and interpretation area created just off the path.

Grants were made by the Great Western Community Forest and OneTreePlanted to cover many of the establishment costs and by the People's Postcode Lottery Trust to cover overhead costs. 500 volunteers engaged in the planting of nearly 10,000 native broadleaf trees at the new Pudding Brook Wood, alongside a further 2,000 trees planted at Hazeland.

During 2021/22 ANT appointed a new Chair, Mark Funnell, who is Campaigns and Communications Director of the National Trust and brings useful experience to our Trustee Board. Mark served an induction period from 28/3/22 and was appointed Chair on 23/5/22.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

This year was an important one for investment and consolidation for ANT, ahead of expansion and growth in the year to come, with staff employed from grants received the previous year to prepare ANT for sustainable growth. Fundraising for the year totalled £219,714 (2021: £335,117) as ANT secured grant funds, corporate and individual donations towards the purchase and establishment of Pudding Brook Wood. Most ANT fundraising is linked to land projects in the form of individual, grant and corporation donations. 2020/21 saw fundraising both for the establishment of Hazeland and also for the purchase of the next site. In 2021/22 ANT successfully fundraised for the establishment of Pudding Brook Wood. Fundraising reduced after this establishment, as the changing land market meant that ANT did not have the next land purchase lined up as early as the previous year. In the three weeks since the end of 2021/22 we have made an offer on our next land purchase, which has been accepted, and we already have in principle agreement of a substantial grant to purchase the land.

At the end of the period there was a surplus of £264,313 carried forward in unrestricted/undesignated funds to fund our next land purchase, £29,049 carried forward in restricted funds for the continuing Hazeland project, and a total of £523,000 in funds held in land. Total funds amounted to £816,362.

The Trustees have revised the Reserves Policy after undertaking a review of ANT's full cost recovery budgets and assessed reserve needs. The new reserves policy identified restricted funds: currently comprising grants funded for a specified purpose. This includes applications for staff funds and project and maintenance costs for Hazeland and Pudding Brook Wood. A small level of designated reserves are set aside to cover any discharge of responsibility for office space, contractor commitments and any fixed-term staff costs that are not covered by restricted grant funds. The remaining unrestricted reserves are primarily for the next land purchase.

Going concern - after making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that ANT has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they have adopted the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

ANT scopes the market for land each month, assessing prospects against suitability criteria for woodland creation. ANT enters the financial year with £264,313 unrestricted/undesignated reserves, mainly for the next land purchase, and has identified land close to Bristol that they hope to secure for the next planting season.

ANT's trustees are keen to expand the impact of the charity from planting one woodland each year to planting several. Land prices and pace of fundraising may not allow multiple land purchases each year, so ANT is actively talking to potential land partners. These partners would allow ANT to create woodland on their land and maintain it in the long-term. As permanence is a guiding principle for the charity, trustees seek a guarantee of permanence from such land partners such as maintenance contracts, long-leases or conservation covenants to ensure the woodlands continue to provide benefit in the decades to come.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution – ANT is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), formed in April 2019 and registered as a charity in July 2019. The affairs of ANT are governed by its Constitution which established the objects and powers of ANT. In the event of the charity being wound up the trustees have no liability for its debts.

Appointment of Trustees - the governance of ANT is the responsibility of the Trustees who are appointed under the terms of the Constitution. Trustees remain in post until they retire or otherwise cease under the provisions of the Charity constitution, and new Trustees are elected by the Trustees then in post.

Organisational structure and decision-making policies - in common with most small charities the organisational structure is flat and kept simple, the Trustees making key decisions at regular monthly Trustee Board meetings and also at ad hoc meetings as required. As the charity has grown and raised funds to employ staff many of the trustees decisions are delegated to the Director, appointed in May 2021, to implement and bring further recommendations. The Director acts as line manager for the newly appointed Administration and Publicity Officer, the Hazeland Project Co-ordinator and contractors.

Risk Management policy – The Trustees have identified the potential risks to ANT and ranked them according to likelihood and severity. For each risk they have identified mitigation and a responsible person, and the risk register is reviewed at every regular meeting of the Trustees.

Public Benefit - the Trustees have reviewed the Charity Commission's guidance on the requirement to report on public benefit. They are satisfied that the work of ANT, as described above, accords with its stated objects and provides tangible public benefit to an appropriate section of those who reside within ANT's area of benefit.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the income and expenditure of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed/constitution. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the board



M. Funnell

Trustee

22 July 2022

Avon Needs Trees

Independent Examiners Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of Avon Needs Trees

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the financial statements of Avon Needs Trees for the year ended 30 June 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Summary Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet and the related notes.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of your charity's financial statements as carried out under section 145 of the Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I can confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act ; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements concerning the form and content set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (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 financial statements to be reached.



