



2023 / 2024

The Carbon Community

ANNUAL REPORT



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Cover Letter from the Trustees

2023/2024 has been a year of thriving - **together**. It has been a year shaped by purpose, progress, and people, as we advanced our mission across trees, science, and **community**.

We began the year with our most ambitious Big Tree Measure yet - this time with a new challenge. With the help of 120 dedicated community scientists, we set out to individually measure and geo-position 6,400 trees. Their efforts supported both our flagship **Glandwr Forest Carbon Study** and our new **Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) Study**, laying the groundwork for future innovation in forest-based carbon capture.

If you're new to The Carbon Community, allow us to share a little of our story. We started with a simple but powerful question:

"How can we help trees sequester more carbon?"

That question led to collaborations with leading scientists and the creation of a pioneering research programme focused on using nature to help forests grow faster, become more resilient, and store more carbon.

Our experimental research site, established in October 2020, investigates two forest types - **mixed broadleaf and conifer** - alongside two nature-based treatments: **enhanced rock weathering and soil microbiome inoculation**. This year marked the second phase of our study, with significant data collection efforts undertaken by our partners at **Imperial College London** and the **Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew**. We also launched our MRV Study with **Swansea University**, which has already delivered a robust baseline of data, including multi-spectral drone mapping, spatial analysis, and thousands of tree-level measurements. This study is being funded by the Forestry Commission's Woodlands Into Management Forestry Innovation Fund.

Science is at the heart of what we do - but so is **community**. One of the most unique aspects of our work is that we involve people directly in the research. In 2023/2024, we welcomed over 310 participants at 31 events. This included 25 **community science** days, during which participants gained hands-on experience while contributing to real-world environmental science.

Meanwhile, **Glandwr Forest** continues to flourish. Originally planted in 2021, the new woodlands were thoughtfully integrated into the existing landscape, and this care did not go unnoticed. In July 2023, The Carbon Community and our partner **Tilhill Forestry** were honoured with **three prestigious awards** at the **Royal Welsh Show**, one of Europe's most prominent agricultural events. These awards recognised excellence in woodland management, community engagement, and sustainable innovation.

Beyond our research plots, Glandwr Forest includes mature hedgerow trees, grasslands, peatlands, and native biodiversity. This year, we welcomed visitors from near and far - scientists, landowners, policymakers, and supporters - as we look to develop this extraordinary site as a living, learning landscape for both **carbon sequestration** and **nature recovery**.

Together, through trees, science and community, **we can thrive**.

Charles, Heather and Jane





2023/2024 **Highlights**

Big Tree Measure

October 2023



Within the Glandwr Forest Carbon Study there are 6,400 trees, each with their own individual barcode. During our **Big Tree Measure 2023**, each of these trees was measured, including diameter at base, diameter at 1.3 meters and tree height. This year, these trees were also geo-positioned as part of our Measurement, Reporting and Verification Study.







Research, Awards & Meadows

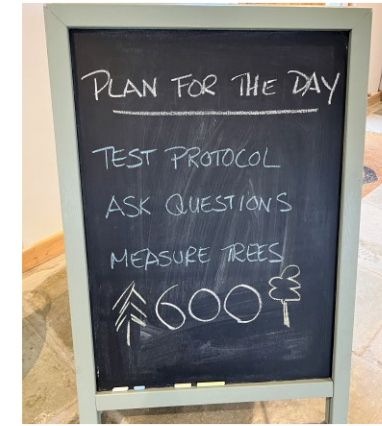


It was a busy summer at **Glandwr Forest** with researchers from Imperial College London; the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Swansea University; and the University of Sheffield on site collecting data. In July, Glandwr Forest won three prestigious awards at the Royal Welsh Show, and we had various visits from meadow experts to advise us on how to best manage our meadow areas for biodiversity.





Getting Ready for **Big Tree Measure** 2024



In August and September, we began preparing for Big Tree Measure 2024. Testing out our equipment and measurement protocol helps us ensure we have the right equipment for the growing trees.







