



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date			Period end date		
Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year
From 1	9	2022	To 31	8	2023

Section A

Reference and administration details

Charity name **The Ewyas Harold Common Trust**

Other names charity is known by **EHCT**

Registered charity number (if any) **1185140**

Charity's principal address **The Prospect**

Ewyas Harold

Postcode

HR2 0JE

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Madeleine Bradley	Vice Chair		
2	Martin Clayton			
3	Christiana Crouch	Treasurer		
4	Caroline Hanks			
5	Peter Jinman		Until May 2023	
6	Lucy Morton		Until February 2023	
7	Christopher Moughton			
8	Andrew Nixon	Chair		
9	Gillian Urch			
10	Susan Young	Secretary		
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Trustees elected by membership at AGM

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

During the reporting year the trustees have held 10 meetings (4 on Zoom) with an average attendance of 7.

The AGM was held on 9 February 2023 with 27 members present. Three trustees resigned, as required by our constitution and were then re-appointed. A further trustee retired. One trustee died in May 2023. At the end of the reporting year there were 8 trustees.

There was a discussion at the AGM (requested by a member) on the trustees' decision making processes. As a result we have sought to improve our communications. The web site and Facebook page are regularly updated.

There are 49 paid members of the EHCT.

During the reporting year, discussions have continued with the Ewyas Harold Common Water Society (EHCWS) regarding the lease of the necessary land and infrastructure. In the meantime the EHCWS has taken over management of the water supply from the EHCT.

Section C Objectives and activities

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

The purposes of the EHCT are set out in the constitution as follows: "To promote, for the benefit of the public, the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of Ewyas Harold Common ("the **Common**") by:

- providing amenity space for the local community and promoting sustainable access
- managing the land to create and maintain biological diversity and to improve and maintain a traditional habitat for wildlife
- maintaining the quantity and quality of the grazing, consistent with

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

<p>the other objects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • advancing the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment of the Common • protecting against any action which would be detrimental to overall objects or to the exercise of registered rights." 	
	<p>Environmental management</p> <p>There were about 6 volunteer working parties on the Common over the winter – mainly scrub clearance for the benefit of pearl bordered fritillary butterflies. A waste management exemption was applied for and granted to enable brash to be burnt in situ.</p> <p>Contractors were paid for for bracken cutting (£1134), for a day with a roboflail (£900) and for scrub clearance (£471). In addition a contractor undertook reptile and amphibian management (though costs did not fall within this period). BPS claimants and Trust members have also undertaken bracken cutting at no cost to the Trust.</p> <p>Alongside the grazing by 7 Exmoor ponies and a small flock of commoner's sheep the above management maintained the requirements of the Higher Level Stewardship. The Environmental Stewardship agreement was extended for 5 years - until March 2028.</p> <p>The grant from Herefordshire Council (awarded the previous year, but received in the reporting year) enabled the purchase of a brush cutter, training & public events / activities.</p> <p>Hedgehog ramps were fitted to those cattle grids which did not have them.</p> <p>Once again, two pearl bordered fritillary gravid females were taken for captive breeding ahead of reintroduction on the Malvern Hills.</p> <p>Regular surveys of butterflies and reptiles were undertaken – with both showing that target species are holding their own.</p> <p>Amenity Use</p> <p>The Common is extensively used by locals for walking. During wet weather this can create muddy conditions on some well used paths. For this reason we have clarified our policy on cycling (only permitted for local use, particularly by children, to cycle across the Common for access purposes). Similarly we do not permit horse riding, although due to pressure from some members we introduced a one year permit trial in January 2023.</p> <p>Signs have been installed at the 3 main entrances to indicate that cycling, horse riding, lighting fires and camping is generally not permitted and encouraging adherence to the highway code as regards dog walking. During the reporting year we have undertaken maintenance work on cattle grids and tree guards, have planted one new tree and fitted one new bench.</p> <p>We believe that in all our activities we have complied with the duty in section 4 of the 2006 Act to have due regard to guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.</p>

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You may choose to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D Achievements and performance

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

The Common continues to provide a welcome place for members of the public to walk and relax.

Even though the Common is a popular recreational venue the management undertaken by the Trust has maintained its value for wildlife. Habitat management has been praised by experts and the numbers of protected species have held their own.

Our principle source of funding is the Higher Level Stewardship (about £2k per annum), membership subscriptions and donations. A grant of £4.5k from Herefordshire Council awarded in 2021/2022 for specific expenditure was partially spent during this reporting year and the grant money itself received.

We were able to pay back the outstanding loan of £3k from an individual which had arisen from historical costs of the transfer of the Common to the Trust.

The costs involved in running the water supply have been covered by payments from the water users.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You may choose to include additional information where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted

Other optional information

Section F

Declaration

Section G

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	
Full name(s)	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	
Date	7/3/24

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

A policy on reserves is still to be developed. Because of the legacy of a loan to pay back (see below) and the fact that the situation as regards the running of the water supply is still not settled this has been another unusual year.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

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We were able to pay back the outstanding loan of £3k from an individual which had arisen from historical costs of the transfer of the Common to the Trust.

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Section F

Other optional information

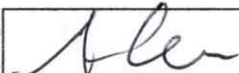
Section G

Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



S. E. Young

Full name(s)

ANDREW NIXON

SUSAN YOUNG

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

CHAIR

SECRETARY

Date

7/3/24



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name

No (if any)

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date

1.9.22

To

Period end date

31.8.23

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	135	-	-	135	671
Membership subscriptions	698	-	-	698	508
Sales	-	-	-	-	-
Water payments	9,235	-	-	9,235	4,260
Higher Level Stewardship grant	4,677	-	-	4,677	4,677
Wayleave payments	133	-	-	133	133
Grants	3,535	-	-	3,535	-
Contributions to maintenance	797	-	-	797	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	19,210	-	-	19,210	10,249
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	19,210	-	-	19,210	10,249
A3 Payments					
Solicitor + ins	659	-	-	659	3,989
Repay outstanding loan	3,000	-	-	3,000	-
Environmental Contractors	2,505	-	-	2,505	2,158
Costs associated with water supply	3,736	-	-	3,736	1,043
Training	973	-	-	973	620
Website	748	-	-	748	-
Hall Hire + costs of AGM	105	-	-	105	24
Equipment	1,230	-	-	1,230	471
Common maintenance	2,557	-	-	2,557	-
Sub total	15,513	-	-	15,513	8,305
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	15,513	-	-	15,513	8,305
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,697	-	-	3,697	1,944
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	5,325	-	-	5,325	3,366
Cash funds this year end	9,022	-	-	9,022	5,310

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Co-operative Bank account	9,022	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	9,022	-	-

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

Categories	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Ewyas Harold Common	unrestricted	-	-
	Pumps, pipes & infrastructure related to the water supply	unrestricted	-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

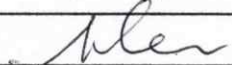
Categories	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	None		-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature

Print Name

Date of approval


S.E. Young

ANDREW NICHOL
SUSAN YOUNG

7/13/24
7.3.24