Ryan Corkery

Association of Chartered Certified Accountants

Magic Bean Counters Limited

Unit 7, The Old Co-op

38 Chelsea Road

Bristol

BS5 6AF

22 July 2022

Avon Needs Trees
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 30 June 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	3	45,047	124,147	169,194	331,970
Charitable activities	4	50,000	-	50,000	-
Investments	5	520	-	520	156
Other	6	-	-	-	2,992
Total		95,567	124,147	219,714	335,118
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	1,480	-	1,480	250
Charitable activities	8	2,415	65,930	68,345	14,851
Other	9	49,049	50,689	99,738	62,804
Total		52,944	116,619	169,563	77,905
Net gains on investments		-	-	-	-
Net income	10	42,623	7,528	50,151	257,213
Transfers between funds		(15,882)	15,882	-	-
Net income before other gains/(losses)		26,741	23,410	50,151	257,213
Other gains and losses					
Net movement in funds		26,741	23,410	50,151	257,213
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		409,056	357,155	766,211	508,998
Total funds carried forward		435,797	380,565	816,362	766,211

Avon Needs Trees
Summary Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022 £	2021 £
Income	219,194	334,962
Interest and investment income	520	156
Gross income for the year	<u>219,714</u>	<u>335,118</u>
Expenditure	169,563	77,905
Total expenditure for the year	<u>169,563</u>	<u>77,905</u>
Net income before tax for the year	50,151	257,213
Net income for the year	<u><u>50,151</u></u>	<u><u>257,213</u></u>

Avon Needs Trees
Balance Sheet
at 30 June 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	523,000	325,000
		<u>523,000</u>	<u>325,000</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	14	35,343	48,020
Cash at bank and in hand		269,804	402,878
		<u>305,147</u>	<u>450,898</u>
Creditors: Amount falling due within one year	15	(11,785)	(9,687)
Net current assets		<u>293,362</u>	<u>441,211</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>816,362</u>	<u>766,211</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset or liability		<u>816,362</u>	<u>766,211</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>816,362</u></u>	<u><u>766,211</u></u>
The funds of the charity			
Restricted funds	16		
Restricted income funds		380,565	357,155
		<u>380,565</u>	<u>357,155</u>
Unrestricted funds	16		
General funds		264,313	409,056
Designated funds		171,484	-
		<u>435,797</u>	<u>409,056</u>
Total funds		<u><u>816,362</u></u>	<u><u>766,211</u></u>

Approved by the board on 22 July 2022

And signed on its behalf by:



M. Funnell
Trustee
22 July 2022

for the year ended 30 June 2022

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011.

The charity is a public benefit entity.

Change in basis of accounting or to previous accounts

There has been no change to the accounting policies (valuation rules and method of accounting) since last year and no changes have been made to accounts for previous years.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds	These are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objects of the charity.
Designated funds	These are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.
Revaluation funds	These are unrestricted funds which include a revaluation reserve representing the restatement of investment assets at their market values.
Restricted funds	These are available for use subject to restrictions imposed by the donor or through terms of an appeal.

Income

Recognition of income Income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity becomes entitled to, and virtually certain to receive, the income and the amount of the income can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income with related expenditure Where income has related expenditure the income and related expenditure is reported gross in the SoFA.

Donations and legacies Voluntary income received by way of grants, donations and gifts is included in the the SoFA when receivable and only when the Charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.

Tax reclaims on donations and gifts Income from tax reclaims is included in the SoFA at the same time as the gift/donation to which it relates.

Donated services and facilities These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the Charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material.

Volunteer help The value of any volunteer help received is not included in the accounts.

Investment income This is included in the accounts when receivable.

Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assets This includes any gain or loss resulting from revaluing investments to market value at the end of the year.

Gains/(losses) on investment assets This includes any gain or loss on the sale of investments.

Expenditure

Recognition of expenditure Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Expenditure on raising funds These comprise the costs associated with attracting voluntary income, fundraising trading costs and investment management costs.

Expenditure on charitable activities These comprise the costs incurred by the Charity in the delivery of its activities and services in the furtherance of its objects, including the making of grants and governance costs.

Grants payable All grant expenditure is accounted for on an actual paid basis plus an accrual for grants that have been approved by the trustees at the end of the year but not yet paid.

Governance costs These include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the Charity, including any audit/independent examination fees, costs linked to the strategic management of the Charity, together with a share of other administration costs.