The Carbon Community

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30 September 2024

Company registration number: 12273280
Charity registration number: 1187231

UHY Ross Brooke, 31A Charnham Street
Hungerford, Berkshire, RG17 0EJ

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Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Trustees
C M Nicholls
H B Allen
J K Nicholls

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Carbon Community is an environmental charity dedicated to accelerating carbon removal from the atmosphere, with breakthrough science. Our journey started with a question. 'How do you maximise carbon sequestration in a forest?' This led to many conversations with leading environmental scientists that helped design our landmark research program into helping trees grow faster, become more resilient and absorb more carbon from the atmosphere.

To achieve this our aim is to bring together trees, science and people by establishing a new broadleaf forest for future generations, facilitating scientific research and fostering community science.

Our guiding principles:

All of our work is grounded by the following guiding principles:

- Research: Support scientists, funding primary research on accelerating carbon sequestration in forest ecosystems and providing a research facility at Glandwr Forest for masters and PhD students.
- Education: Share our findings, learnings and insights with our community scientists, students and the global community.
- Advocacy: Advance planting techniques for trees everywhere.
- Community: Build a vibrant community of people working to address the climate and biodiversity crises both local to our projects and in locations where our research can help local projects accelerate carbon sequestration.
- Action: Accelerate carbon sequestration and improve biodiversity across all habitats at Glandwr Forest.



Trustees' Report

Achievements and performance

In 2023/ 2024 our community has been thriving together, achieving remarkable progress across four of our guiding principles - Research, Education, Community and Action.

Research:

As a science-based environmental charity we are proud to report progress in 2023 / 2024 on both our primary research as well as the continued development of Glandwr Forest as a research facility.

Glandwr Forest Carbon Study

This pioneering field-trial represents a unique ongoing research program between The Carbon Community, leading environmental scientists, and a network of over 200 citizen scientist volunteers. As part of this study, research grants are given to both Imperial College London and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

The experiment was established in October 2020 and examines two types of forestry - broadleaf and conifer - and two nature-based treatments - enhanced rock weathering and soil microbiome inoculation. We are currently in the second phase of this research project and this year saw significant work on data collection from both researchers and citizen scientists.

Our financial year begins in October which is the time for our annual Big Tree Measure, the flagship event in our community science program. Between 4th to 14th October 120 volunteers came together at Glandwr Forest to measure 6,400 trees. This is our third year measuring the trees and we were delighted to welcome new volunteers as well as individuals and organisations who return to support this program year after year.

In last year's report we highlighted our ongoing commitment to continue the Glandwr Forest Carbon Study through to the critical five-year mark in early 2026. As of the end of this financial year, we have reached close to 60% of our fundraising goal of £340,000 for this phase of the project.

Glandwr Forest MRV Study

In June 2023, The Carbon Community secured a two-year grant from the Forestry Commission's Woodlands Into Management Forestry Innovation Fund for a two-year MRV (Monitoring, Reporting and Verification) project together with Swansea University. 2023 / 2024 has established a successful baseline of data - including tree geolocation, tree measurements, initial drone flights and initial spatial assessment.

Glandwr Forest as a Research Facility

In March 2024 we held our first research sharing session. There were presentations from Imperial College London; Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; and ETH Zürich all of which are involved in our Carbon Study. In addition, there were presentations from scientists from the University of Oxford, University of Sheffield, and Swansea University who are conducting research at Glandwr Forest.

Education:

At The Carbon Community education revolves around our community science volunteering program which runs throughout the year including our flagship Big Tree Measure event in October. Each year we also try to broaden the reach of our education opportunities with events such as our guided wildflower walks which attracts new people with new interests.



Trustees' Report

Education highlights for 2023 / 2024 have included:

- Community science volunteers have joined us to geo-position and measure trees as well as to help maintain the integrity of the study. They are able to learn new techniques and directly contribute to environmental research.
- Master's students from the Geography Department at Swansea University joined us for our Big Tree Measure for the third year in a row.
- Students from the Ecological Applications MSc course at Imperial College joined us to learn field techniques and measure trees in our dose-response study for the second year in a row.
- Students working on their Duke of Edinburgh and Welsh Baccalaureate joined us to work on the volunteering contribution of these awards.

