

WEST DORSET WILDING

England & Wales · Charity number 1196964

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2021-12-07

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

Contact

Address Unit 10C
Pineapple Business Park
Pineapple Lane
Salwayash
Bridport
Dorset

Phone 07876157522

Email info@westdorsetwilding.org

Website www.westdorsetwilding.org

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE CIO ARE:TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BY PROMOTING BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY AND RESTORING DEGRADED ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS.TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT.

Activities: West Dorset Wilding aim to restore nature in West Dorset through working with farmers and landowner to restore land and ecosystems that have been degraded biologically. We also are looking to engage the wider public as much as possible and help people reconnect with nature.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Sponsors Or Undertakes Research
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Devon
- Dorset
- Somerset

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-03-31	£287,243	£266,221	-	-
2024-03-31	£30,516	£37,202	-	-
2023-03-31	£33,474	£16,899	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
VISCOUNT LUKE TIMOTHY CHARLES MONTAGU	Chair	2021-12-07
Arthur Percy Crutchley		2021-12-07
Dr Tarsha Finney		2022-12-09
Jonathan Luke Measures		2025-01-17
Sir Philip Colfox		2021-12-07

Accounts



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/04/2024 To 31/03/2025

Charity name: West Dorset Wilding

Charity registration number: 1196964

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objects of the CIO are: To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting biological diversity and restoring degraded ecological systems. To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Activities include: To deliver environmental projects for the benefit of the public; To educate the general public, particularly farmers and landowners, about the benefits of natural process led ecosystem restoration, through meetings, emails, online or other activities; To consult and discuss with the general public about issues in nature conservation; To undertake and disseminate research into the nature of the Charity's focus area; To recruit members for the benefit of education and fundraising; To undertake fundraising for the delivery of the above activities.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, and have a standing item at board meetings to remind them of their role and function.
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Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Introduction This has been a very significant year for West Dorset Wilding, largely due to the start of the Brit Valley Landscape Recovery Project Development Phase. Within the year we were also confirmed as a partner in, and started to deliver against, a Dorset National Landscapes Natural Flood Management project funded by the Environment Agency, and a SW farm cluster research collaboration into large-scale green finance, supported by Defra's Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund (NEIRF). In addition to this, our public membership continued to grow steadily, we introduced a corporate supporters scheme with a promising start, started a quarterly programme of high-quality newsletters for a wide distribution, and launched a set of well-attended member-only events. Brit Valley Project Following the news of our success in Round 2 of Defra's Environmental Land Management (ELMs) Landscape Recovery Programme in the last financial year, this year saw the first of the project's two-year Project Development Phase (PDP), fully funded by Defra. The aim of the PDP is to prepare a set of six highly detailed reports that set out how our farmers and landowners intend to change their land management practices over 20+ years to allow nature recovery. The reports also include details about how we will improve public engagement with, and access to nature and how we will secure private funds to support the work in addition to public funds.