Other expenditure These are support costs not allocated to a particular activity.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

Freehold property 0% Held at cost

Trade and other debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. In the statement of financial position, bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings or current liabilities. In the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the company's cash management.

Trade and other creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Pension costs

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for its employees. A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the company pays fixed contributions into a separate entity. Once the contributions have been paid the company has no further payments obligations. The contributions are recognised as expenses when they fall due. Amounts not paid are shown in accruals in the balance sheet. The assets of the plan are held separately from the company in independently administered funds.

2 Statement of Financial Activities - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income and endowments from:			
Donations and legacies	251,980	79,990	331,970
Investments	155	-	155
Other	2,992	-	2,992
Total	<u>255,127</u>	<u>79,990</u>	<u>335,117</u>
Expenditure on:			
Charitable activities	51,179	26,724	77,903
Total	<u>51,179</u>	<u>26,724</u>	<u>77,903</u>
Net income	<u>203,948</u>	<u>53,266</u>	<u>257,214</u>
Net income before other gains/(losses)	203,948	53,266	257,214
Other gains and losses:			
Net movement in funds	<u>203,948</u>	<u>53,266</u>	<u>257,214</u>
Reconciliation of funds:			
Total funds brought forward	205,108	303,889	508,997
Total funds carried forward	<u>409,056</u>	<u>357,155</u>	<u>766,211</u>

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Individual donations	34,618	12,000	46,618	121,406
Corporate donations	9,571	18,645	28,216	61,351
Grants	858	93,502	94,360	149,213
	<u>45,047</u>	<u>124,147</u>	<u>169,194</u>	<u>331,970</u>

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Establishment and maintenance of woodland	50,000	50,000	-
	<u>50,000</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>

5 Income from investments

	Unrestricted	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Bank interest	520	520	156
	<u>520</u>	<u>520</u>	<u>156</u>

6 Other income

	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£
Event income	-	2,992
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,992</u>

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£
Fundraising expenditure	1,480	1,480	250
	<u>1,480</u>	<u>1,480</u>	<u>250</u>

8 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities</i>				
Establishment and maintenance of woodland	135	63,583	63,718	4,206
Repair and conservation work	-	2,347	2,347	9,973
<i>Governance costs</i>				
Independent examiner's fees - current year	1,440	-	1,440	-
Independent examiner's fees - underprovided in prior year	840	-	840	672
	<u>2,415</u>	<u>65,930</u>	<u>68,345</u>	<u>14,851</u>

9 Other expenditure

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Publicity and promotion	5,026	3,000	8,026	314
Event costs	-	2,108	2,108	332
Employee costs	38,217	32,945	71,162	43,531
Motor and travel costs	778	2,243	3,021	1,945
Premises costs	1,868	832	2,700	116
General administrative costs	3,160	2,764	5,924	3,544
Legal and professional costs	-	6,797	6,797	13,022
	<u>49,049</u>	<u>50,689</u>	<u>99,738</u>	<u>62,804</u>

10 Net income before transfers

	2022	2021
	£	£
This is stated after charging:		
Independent Examiner's fee	2,280	672

11 Trustee remuneration and expenses

One trustee was paid remuneration in the prior period: N. Jones received £18,531 for project management, administration and bookkeeping services prior to the recruitment of a staff member to fulfil these duties. None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration in the current period.

One or more of the trustees has been paid expenses in the current or prior periods.

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Number of trustees paid expenses	2	5
The nature of the reimbursed expenses:	All expenses are in respect of travel	
	£	£
Total expenses reimbursed to trustees	1,467	1,409

The charity has also purchased Trustee Indemnity Insurance cover.

12 Staff costs

	2022	2021
Salaries and wages	57,250	2,333
Pension costs	946	-
	<u>58,196</u>	<u>2,333</u>

No employee received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

The average monthly number of full time equivalent employees during the year was as follows:

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Operations	3	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme.