Community:

Throughout the year 310 event attendees joined us for 31 events, including 25 community science volunteering days.

Action:

The Carbon Community and Tilhill Forestry were recognised in July 2024 winning three prestigious forestry awards for Glandwr Forest at the Royal Welsh Show, one of the biggest agricultural shows in Europe. These awards recognised outstanding achievements in woodland management, community access, and innovative environmental practices. These results reflect the hard work and dedication of everyone who has been involved in our community.

- Broadleaf Planting or Restocking Under 10 Years Old (Class A) - Gold Medal
The gold medal in this category underscores excellence in establishing new broadleaf woodlands.
- Best Managed Woodland 11 - 50 Hectares (Class 2) - Silver Medal
This award recognised the exceptional growth rate of broadleaf trees, meticulous management, and dedication to enhancing biodiversity.

- Community or Public Access Woodland (Class H) - Bronze Medal
This medal acknowledges the huge support given by community volunteers to the scientific research conducted at the Glandwr Woodland, and the work done to provide community access and recreation.

Throughout the year we also took action to enhance habitat across Glandwr Forest in our meadows and our woodlands. Close to 400 trees were planted, with a focus on planting and remeasuring 325 trees that had died in our carbon and dose-response studies. Finding 325 specific trees across 11.5 hectares is quite a feat which was made easier by the geo-positioning work that had been done earlier in the year. We also planted 114 trees donated by employees of SAP, and 60 Black Poplar cuttings as part of our conservation efforts. This was the first year that we were able to remove tree shelters in our research areas where the trees are now large enough to survive without a shelter. All of these shelters will go to be recycled into new shelters as part of a closed loop recycling system.

When the new woodlands were planted in 2021 they were carefully designed to fit into the landscape and were planted on the least biodiverse areas of the site. Areas identified as being either of landscape significance or biodiversity value were left unplanted. There are close to 30 hectares dedicated to meadows, rhos pasture and peatland at Glandwr Forest. In 2023 / 2024 we welcomed visits from grassland enthusiasts, Carmarthenshire Meadows Groups and from Plant Life as part of the Glaswelltiroedd Gwydn (Resilient Grasslands) project which seeks to protect and enhance semi-natural grasslands across Wales. This was an important step to help us look at how best to bring more of the site into management.



Trustees' Report

Fundraising disclosures

Public Fundraising:

The Carbon Community's aim is to raise funds in a respectful way that is aligned with our values. In all of our fundraising we work diligently to comply with the Code of Fundraising Practise and uphold the standards it promotes.

Public benefit

The public benefits that shape our annual activity are environmental protection and climate restoration. In shaping our objectives for the year and planning our activities, the trustees have given consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit (PB2).

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Data Protection:

The Carbon Community places great importance on the security of support and volunteer data and personal information. For information on how the charity uses and protects personal data, please see our privacy policy. <https://www.carboncommunity.org/privacy-policy>

Financial review

Overall, 2023/24 was a solid year financially for The Carbon Community with total income into the charity during the year of £76,977, of which £48,459 was from donations, £28,093 from government grants and £425 from gift aid reclaimed.

Total expenditure on charitable activities was £36,302 including:

- £20,543 spent on Scientific research and
- £15,759 spent on unrestricted charitable activities.

Within the £20,543 spent on spent on Scientific research there were two grants paid, £12,178 to the University of Swansea and £4,453 to the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

The Charity made a loan of £46,602 to Carbon Community Trading Limited during the year for tree planting, forest management and maintenance.

The funds held at the end of the year were as follows:

Restricted - £24,278

Designated unrestricted - Tangible asset - Land - £644,542

General unrestricted £607,931 (breakdown note 17 of the accounts)

Total £1,276,751

We wish to say thank you to all the supporters of The Carbon Community. To everyone who has volunteered, donated or helped spread the word, thank you for a fantastic year!