		Because the charity had been low-cost and light touch before this year, the first job was to establish all the requirements for a fully equipped employing organisation, including staff recruitment and related factors such as HR support and payroll, an office, IT systems and equipment; in essence a start-up. The support for all of this came from the Defra grant and we had a fully functioning team up and running by the summer. Our thanks to Pineapple Business Park for 'building an office' for us, and making us so welcome. The project includes 57 farmers, landowners and foresters – we call them Project Partners – covering 4,600+ hectares of land, and a significant part of the year involved developing the relationship with them, so as to understand what their existing business models are and their aspirations for the future. A Project Partner-led Steering Group was set up to oversee the project development, and met every other month. In addition to this we held quarterly 'General Meetings' at the Red Lion in Beaminster to which all of our Project Partners were invited, and many of whom have attended regularly. These larger group meetings were also matched by working groups for Woodlands and Finance, one-to-one visits to farms and landholdings to gain people's first indications of what they would like to do on their land, and many meetings with other stakeholders in connection with public engagement with nature. Over the year, we have also involved a wide range of expert contractors, from undertaking surveying and research into Water Voles, Beavers and hydrology, to Project Partner consultations into governance. These contracts have helped provide the evidence base for our project decision-making and have together developed a vast body of knowledge about the catchment. One of these contracts also helped us to develop the Brit Valley Project branding and identity, something we hope our Partners and other stakeholders can build on over the
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		next 20+ years in terms of local identity, produce and tourism. Overall, it has been a very intense year, with a massive amount of work done on a very steep learning curve, including the establishment of a new body alongside getting to grips with a complex project. It has set us up for the next year to complete the development phase. Our thanks to all of our Project Partners for their engagement and commitment, and you can see more about the project at britvalley.org. Natural Flood Management in the Brit Valley During the year, the Dorset National Landscapes team was successful with a joint funding bid to the Environment Agency to undertake Natural Flood Management within the Brit Catchment – the same catchment area as the Brit Valley Project. Our roles were twofold. Firstly, to identify key locations and secure permissions for the land in which natural flood management interventions might be undertaken. Secondly to establish a system for volunteers to be involved, through citizen science techniques, and to set up the systems and processes to make that happen. We were lucky enough to have excellent specialists on contract to help with both areas of work, and our part of the project was completed within this report period, setting up the main work programme for the subsequent two years. You can see more here. Natural Environment Investment Readiness Fund West Dorset Wilding is one of eight farm clusters or other Landscape Recovery projects participating in a regional-scale research programme into green finance. The project is exploring whether there is potential for aggregation of ecosystem services over a multi-cluster area to meet the carbon credit or other needs of potential buyers. The project started in the year and whilst we are only one of eight partners and is mainly research based, it could provide valuable learning for the Brit Valley Project.
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		Membership and events We were pleased to grow the number of voting members to eight over the year with four of the Brit Valley Partners coming on board. The numbers of individual/family and smallholder members of West Dorset Wilding continue to grow steadily, and forms a small but important part of our income. Our offer to our members is mainly around four exclusive meet ups or events over the year, or early bird access to wider public events such as visiting speakers. Our well-received newsletters, such as you can see here, give more details about these events. During this report period we also launched a business membership scheme - details can be seen here - with some strong early interest from local companies. We are particularly grateful to RISE as our first business partner. Impact on beneficiaries and wider society The work this year has directly helped people in the area to understand more about nature and wildlife and in particular about the role of Land Managers. More than 400 people attended meetings, including at the Melplash Show, and many more will have seen information online. More significantly by doing the work to plan for 25 years of positive change in the area we are really looking a significant culture change, and aiming for thousands of people to be involved and get better access to nature in the coming years. We are also working closely with our farmer and landowner community, an important part of the wider society in this area, and the work we are doing is bringing them together to think about how they can help nature and people in the area.
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	Financially, we received a large grant for the Landscape Recovery Project Development Phase. But all of this - other than a small overhead surplus - is restricted funding, as are the NFM and NEIRF projects. Whilst that has been fantastic to bring about a WDW team and profile, the longer-term implications are unclear as this specific funding is for only 2 years. This will be addressed more in the 2025/26 financial year report. In respect of the core funds, as last year, the funding environment remains complex, and securing core funding has been challenging. While donors are often eager to support projects, they are less inclined to cover staffing and other core costs required to bring these projects to fruition. Our diversification in this area has been focused on the business partnerships, which made a slow but promising start. The closing balance of unrestricted funds at the end of the year was £12,152, which is above the targeted reserves (see below).
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	From policy written and approved by Trustees Oct 2025: Rationale The trustees have reviewed their financial obligations and have agreed to set aside a sum to allow time for the CIO to seek alternative funds if there is an unexpected shortfall in income or wind up the CIO and pay any contractual obligations in the event of the Trustees agreeing that West Dorset Wilding is no longer a going concern. Establishing the level of reserves In setting the level of reserves required for this purpose the Trustees have reviewed their contractual obligations such as staff and other outgoings. This is more complex than in 2024 as the organisation has a major contract with Defra to deliver against a Landscape Recovery project. This covers the vast majority of the organisational costs, with very limited time