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Total
	£	£
Cost or revaluation		
At 1 July 2021	325,000	325,000
Additions	198,000	198,000
At 30 June 2022	<u>523,000</u>	<u>523,000</u>
Net book values		
At 30 June 2022	<u>523,000</u>	<u>523,000</u>
At 30 June 2021	<u>325,000</u>	<u>325,000</u>

14 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other debtors	2,827	209
Prepayments and accrued income	32,516	47,811
	<u>35,343</u>	<u>48,020</u>

15 Creditors:

amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	6,841	3,976
Other taxes and social security	2,935	711
Other creditors	569	-
Accruals	1,440	5,000
	<u>11,785</u>	<u>9,687</u>

16 Movement in funds

	At 1 July 2021	Incoming resources (including other gains/losses) £	Resources expended £	Gross transfers £	At 30 June 2022 £
Restricted funds:					
Restricted income funds:					
Hazeland - purchase	307,515	-	-	-	307,515
Hazeland - operation and infrastructure	49,640	5,500	(40,076)	13,985	29,049
Stanley Lane - purchase	-	44,001	-	-	44,001
Stanley Lane - operation and infrastructure	-	74,646	(76,543)	1,897	-
<i>Total</i>	<u>357,155</u>	<u>124,147</u>	<u>(116,619)</u>	<u>15,882</u>	<u>380,565</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General funds	409,056	95,567	(52,944)	(187,366)	264,313
Designated funds:					
General funds held in land	-	-	-	171,484	171,484
<i>Total</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>171,484</u>	<u>171,484</u>
Total funds	<u><u>766,211</u></u>	<u><u>219,714</u></u>	<u><u>(169,563)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>816,362</u></u>

Purposes and restrictions in relation to the funds:

Restricted funds:

Hazeland - purchase To purchase the site known as Hazeland

Hazeland - operation and
infrastructure To establish and maintain the woodland at Hazeland

Stanley Lane - purchase To purchase the site known as Stanley Lane

Stanley Lane - operation and
infrastructure To establish and maintain the woodland at Stanley Lane

Designated funds:

General funds held in land To represent value of unrestricted funds used in land purchase

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total £
Fixed assets	171,484	351,516	523,000
Net current assets	264,313	29,049	293,362
	<u>435,797</u>	<u>380,565</u>	<u>816,362</u>

18 Reconciliation of net debt

	At 1 July 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 30 June 2022 £
Cash and cash equivalents	402,878	(133,074)	269,804
	<u>402,878</u>	<u>(133,074)</u>	<u>269,804</u>
Net debt	<u>402,878</u>	<u>(133,074)</u>	<u>269,804</u>

19 Commitments

Pension commitments

	2022 £	2021 £
The pension cost charge to the company amounted to:	<u>946</u>	<u>-</u>
Unpaid contributions due to the fund are included in other creditors and amounted to:	<u>569</u>	<u>-</u>

20 Related party disclosures

<i>Name of related party</i>	D. Wainwright
<i>Description of relationship between the parties</i>	Close family member of the trustee N. Jones
<i>Description of transaction and general amounts involved</i>	The party received remuneration for administrative services of £Nil (2021:£7,449)

There were no other related party transactions in the reporting period that require disclosure.

Avon Needs Trees
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 30 June 2022

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and legacies				
Individual donations	34,618	12,000	46,618	121,406
Corporate donations	9,571	18,645	28,216	61,351
Grants	858	93,502	94,360	149,213
	<u>45,047</u>	<u>124,147</u>	<u>169,194</u>	<u>331,970</u>
Charitable activities				
Establishment and maintenance of woodland	50,000	-	50,000	-
	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Investments				
Bank interest	520	-	520	156
	<u>520</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>520</u>	<u>156</u>
Other				
Event income	-	-	-	2,992
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,992</u>
Total income and endowments	95,567	124,147	219,714	335,118
Expenditure on:				
Costs of generating donations and legacies				
Individual donations	1,480	-	1,480	250
	<u>1,480</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,480</u>	<u>250</u>
Total of expenditure on raising funds	1,480	-	1,480	250
Charitable activities				
Establishment and maintenance of woodland	135	63,583	63,718	4,206
Repair and conservation work	-	2,347	2,347	9,973
	<u>135</u>	<u>65,930</u>	<u>66,065</u>	<u>14,179</u>
Governance costs				
Independent examiner's fees - current year	1,440	-	1,440	-
Independent examiner's fees - underprovided in prior year	840	-	840	672
	<u>2,280</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,280</u>	<u>672</u>
Total of expenditure on charitable activities	2,415	65,930	68,345	14,851
Other expenditure				