Trustees' Report

Policy on reserves

In the current stage of TCC's evolution, the Trustee's have approved a reserves policy to hold a minimum of three months of reserves and a maximum of nine months of reserves to cover our operating costs. These reserves will be separate to ensure that we have funds to cover our forward contracts. They will also be separate to ensure that we have sufficient working capital for tree maintenance due to the time lag in receiving funds from our contract with NRW (Natural Resources Wales). The Trustees will review this Reserves Policy a minimum of once per year. The current level of reserves will be reviewed at each Trustee meeting.

In reviewing our current level of reserves versus our reserves policy, the Trustees have reviewed the forward commitments to our research grants for the next 18 months, three months of running costs, our citizen science program and our site emergency reserve. The Trustees have also taken into account our ongoing mortgage commitments which has a repayment deadline of 30th September 2026.

Investment policy and objectives

The Charity does not have any investments. The Trustees are committed to developing an investment policy when we reach an appropriate stage in our evolution.

Plans for future periods

Aims and key objectives for future periods

In last year's report we outlined that we are now looking towards the next phase of our development from 2024 - 2026 as we look at how to continue to bring together trees, science and people in support of our mission. This includes the development of Glandwr Forest, our research, Glandwr Forest as a research facility, and our community science program.

Trees - Development of Glandwr Forest:

Glandwr Forest is more than trees. There are close to 30 hectares dedicated to mature hedgerow trees, meadows, rhos pasture and peatland. Over the coming years we will be looking at how to bring more of the site into management for carbon sequestration, biodiversity, education as well as future research opportunities.

Science - Glandwr Forest Carbon Study and Glandwr Forest MRV Study:

In 2025 and 2026 we hope to see the publication of the first findings from our primary research studies. Our Carbon Study aims enhance the fundamental understanding of carbon dynamics in forest ecosystems, identifying techniques to enhance CO2 uptake in trees and soil. The Glandwr Forest MRV Study looks at how to use remote sensing to measure the health, growth and carbon sequestration of young forests.

Science - Our Research Facility:

Continue to grow the number of organisations conducting research at Glandwr Forest.

People - Community Science:

Further develop our community science program building links with the community, young people, NGOs, researchers, government, forestry sector and our supporters.



Trustees' Report

Structure, governance and management

Recruitment and appointment of trustees

The subscribers to the Memorandum are the first Trustees of the Charity, who shall hold office for such a term of office as they determine. Any person who is willing to act as a Trustee of the Charity and is permitted to be so appointed by law and the articles, may be appointed to be a Trustee by a resolution of the Trustees. A Trustee shall serve a four-year term of office (unless the Trustees resolve that he or she should be appointed for a shorter period) and may be reappointed with no limit on the number of consecutive terms of office a Trustee may hold.

In September 2023, the Trustees accepted and approved the following nominations for renewal:

- Heather Allen is appointed as a Trustee for a two-year term, ending September 30, 2025
- Jane Nicholls is appointed as a Trustee for a three-year term, ending September 30, 2026
- Charles Nicholls is appointed as a Trustee for a four-year term, ending September 30, 2027

Organisational structure

The Carbon Community was officially registered at Companies House on 21st October 2019 and by the Charity Commission on 6th January 2020. The charity was constituted as a company limited by guarantee and is governed by Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 21 October 2019. The Trustees are directors for the purpose of company law. In the event of the company being wound down members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

Major risks and management of those risks

Through the course of 2023/2024, the Trustees have continued to look at five areas of risk for The Carbon Community - land management, science project implementation, financial resilience, volunteers and reputational risk.

Land Management:

Forest management is being handled by Tilhill Forestry who manage day to day forestry operations including ground preparation, tree planting, fencing, site maintenance, grassland management and site access. There are three areas of meadowland where a local farmer brings their sheep to graze which assists with grassland management, beyond this consideration is being given to the best ways to manage our grasslands going forward for the benefit of biodiversity. Volunteer access for our annual tree measurement continues to be important and investments have been made for this year's event to secure access the bridge over the Afon Bran. Within two years the charity will need to resurface its primary access road and various options are being explored. A program of removal of trees suffering from ash dieback has been undertaken where these trees might present risk to members of the public.