		given over to non-Landscape Recovery work. However, the annual liability for WDW core work under current contracts are just under £8,000, which, if there were problems with core costs, could be reduced further through notice period. Should this be the case, and no staff were employed for WDW time, a minimum of £2,000pa should be seen as sufficient to fulfil statutory obligations through contracts. Any change in the financial circumstances for the Brit Valley Landscape Recovery Project would be related to that grant so it was not considered necessary to change the reserves policy for this reason. The Trustees therefore target an £8,000 reserve but acknowledge that £2,000 will be sufficient to fulfil statutory obligations.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	At the end of the financial year the surplus was £30,911, of which £18,759 was restricted. This left £12,152 as reserves, which met the policy.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The Trustees agreed that the charity can continue to operate as a going concern.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO by Association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Election at AGM or co-option, no organisational appointments

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	West Dorset Wilding
Other name the charity uses	n/a
Registered charity number	1196964
Charity's principal address	Unit 10A Pineapple Business Park Pineapple Lane Salwayash Dorset DT6 5DB

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	Luke Montagu	Chair		
2	Arthur Crutchley			
3	Philip Colfox			
4	Tarsha Finney			
5	Jonathan Measures		17/1/25 – 31/3/25	
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20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

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

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountant	Leigh Hansford	Coombe Hope Accountants 60 West Street Bridport Dorset DT6 3QP

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

Dr Samuel Rose – Executive Director

Exemptions from disclosure**Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details**

n/a

Other optional information

n/a

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Luke Montagu	Philip Colfox
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	17/12/25	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

1196964

Receipts and payments accounts

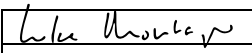
CC16a

For the period from	01.04.2024	To	31.03.2025
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Subscriptions - Voting Membership	6,750	-	-	6,750	8,250
Subscriptions - Non voting membership and linked donations	1,983	-	-	1,983	2,013
Individual donations	3,117	-	-	3,117	19,250
Corporate Grants	1,604	-	-	1,604	-
Sundry income	-	-	-	-	1,003
Gift aid	5,557	-	-	5,557	-
Event income	1,783	-	-	1,783	-
Restricted project income	-	-	-	-	-
Landscape recovery	-	253,270	-	253,270	-
NFM	-	12,380	-	12,380	-
NEIRF	-	800	-	800	-
Rewilding Britain	-	-	-	-	-
Natural England	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	20,794	266,450	-	287,243	30,516
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	20,794	266,450	-	287,243	30,516
A3 Payments					
Executive Director	2,297	-	-	2,297	13,150
Support work	-	-	-	-	2,726
Administrator	2,301	-	-	2,301	-
Marketing	189	-	-	189	-
Reimbursed staff expenses	411	-	-	411	426
Recruitment costs	149	-	-	149	575
Postage & Stationery	94	-	-	94	29
Phone & Internet	-	-	-	-	216
PR/Design	110	-	-	110	500
Print & Products	-	-	-	-	79
Fundraising	5,200	-	-	5,200	375
Consultancy	7,615	-	-	7,615	-
Insurance	-	-	-	-	96
Accountancy	240	-	-	240	240
HR/Legal costs	249	-	-	249	210
Donor box fees	38	-	-	38	16
IT Costs	315	-	-	315	97
Event costs	-	-	-	-	23
Travel	113	-	-	113	-
Sundry expenditure	41	-	-	41	1,070
Project expenditure - Landscape recovery	-	-	-	-	4,830
Project expenditure - Natural England	-	-	-	-	358
Restricted project expenditure	-	-	-	-	-
Landscape recovery	-	231,581	-	231,581	-
NFM	-	12,380	-	12,380	-
NEIRF	-	800	-	800	-
Rewilding Britain	-	2,100	-	2,100	4,738
Natural England	-	-	-	-	7,450
Sub total	19,359	246,861	-	266,221	37,203
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	19,359	246,861	-	266,221	37,203
Net of receipts/(payments)	1,434	19,588	-	21,023	6,687
A5 Transfers between funds	2,929	-	2,929	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	7,789	2,100	-	9,889	16,576
Cash funds this year end	12,152	18,759	-	30,912	9,889