Avon Needs Trees

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Publicity and promotion	5,026	3,000	8,026	314
Event costs	-	2,108	2,108	332
	<u>5,026</u>	<u>5,108</u>	<u>10,134</u>	<u>646</u>
Employee costs				
Salaries/wages	34,500	22,750	57,250	2,333
Pension costs	946	-	946	-
Staff recruitment	175	-	175	672
Staff training	-	266	266	345
Temporary staff	2,596	9,929	12,525	40,181
	<u>38,217</u>	<u>32,945</u>	<u>71,162</u>	<u>43,531</u>
Motor and travel costs				
Travel and subsistence	778	2,243	3,021	1,945
	<u>778</u>	<u>2,243</u>	<u>3,021</u>	<u>1,945</u>
Premises costs				
Rent	1,868	832	2,700	116
	<u>1,868</u>	<u>832</u>	<u>2,700</u>	<u>116</u>
General administrative costs, including depreciation and amortisation				
Equipment expensed	103	2,745	2,848	3,169
General insurances	700	-	700	-
Sundry expenses	2,357	19	2,376	375
	<u>3,160</u>	<u>2,764</u>	<u>5,924</u>	<u>3,544</u>
Legal and professional costs				
Other legal and professional costs	-	6,797	6,797	13,022
	<u>-</u>	<u>6,797</u>	<u>6,797</u>	<u>13,022</u>
Total of expenditure of other costs	<u>49,049</u>	<u>50,689</u>	<u>99,738</u>	<u>62,804</u>
Total expenditure	52,944	116,619	169,563	77,905
Net gains on investments	-	-	-	-
Net income	<u>42,623</u>	<u>7,528</u>	<u>50,151</u>	<u>257,213</u>
Transfers between funds	(15,882)	15,882	-	-
Net income before other gains/(losses)	<u>26,741</u>	<u>23,410</u>	<u>50,151</u>	<u>257,213</u>
Other Gains	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	<u>26,741</u>	<u>23,410</u>	<u>50,151</u>	<u>257,213</u>
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward	409,056	357,155	766,211	508,998
Total funds carried forward	<u>435,797</u>	<u>380,565</u>	<u>816,362</u>	<u>766,211</u>

AVON NEEDS TREES

England & Wales - Charity number 1184386

Accounts



**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**



**INDEX TO THE TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR
THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021**

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

The Trustees serving during the period and since the period end were as follows:

- Gavin Spittlehouse: woodlands owner with a wealth of practical woodland skills and volunteering experience;
- John Chew: primary school teacher who is passionate about sharing knowledge and understanding of climate change with children of all ages. Working towards full Forest Schools Educator accreditation;
- Catherine Bedford : freelance researcher, writer and trusts and foundations fundraiser with extensive experience in the charitable sector;
- Dr Nicholas Murry, a sustainability and climate change professional and Wiltshire County Councillor;
- Andrew Chester, a Natural England employee with particular experience of balancing and reconciling outdoor recreation with safety, nature conservation, farming, and other land uses (appointed 23 July 2020);
- Tara Castle, ex National Trust Estate Manager with extensive land management experience (appointed 22 April 2021);
- Andrew Mullett (Treasurer), a chartered accountant with many years' experience as an audit manager and then finance manager for a range of local charities (appointed 22 April 2021);
- Stuart Hales, has 25 years' experience managing reserves for Avon Wildlife Trust and Natural England (appointed 24 January 2022).

Harriet Alvis retired on 28 June 2021 and Nicola Jones retired on 26 July 2021.

Registered Office	1-3 Gloucester Rd, Bristol BS7 8AA
Independent Examiner	Ryan Corkery FCCA Magic Bean Counters, Chartered Certified Accountants Unit 7, The Old Co-op, 38 Chelsea Road, Bristol, BS5 6AF
Website and email	https://www.avonneedstrees.org.uk/ contact@avonneedstrees.org.uk



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

The Trustees present their Annual Report and Independent Examiner's Report for the period from 13 July 2020 to 30 June 2021, the year-end having been changed from 12 July for administrative convenience.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015) as amended by Update Bulletin 1 (effective January 2015).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution – Avon Needs Trees (“ANT”) is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), formed in April 2019 and registered as a charity in July 2019. The affairs of ANT are governed by its Constitution which established the objects and powers of ANT. In the event of the charity being wound up the trustees have no liability for its debts.

Appointment of Trustees - the management of ANT is the responsibility of the Trustees who are appointed under the terms of the Constitution. Trustees remain in post until they retire or otherwise cease under the provisions of the Charity constitution, and new Trustees are elected by the Trustees then in post.

Organisational structure and decision-making policies - in common with most small charities the organisational structure is flat and kept simple, the Trustees making key decisions at regular monthly Trustee meetings. As a result of the growth of ANT the Chair took on the remunerated role of Director for the period from December 2020 to May 2021, at which point a Director was formally appointed after an extensive recruitment exercise, working four days per week, and since the year-end an Administrator has been appointed.

Risk Management policy – The Trustees have identified the potential risks to ANT and ranked them according to likelihood and severity. For each risk they have identified mitigation and a responsible person, and the risk register is reviewed at every regular meeting of the Trustees.