Third party liability insurance is in place and as the trees planted this season grow larger, the Trustees plan to investigate additional insurance to protect against pest, disease and fire risk. The Trustees are keeping a close eye on deer that have been spotted in the area, fencing has not been required this year, however this may be needed in future years.



Trustees' Report

Science Project Implementation:

Our science project launched successfully on May 27, 2021. In November 2022 after our second year of tree growth in the field and second year of tree measurement, our Scientific Advisory Board agreed to extend the study for an additional three years. This five-year time horizon allows for a total carbon picture of the forest and requires additional funding for some of the streams. This time horizon will be assessed each year following our Big Tree Measure, the Scientific Advisory Board regularly reviews and manages risk.

Financial Resilience:

Glandwr Forest is now registered with The Woodland Carbon Code, which paves the way to raising funds from the sale of carbon credits should this be required. An initial repayment of the mortgage was made ahead of schedule in September 2022, the remaining balance of the mortgage will be paid in line with the sale of carbon credits which are being considered as a way of increasing reserves and paying down the loan.

During the past year, The Carbon Community secured donations from Pure Good Foundation, and SAP UKI, as well as a grant from the Forestry Commission for new research on remote verification. To address our long-term financial resilience and to extend our scientific research the Trustees continue to look at additional sources of funding the long term success of the charity, and to replace donations from Pure Good which we believe will come to an end.

Volunteers:

Throughout 2023 / 2024, The Carbon Community has continued our community science volunteer program with over 200 volunteers [to be confirmed in final audit] participating in our onsite volunteering programs. Risk assessments and safety briefings are in place.

Reputational risk:

The trustees have also discussed which kind of companies the charity should partner with and accept donations from. For each corporate donation, the trustees ensure that they are satisfied, and able to show, that it is in the best interests of the charity to accept the donation. This involves a careful consideration, based on evidence, of the risks of accepting the donation against its benefit. The Trustees are also aware of our commitments to under the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and have put in place a Welsh Language Policy with target deliverables.



Trustees’ Report

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees and officers

The trustees and officers serving during the year and since the year end were as follows:

Trustees	C M Nicholls H B Allen J K Nicholls
Principal Office	40 Alma Road Windsor Berks SL4 3HJ
Company Registration Number	12273280
Charity Registration Number	1187231
The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.	
Independent Examiner	UHY Ross Brooke 31a Charnham Street Hungerford Berkshire RG17 0EJ
Solicitors	IBB Solicitors Capital Court 30 Windsor Street Uxbridge Middlesex UB8 1AB AgriAdvisor Henllan Pumsaint Llanwrda SA19 8AX
Bankers	Starling Bank Limited 3rd Floor 2 Finsbury Avenue London EC2M 2PP



Trustees’ Report

Statement of trustees’ responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Carbon Community for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees’ report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 “The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland”.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, comprising FRS 102 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 charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

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

Small companies provision statement

This report has been prepared in accordance with the small companies regime under the Companies Act 2006. The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 23rd July 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

signed by Charles Nicholls

C M Nicholls
Chairman of the Board of Trustees



Independent Examiners Report

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 30 September 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