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-op Bank Account	12,152	18,759	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	12,152	18,759	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		VISCOUNT LUKE MONTAGU	18 NOV 2025	



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
West Dorset Wilding

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1196964

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Lucille Williams

Date:

9/12/25

Name:

LUCILLE WILLIAMS

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ACCA

Address:

4 LAUREL CLOSE, BRIDPORT, DT6 5RQ

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From 01/04/2023 **To** 31/03/2024

Charity name: West Dorset Wilding

Charity registration number: 1196964

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objects of the CIO are: To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting biological diversity and restoring degraded ecological systems. To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Activities include: To deliver environmental projects for the benefit of the public; To educate the general public, particularly farmers and landowners, about the benefits of natural process led ecosystem restoration, through meetings, emails, online or other activities; To consult and discuss with the general public about issues in nature conservation; To undertake and disseminate research into the nature of the Charity's focus area; To recruit members for the benefit of education and fundraising; To undertake fundraising for the delivery of the above activities.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, and have a standing item at board meetings to remind them of their role and function.
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Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	Introduction Over this year West Dorset Wilding built upon its early successes to lay the foundations for long-term positive change for nature in West Dorset, with an initial focus on the Brit Catchment. A significant achievement this year has been our successful application to Defra's Landscape Recovery Programme, which will shape our agenda for change over the next 20+ years. This development is discussed in more detail at the end of this report. Public Consultation on Beaver Release The early part of the year included a public consultation on the potential for wild release of beavers in the Brit Catchment. This involved a series of in-person events and an online consultation, gathering detailed feedback from more than 230 local residents. The in-person events were held in Netherbury, Loders, Bridport, Broadoak, and Beaminster, featuring displays, expert talks, and even a stuffed beaver named Justin! The outcome of the consultation was overwhelmingly positive, with more than 80% of residents and over 60% of local landowners and farmers expressing support for the wild release. However, we recognised that some concerns remained. In response, we published the consultation results and set up a webpage with a detailed FAQ section to address a wide range of issues. This information can be found at westdorsetwilding.org/beavers.

	Feasibility Study for Beaver Release Alongside the consultation, we partnered with Mark Elliott, a beaver specialist, and a team from Exeter University to determine the habitat availability and overall feasibility for such a wild release. The outcomes of both of these studies were positive, with significant capacity in the higher reaches of the catchment to accommodate beavers, and with good availability of food. Of course all of this depends on whether the Government will be willing to allow licensed wild releases. Our work on beavers is being continued in 24/25 through the Brit Valley project detailed below, and we want to acknowledge the support of Natural England over the last year on this project. Innovation Fund Project This year also saw the continuation of the Innovation Fund Project, supported by Rewilding Britain. Highlights of the project included the creation of a Community Engagement Strategy, the mapping of above-ground carbon by the University of Exeter, the first catchment-wide breeding bird survey, and the development of a baseline Geographical Information System (GIS) database of the catchment's natural attributes. These efforts have been invaluable in preparing for the Brit Valley Project. For those interested, detailed information about the breeding bird survey is available at westdorsetwilding.org/baseline. Highlights of the survey include the recording of 79 species from 7,713 bird records, with 13 species on the Red List (highest conservation concern) and 19 on the Amber List (medium priority), representing 23% and 22% of the UK totals for each list, respectively. Brit Valley Project and Landscape Recovery Programme In June 2023, the government announced the second call for applications to its Environmental Land Management (ELMs) Landscape Recovery Programme. The Trustees decided to submit a bid focusing on
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		the Brit Catchment. With a generous donation from a benefactor, we assembled a small, part-time team to prepare the bid between July and September. The result was the Brit Catchment Recovery Project, now known as the Brit Valley Project, which saw 53 farmers and landowners agreeing to work together to enhance nature across 3,700 hectares of the catchment area. In December, we were thrilled to learn that our bid had been successful. This achievement required considerable paperwork and preparation in anticipation of the project's start on April 1st, 2024. While details of the project will be covered in next year's report, this success marks a significant milestone for our small, farmer-led organisation in undertaking a large-scale initiative. Further details can be found at westdorsetwilding.org/brit. Impact on beneficiaries and wider society The work this year has directly helped people in the area to understand more about nature and wildlife and in particular about the role of beavers in nature restoration. More than 300 people attended meetings and many more will have seen information online. Our work this year in preparation for the Landscape Recovery project that starts next year will help many farmers and landowners in the wider Brit Catchment to look after their land better for nature, for 20+ years. This project will also help many more people in the area better understand, and therefore care for nature.
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	During the past year we have successfully raised funds to support a small team to implement the existing funded projects and put together the Landscape Recovery bid. However, the funding environment remains complex, and securing core funding has been challenging. While donors are often eager to support projects, they are less
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		inclined to cover staffing and other core costs required to bring these projects to fruition. The Landscape Recovery grant will be a game changer for West Dorset Wilding, enabling us to employ staff for the first time, in 24/25. However, it does not address the ongoing issue of core funding, which will need additional support, alongside improving our reserves. We are therefore seeking to bolster our fundraising capabilities at both board and operational level.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	From policy written and approved by Trustees Oct 2024: Rationale The trustees have reviewed their financial obligations and have agreed to set aside a sum to allow time for the CIO to seek alternative funds if there is an unexpected shortfall in income or wind up the CIO and pay any contractual obligations in the event of the Trustees agreeing that West Dorset Wilding is no longer a going concern. Establishing the level of reserves In setting the level of reserves required for this purpose the Trustees have reviewed their contractual obligations such as staff and other outgoings. This is more complex than in 2023 as the organisation has a major contract with Defra to deliver against a Landscape Recovery project. This covers the vast majority of the organisational costs, with very limited time given over to non-Landscape Recovery work. However, the annual liability for WDW under current contracts are just under £8,000, which, if there were problems with core costs, could be reduced further through notice period. Should this be the case, and no staff were employed for WDW time, a minimum of £2,000pa should be seen as sufficient to fulfil statutory obligations through contracts.