Public Benefit - the Trustees have reviewed the Charity Commission's guidance on the requirement to report on public benefit. They are satisfied that the work of ANT, as described below, accords with its stated objects and provides tangible public benefit to an appropriate section of those who reside within ANT's area of benefit.

Going concern - after making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that ANT has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they have adopted the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objects of ANT are:

- 1) the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment for the public benefit by the establishment and maintenance of woodland in such areas within the Bristol-Avon catchment area as the trustees shall determine.
- 2) to advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment including by promoting woodlands as a means for the public to learn about wider environmental issues such as: sustainability, climate change, ecology and the mitigating need for trees.

The Bristol-Avon catchment area comprises the land identified as such by the Environment Agency, covering the rivers that feed into the Bristol area and their surrounding territory. In practice this includes land from just south of Clevedon to south of Frome, to Devizes and Wootton Bassett in the east, and to just north of Wotton-under-Edge and Thornbury in the north, which lies within the counties of South Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Bath & North-East Somerset, North Somerset, and Bristol City.

Review of activities undertaken to achieve objectives

In April 2019 Avon Needs Trees was set up with the intention of buying land in the Bristol-Avon Catchment Area to create new, permanent forest through reforestation and rewilding. Our operational objectives are to lock up carbon, improve biodiversity, create natural flood defences and to provide public amenity space for the local community. A 34-acre site at Hazeland, near Calne, Wiltshire, was identified, fundraising was carried out and an application made to the National Lottery Heritage Fund ("NLHF") for funding amounting to £240,200, which was successful in April 2020.

This meant that we could proceed with the purchase at Hazeland for £325,000, which was completed in August 2020; NLHF have funded 53% of the costs of the project, so have paid £172,807 of the purchase price, the balance being funded from specific donations towards the purchase of Hazeland (£134,708) and a balance of £17,485 funded from general donations. The NLHF funding meant that we could employ a Project Coordinator from November 2020 and undertake a programme of tree planting (trees kindly donated by the Woodland Trust) and other activities on the site, with the assistance of a large team of volunteers, though activities were obviously curtailed by the Covid pandemic. ANT has achieved its objectives of surveying and managing the land at Hazeland and planting more than 10,000 trees.

Financial Review

As part of the NLHF funding, ANT has to fund 47% of project costs from its own resources, and also funds the post of Director and other administrative expenses. A total of £255,127 of unrestricted funding was raised during the year, including a further £143,282 from RHS Trust (bringing their total funding of ANT up to £303,282 as they donated £160,000 in the previous year which allowed ANT to fund the employment of the Director), and expenditure amounted to £51,179 so Unrestricted Funds increased by £203,948 during the year.

At the end of the period there was a surplus of £409,056 carried forward in unrestricted funds, £307,515 carried forward in restricted funds for the Hazeland purchase, and £49,640 in restricted revenue funding, so total funds amounted to £766,211, an increase of £257,214 during the year.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have agreed to create a reserve fund, reflecting ANT's long-term responsibilities of owning and managing land, and responsibility as an employer. The reserve will not fall below the equivalent of one year's salary for all paid workers, and one year's basic land management costs for all land owned, which is estimated to amount in total to a required reserve of £120,000. We also have £17,485 of funds invested in Hazeland. The remaining balance of Unrestricted funds, held in cash, amounts to £271,571, which is held in anticipation of their use in further land purchases; since the year-end, £88,000 has been used to fund the balance of costs of Pudding Brook Wood.

Volunteers

ANT had around 200 volunteers during the year and is most grateful for the immense contribution that they make; without them ANT would not exist. As part of the NLHF conditions for grant funding, volunteer time is recorded at Hazeland; during the year we recorded 480hrs of professional time, 1,100hrs of skilled time, and 3,100hrs of general volunteer time, which costed at standard NLHF rates equates to a contribution of £76,900 of time (not reflected in the accounts) which excludes Trustee time spent on management and all volunteer effort spent on other projects in the year.

FUTURE PLANS

Ever since the initial purchase of the site at Hazeland, ANT has been searching for additional sites to purchase and identified one at Stanley Lane, now named Pudding Brook Wood; after a fundraising exercise, this was purchased in November 2021 for £198,000, of which £110,000 was raised from donors. Funding of £77,000 to cover tree planting and similar costs was obtained from Great Western Community Forest, £20,000 was received from Peoples Postcode Lottery to fund staffing costs and associated overheads, and various other grants and donations were received towards our costs, and the site has been fully planted.