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

signed by Kerry Hawkins

Kerry Hawkins, FCCA, UHY Ross Brooke

31A Charnham Street
Hungerford Berkshire
RG17 0EJ

Date: 23rd July 2025



Statement of Financial Activities

(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	22,510	54,467	76,977
Total income		22,510	54,467	76,977
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4	(15,759)	(20,543)	(36,302)
Total expenditure		(15,759)	(20,543)	(36,302)
Net income		6,751	33,924	40,675
Transfers between funds		9,646	(9,646)	-
Net movement in funds		16,397	24,278	40,675
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		1,236,076	-	1,236,076
Total funds carried forward	17	1,252,473	24,278	1,276,751
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	151,826	64,731	216,557
Total income		151,826	64,731	216,557
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	4	(18,774)	(77,113)	(95,887)
Total expenditure		(18,774)	(77,113)	(95,887)
Net income/(expenditure)		133,052	(12,382)	120,670
Transfers between funds		51,448	(51,448)	-
Net movement in funds		184,500	(63,830)	120,670
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		1,051,576	63,830	1,115,406
Total funds carried forward	17	1,236,076	-	1,236,076

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods. The funds breakdown for 2023 is shown in note 17.

The notes on pages 34 to 43 form an integral part of these financial statements.



Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet as at 30 September 2024			
	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	8	652,585	655,207
Investments	9	1	1
		<u>652,586</u>	<u>655,208</u>
Current assets			
Owed by subsidiary undertakings	10	550,516	503,914
Cash at bank and in hand	11	177,249	198,996
		<u>727,765</u>	<u>702,910</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	12	<u>(63,600)</u>	<u>(82,042)</u>
Net current assets		<u>664,165</u>	<u>620,868</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,316,751</u>	<u>1,276,076</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	13	<u>(40,000)</u>	<u>(40,000)</u>
Net assets		<u>1,276,751</u>	<u>1,236,076</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds	17	24,278	-
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>1,252,473</u>	<u>1,236,076</u>
Total funds	17	<u>1,276,751</u>	<u>1,236,076</u>

For the financial year ending 30 September 2024 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors’ responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 12 to 23 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 23rd July 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

signed by Charles Nicholls

C M Nicholls
Chairman of the board of Trustees

The notes on pages 34 to 43 form an integral part of these financial statements.



Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The principal place of business is:
40 Alma Road Windsor
Berkshire
SL4 3HJ

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

The Carbon Community 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 notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity’s ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Group accounts not prepared

The Carbon Community is exempt from preparing group accounts as it is a small group.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised once the charity has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of the income receivable can be measured reliably.

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.



Notes to the Financial Statements

Grants receivable

Grants are recognised when the charity has an entitlement to the funds and any conditions linked to the grants have been met. Where performance conditions are attached to the grant and are yet to be met, the income is recognised as a liability and included on the balance sheet as deferred income to be released.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset’s use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Grant provisions

Provisions for grants are made when the intention to make a grant has been communicated to the recipient but there is uncertainty about either the timing of the grant or the amount of grant payable.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources, for example, allocating property costs by floor areas, or per capita, staff costs by the time spent and other costs by their usage.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity’s compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Government grants

Government grants are recognised based on the accrual model and are measured at the fair value of the asset received or receivable. Grants are classified as relating either to revenue or to assets. Grants relating to revenue are recognised in income over the period in which the related costs are recognised. Grants relating to assets are recognised over the expected useful life of the asset. Where part of a grant relating to an asset is deferred, it is recognised as deferred income.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Tangible fixed assets

Individual fixed assets costing £250.00 or more are initially recorded at cost.



Notes to the Financial Statements

Depreciation and amortisation

Depreciation is provided on tangible fixed assets so as to write off the cost or valuation, less any estimated residual value, over their expected useful economic life as follows:

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Furniture and Equipment	5 years straight line

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Borrowings

Interest-bearing borrowings are initially recorded at fair value, net of transaction costs. Interest-bearing borrowings are subsequently carried at amortised cost, with the difference between the proceeds, net of transaction costs, and the amount due on redemption being recognised as a charge to the Statement of Financial Activities over the period of the relevant borrowing.

Interest expense is recognised on the basis of the effective interest method and is included in interest payable and similar charges.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the charity has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting date.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those donated for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.