		The Trustees therefore target an £8,000 reserve but acknowledge that £2,000 will be sufficient to fulfil statutory obligations.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	At the end of the financial year the surplus was £9,889, of which £2,100 was restricted. This left £7,789 as reserves, which met the policy.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The Trustees agreed that the charity can continue to operate as a going concern.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO by Association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Election at AGM or co-option, no organisational appointments

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	West Dorset Wilding
Other name the charity uses	n/a
Registered charity number	1196964
Charity's principal address	Unit 10C Pineapple Business Park Pineapple Lane Salwayash Dorset DT6 5DB

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	Luke Montagu	Chair		
2	Nicholas Gray	Treasurer	Retired as Trustee 31/3/24	
3	Arthur Crutchley			
4	Philip Colfox			
5	Tarsha Finney			
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Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

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

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountant	Leigh Hansford	Coombe Hope Accountants 60 West Street Bridport Dorset DT6 3QP

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

Samuel Rose – Executive Director (self-employed in this financial year)

Exemptions from disclosure**Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details**

n/a

Other optional information

n/a

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Luke Montagu	Philip Colfox
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	17/12/23	

West Dorset Wilding

Accounts

For the Year Ended 31st March 2024

WEST DORSET WILDING
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2024

	2024 £	2023 £
Income		
Subscriptions - Voting Membership	8,250	6,250
Subscriptions - Non voting Membership and linked donations	2,013	628
Individual donations	19,250	750
Corporate grants	0	4,847
Sundry income	1,003	0
<u>Restricted project income</u>		
Rewilding Britain	0	13,000
Natural England	0	8,000
	<u>30,516</u>	<u>33,474</u>
Expenditure		
Executive Director	13,150	9,750
Support Work	2,726	75
Reimbursed staff expenses	426	0
Recruitment costs	575	0
Postage & Stationery	29	5
Phone & Internet	216	216
PR/Design	500	0
Print & Products	79	0
Consultancy	375	0
Insurance	96	96
Accountancy	240	0
HR/Legal Costs	210	0
Donor box fees	16	9
IT costs	97	0
Event costs	23	35
Sundry expenditure	1,069	0
<u>Restricted project expenditure</u>		
Rewilding Britain	12,546	6,163
Natural England	4,830	550
	<u>37,202</u>	<u>16,899</u>
Surplus / (Defecit) for period	<u>-6,686</u>	<u>16,575</u>
Opening Balance	16,575	0
Closing Balance	9,889	16,575