ANT is considering a number of sites across the area, which are ranked according to a matrix of factors, and hopes to complete a purchase during the second half of 2022, ready to plant trees in winter 2022/23. We are also considering extending our model to consider partnerships involving sites owned by third parties, where long-term management agreements can be put in place, to speed up the process of increasing the number of sites in management.



TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources, of the charity for that period

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS102) have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the Constitution. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Group and the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees confirm that to the best of their knowledge there is no information relevant to the Independent Examination of which the Examiner is unaware. The Trustees also confirm that they have taken all necessary steps to ensure that they themselves are aware of all relevant financial information and that this information has been communicated to the Examiner.

Approved by the Trustees on 28 April 2022 and signed on their behalf by

Andy Mullett - Trustee



INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF AVON NEEDS TREES CIO

I report on the financial statements of Avon Needs Trees CIO for the period ended 30 June 2021 which are set out on pages 8-13.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner

The Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed. Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act; follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act); and state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the Trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not comply with the accounting records, and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met;
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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
- the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102).

I 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.

Ryan Corkery FCCA
Magic Bean Counters, Chartered Certified Accountants
Unit 7, The Old Co-op, 38 Chelsea Road, Bristol, BS5 6AF

6 May 2022



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Note	Period Ended 30 June 2021			Total £	2020 Total £			
		Unrestricted £	Restricted: NLHF £	Restricted: Other funds £					
Income									
Voluntary									
			Donations: Capital	2	-	-	71,019	71,019	63,689
			Donations: Revenue	2	251,980	-	8,971	260,951	213,086
From Charitable activities			National Lottery (NLHF)		-	-	-	-	240,200
			Other charitable income		2,992	-	-	2,992	-
Interest received					155	-	-	155	19
Total incoming resources					255,127	0	79,990	335,117	516,994
Resources expended									
Fundraising:					-	-	-	-	2,910
Costs of charitable activities:				3	51,179	19,582	7,142	77,903	5,087
Total resources expended					51,179	19,582	7,142	77,903	7,997
Net incoming resources for the period					203,948	(19,582)	72,848	257,214	508,997
Transfer between funds					-	-	-	-	-
					203,948	(19,582)	72,848	257,214	508,997
Funds brought forward					205,108	240,200	63,689	508,997	-
Funds carried forward					409,056	220,618	136,537	766,211	508,997

The above results relate wholly to continuing activities; there were no recognised gains or losses other than those included above.

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 30 JUNE 2021**

		Period Ended 30 June 2021				2020
		Unrestricted	Restricted: NLHF	Restricted: Other funds	Total	Total
Note		£	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets						
	Freehold Land - Hazeland	6	17,485	172,807	134,708	325,000
Current Assets						
	Debtors: NLHF					
	Agreed future funding	-	43,892	-	43,892	240,200
	Claim submitted	-	3,919	-	3,919	-
	Bank balances					
	Cooperative Bank	89,591	-	1,829	91,420	78,282
	Monmouthshire BS	85,018	-	-	85,018	-
	Bristol Credit Union	85,000	-	-	85,000	74,501
	Triodos Bank	84,907	-	-	84,907	60,019
	CAFBank	56,533	-	-	56,533	55,995
		401,049	47,811	1,829	450,689	508,997
Current Liabilities						
	Trade Creditors	7	(9,478)	-	(9,478)	-
		391,571	47,811	1,829	441,211	508,997
Total assets less current liabilities		409,056	220,618	136,537	766,211	508,997
Fund Balances		409,056	220,618	136,537	766,211	508,997

These financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 28 April 2022 and were signed on their behalf by:

Andy Mullett - Trustee

The accompanying accounting policies and notes form an integral part of these financial statements.



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

Accounting convention - The accounts (financial statements) have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 ("Charities SORP (FRS102)"), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011 and UK Generally Accepted Practice as it applies from 1 January 2015. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following Charities SORP (FRS 102) rather than Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn. Avon Needs Trees meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern - The Trustees have at the time of approving the financial statements a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Income - is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA") in the year in which it is receivable. Gifts in kind are recognised in the SoFA as income at the fair value of the goods, services or assets gifted at the date of the gift.

Expenditure - is included in the SoFA on an accruals basis. Charitable activities include direct costs and support expenditure associated with the main activity of tree planting.

Fixed assets - No depreciation is provided on freehold land purchased for the purposes of tree-planting, as residual value is estimated to approximate or exceed cost so that any depreciation charge would be trivial in the context of the financial statements.

Cash at bank and in hand - includes cash and short term highly liquid investments held for working capital.