Notes to the Financial Statements

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Donations and legacies;				
Donations	3,247	45,212	48,459	190,269
Gift aid reclaimed	299	126	425	182
Grants, including capital grants;				
Government grants	18,964	9,129	28,093	26,106
	<u>22,510</u>	<u>54,467</u>	<u>76,977</u>	<u>216,557</u>

4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Site management	782	-	782	2,019
Independent examiners fee	3,770	-	3,770	3,240
Insurance	1,152	-	1,152	1,050
Website	540	-	540	380
Postage, printing and stationery	7	-	7	85
Grants paid	-	16,336	16,336	72,949
Volunteering expenses	2,670	2,341	5,011	4,308
Marketing	1,968	-	1,968	4,391
Legal and professional fees	-	-	-	1,800
Donation platform fees	1,944	-	1,944	1,944
Software and software support costs	304	-	304	1,484
Research expenses	-	1,746	1,746	914
Depreciation	2,622	-	2,622	1,223
Admin expenses	-	120	120	100
	<u>15,759</u>	<u>20,543</u>	<u>36,302</u>	<u>95,887</u>

5 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.



Notes to the Financial Statements

6 Independent examiner's remuneration

	2024 £	2023 £
Examination of the financial statements	<u>3,770</u>	<u>3,240</u>

7 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

8 Tangible fixed assets

	Furniture and equipment £	Land £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 October 2023	<u>13,111</u>	<u>644,542</u>	<u>657,653</u>
At 30 September 2024	<u>13,111</u>	<u>644,542</u>	<u>657,653</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 October 2023	<u>2,446</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,446</u>
Charge for the year	<u>2,622</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,622</u>
At 30 September 2024	<u>5,068</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,068</u>
Net book value			
At 30 September 2024	<u>8,043</u>	<u>644,542</u>	<u>652,585</u>
At 30 September 2023	<u>10,665</u>	<u>644,542</u>	<u>655,207</u>



Notes to the Financial Statements

9 Fixed asset investments

	2024 £	2023 £
Shares in group undertakings and participating interests	1	1
Shares in group undertakings and participating interests		
	Subsidiary undertakings £	Total £
Cost		
Additions	1	1
At 30 September 2024	1	1
Net book value		
At 30 September 2024	1	1

Details of undertakings

Details of the investments in which the charity holds 20% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital are as follows:

Undertaking	Country of incorporation	Holding	Proportion of voting rights and shares held		Principal activity
			2024	2023	
Subsidiary undertakings					
Carbon Community Trading Limited	England and Wales	Ordinary	100%	100%	Generating income for the parent charity.

Subsidiary undertakings

Carbon Community Trading Limited	England and Wales	Ordinary	100%	100%	Generating income for the parent charity.
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Notes to the Financial Statements

Subsidiaries

The loss for the financial period of Carbon Community Trading Limited was £55,070 (2023 - £25,921) and the aggregate amount of capital and reserves at the end of the period was £(101,581) (2023 - £(46,511)).

Carbon Community Trading Limited was incorporated on 26.10.20. Company registration number 12973020.

Carbon Community Trading Limited was established as a trading company in 2020 for the purpose of future revenue streams with all future profits going to The Carbon Community. Tree planting and maintenance is undertaken by Carbon Community Trading Limited.

10 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Due from subsidiary undertakings	550,516	503,914

Debtors includes £550,516 (2023: £503,914) receivable after more than one year.

	2024	2023
	£	£
Due from subsidiary undertakings	550,516	503,914

11 Cash and cash equivalents

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash at bank	177,249	198,996

12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Other loans	60,000	60,000
Accruals	3,600	22,042
	<u>63,600</u>	<u>82,042</u>

13 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other loans	40,000	40,000

The loan of £100,000 (2023 - £100,000) is secured by a fixed charge over the Land at Glandwr, Cynghordy.



Notes to the Financial Statements

14 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 30 September 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	652,585	-	652,585
Fixed asset investments	1	-	1
Current assets	703,487	24,278	727,765
Current liabilities	(63,600)	-	(63,600)
Creditors over 1 year	(40,000)	-	(40,000)
Total net assets	1,252,473	24,278	1,276,751

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total funds at 30 September 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	655,207	655,207
Fixed asset investments	1	1
Current assets	702,910	702,910
Current liabilities	(82,042)	(82,042)
Creditors over 1 year	(40,000)	(40,000)
Total net assets	1,236,076	1,236,076

15 Related party transactions

Donations from the trustees and their immediate family during the year totalled £nil. (2023 - £nil).

Heather Allen, a trustee, has provided an interest free secured loan of £200,000 to the charity. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was £100,000 (2023 - £100,000). £60,000 of the £100,000 outstanding balance has been shown as a current liability, but there is a flexible repayment arrangement.

The Charity made a further loan of £46,602 to Carbon Community Trading Limited during the year. The balance due to be repaid at the end of the year was £550,516 (2023 -£503,914).

Carbon Community Trading Limited is a wholly owned and VAT registered trading subsidiary which runs the forest and site operations for The Carbon Community. Repayment of this loan is deferred until such time that Carbon Community Trading Limited starts to generate sufficient income to be in a position to make repayments. Due to the uncertainty surrounding the loan repayments, we have not valued the loan at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. We do not consider this to affect the true and fair view given in the accounts at the year end date.



Notes to the Financial Statements

16 Commitments

Grant commitments

The Carbon Community awarded a grant of £158,976 to the Waring Ecology Lab at Imperial College London in September 2023.

The grant start date was 1st July 2023 and runs for a period of 36 months. The grant of £158,976 included a figure of £18,612 to cover the salary of a lab technician for a period of 5 months, 1st August 2023 to 31st December 2023. There were no performance related conditions to the £18,612 and these costs were therefore accrued in the accounts to 30th September 2023. £18,316 was paid to Imperial College in the year to 30th September 2024. At the start of the year the brought forward grant commitment was £140,364, no further claims where made during the year so the carried forward balance remains the same. The balance of £140,364 at 30th September 2024 is not provided for in the accounts.

During the year The Carbon Community awarded a grant of £24,396 to the University of Swansea. £12,198 was paid during the year. No further claims have been made, the further commitment of £12,198 has been carried forward but is not provided in the accounts at 30th September 2024.

The remaining balances of both grants are performance-related. No further services other than those already paid for in the year were provided by the recipients prior to 30th September 2024. Therefore no further costs are recognised in these accounts.

Outstanding commitments not recognised as a liability at 30th September 2024 are as follows:-

Imperial College Grant - £140,364
Swansea Grant - £12,198

Total £152,562



Notes to the Financial Statements

17 Funds

	Balance at 1 October 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 30 September 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
Unrestricted	591,534	22,510	(15,759)	9,646	607,931
<i>Designated</i>					
Land	644,542	-	-	-	644,542
Total unrestricted funds	<u>1,236,076</u>	<u>22,510</u>	<u>(15,759)</u>	<u>9,646</u>	<u>1,252,473</u>
Restricted funds					
Scientific research	-	44,821	(20,543)	-	24,278
Tree planting	-	9,646	-	(9,646)	-
Total restricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>54,467</u>	<u>(20,543)</u>	<u>(9,646)</u>	<u>24,278</u>
Total funds	<u>1,236,076</u>	<u>76,977</u>	<u>(36,302)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,276,751</u>

	Balance at 1 October 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 30 September 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
Unrestricted	407,034	151,826	(18,774)	51,448	591,534
<i>Designated</i>					
Land	644,542	-	-	-	644,542
Total unrestricted funds	<u>1,051,576</u>	<u>151,826</u>	<u>(18,774)</u>	<u>51,448</u>	<u>1,236,076</u>
Restricted					
Scientific research	-	25,667	(77,113)	51,446	-
Tree planting	63,830	39,064	-	(102,894)	-
Total restricted funds	<u>63,830</u>	<u>64,731</u>	<u>(77,113)</u>	<u>(51,448)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u>1,115,406</u>	<u>216,557</u>	<u>(95,887)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,236,076</u>





UK Register Charity number 1187231

Formed as a private company limited
by guarantee, **registration number 12273280**



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