Creditors - are recognised where the Charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

Fund Accounting - Restricted Funds are held to be used for specified purposes, as indicated by the donors. General Funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of ANT. Designated funds are unrestricted funds of the charity which the Trustees have decided at their discretion to set aside to use for a specific purpose.

Taxation - ANT is a registered charity and as such tax exemption applies to the income arising from and expended on activities.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

2. DONATIONS

		Period Ended 30 June 2021				2020
		Unrestricted	Restricted: Hazeland Capital	Restricted: Hazeland Revenue	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
Funding for Hazeland:	Bristol Energy	-	46,019	-	46,019	-
	Individual Donations	-	25,000	3,795	28,795	10,000
	Natracare	-	-	-	-	30,000
	CrowdFunding campaigns	-	-	-	-	23,689
	Calne Town Council	-	-	5,176	5,176	-
General donations	RHS Trust	143,282	-	-	143,282	160,000
	Corporate donors	15,668	-	-	15,668	-
	Individual donors	93,030	-	-	93,030	53,086
		251,980	71,019	8,971	331,970	276,775

3. CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

		Period Ended 30 June 2021				2020
		Unrestricted	Restricted: NLHF	Restricted: Other funds	Total	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
NLHF Hazeland Costs	Staffing costs	8,458	9,604	-	18,062	-
	Site costs	6,097	4,088	5,596	15,781	-
	Professional fees	3,713	4,216	-	7,929	-
	Other costs	1,474	1,674	-	3,148	-
		19,742	19,582	5,596	44,920	-
ANT costs	Director - Self-employed	18,531	-	-	18,531	-
	Director - employed	2,333	-	-	2,333	-
	Administator	3,521	-	-	3,521	770
	Site costs	5,114	-	1,546	6,660	2,535
	Adminsitratve costs	1,938	-	-	1,938	1,782
		31,437	-	1,546	32,983	5,087
		51,179	19,582	7,142	77,903	5,087

4. STAFF NUMBER AND COSTS

The only employee was the Director, employed from 1 June 2021 – his remuneration for the period amounted to £2,333 (National Insurance contributions offset by annual Employment Allowance).

5. INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS FEES

The independent examiners fee recognised in these financial statements to £672 (2020 nil recognised)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

6. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS – FREEHOLD LAND

On 5 August 2020 ANT purchased, with funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) and various donors, a 34-acre site at Hazeland, near Calne, Wiltshire for £325,000, which has now been planted with trees, in accordance with the Charity's objectives. The site cannot be resold without permission from NLHF. The site is stated in these accounts at cost; no calculation of possible impairment arising from tree planting activities has been calculated.

7. CREDITORS

	2021	2020
	Total	Total
Trade creditors	3,976	-
Accruals: Grant to be repaid	5,000	-
Payroll creditors	502	-
	9,478	-

8. RESTRICTED FUNDS

	Balance brought forward £	Amounts received in year £	Expenditure during the year £	Balance carried forward £
National Lottery Heritage Fund				
Capital - towards Hazeland purchase	172,807	-	-	172,807
Revenue - towards Hazeland running costs	67,393	-	(19,582)	47,811
	240,200	-	(19,582)	220,618
Other Restricted Funds				
Capital - towards Hazeland purchase				
Natracare	30,000	-	-	30,000
Bristol Energy	-	46,019	-	46,019
Individual Donations	10,000	25,000	-	35,000
CrowdFunding campaigns	23,689	-	-	23,689
	63,689	71,019	-	134,708
Revenue - towards Hazeland running costs				
Calne Town Council	-	5,176	(5,176)	-
Fi Radford: In Memoriam	-	3,375	(1,546)	1,829
Peoples Trust- Orchard Trees Grant	-	420	(420)	-
	-	8,971	(7,142)	1,829
	63,689	79,990	(7,142)	136,537



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the period from July to December 2020 ANT paid Dorian Wainwright, the son of the Chair of Trustees, £7,449 (2020 £1,440) for freelance administrative services – this arrangement was approved by the Trustees.

10. TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES

As a result of the growth of ANT, and with authority granted by the statutory power contained in section 185 of the Charities Act 2011, the Chair, Ms Nikki Jones took on the remunerated role of Director for the period from December 2020 to May 2021, during which period she was paid a total of £18,531, at hourly rates of £21/hr for project management and £15/hr for administration and bookkeeping services. All costs were invoiced to ANT and duly approved by the Trustees. This contract ceased with the employment of a salaried Director from 1 June 2021.

No other trustees received any remuneration or other benefits during the period (2020 nil)

The charity has purchased Trustee Indemnity Insurance cover.