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
West Dorset Wilding

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1196964

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date: 25th October 2024

Name:

Leigh Hansford

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants)

Address:

17 Stuart Way

Bridport

Dorset, DT6 4AU

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

WEST DORSET WILDING

England & Wales - Charity number 1196964

Accounts



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From

07/12/2021 **To**

31/03/2023

Charity name: West Dorset Wilding

Charity registration number: 1196964

Objectives and Activities

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	The objects of the CIO are: To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment by promoting biological diversity and restoring degraded ecological systems. To advance the education of the public in the conservation, protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment.
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	Activities include: To deliver environmental projects for the benefit of the public; To educate the general public, particularly farmers and landowners, about the benefits of natural process led ecosystem restoration, through meetings, emails, online or other activities; To consult and discuss with the general public about issues in nature conservation; To undertake and disseminate research into the nature of the Charity's focus area; To recruit members for the benefit of education and fundraising; To undertake fundraising for the delivery of the above activities.

Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	Trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit, and have a standing item at board meetings to remind them of their role and function.

Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	West Dorset Wilding (WDW) was founded in December 2021 by a group of Dorset farmers, landowners and ecologists with a shared vision for nature recovery in the Brit catchment and beyond. During the period of this report, we have made excellent progress on a number of fronts including membership, branding, governance and financial plans, project development, awareness raising and fundraising. This has led to the development of a broad portfolio of projects during the period, all of which focus initially on the Brit catchment in West Dorset and are for wider public benefit with regards to the conservation of nature. 1) Landscape scale change. The largest and potentially most impactful of these is the early development of the Brit Catchment Recovery Project, which intends to undertake large-scale extensive ecosystem restoration across the Brit catchment, focusing primarily on riparian zones and adjoining areas for habitat creation. We are doing this by bringing together farmers, landowners, NGOs and agencies into a single project. This work will be developed into a single Landscape Recovery funding application later in 2023, which, if successful, could be of benefit to the whole catchment, if not wider. 2) Baseline. During this period, we were awarded £13,000 funding from Rewilding Britain to establish an ecological and environmental baseline

		for the catchment by looking at land cover, above ground carbon and bird diversity/abundance as an indicator for wider biodiversity. This money also paid for the membership and community engagement work set out below. 3) Beavers. We have undertaken research about the suitability of the catchment for a wild release of beavers. This involved habitat feasibility research, dam capacity mapping and social and cultural feasibility. We also prepared for a public consultation which took place in the subsequent period. This project was funded by an £8,000 grant from Natural England. 4) Community engagement. Our work in this area has been led by the development of a membership scheme to involve and inspire local people, and help them engage more deeply and frequently with nature. We have also started work on a community engagement strategy, in which target groups will include farmers, landowners, teens and young adults, and low-income families. 5) Events. WDW held a successful wilding conference of 50 people in April 2022, and later a well-received launch event at Bridport Town Hall which was at full capacity and attended by over 100 people. The event illustrated the breadth and depth of local support for the objectives of West Dorset Wilding, and the concern shared by many about the perilous state of our natural environment. Overall, it has been a very productive first year, with several core projects underway and ambitious plans for a large scale Landscape Recovery bid.
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Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	As a small new charity, the financial position was solid at the end of the period. The majority of funds remaining came from restricted grants and related to work to be completed in the next period. Securing sufficient core costs over and above voting member membership continues to be challenging.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	With no payroll staff, a two-week termination clause on self-employed contracts and negligible overheads, it was determined by Trustees that sufficient reserves were needed only to meet these items. This figure was estimated at £2,000 and was agreed within the period, then ratified at the Trustees meeting of 5/9/23.
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	At the end of the financial year the surplus was £16,575, of which £14,287 was restricted. This left £2,288 as reserves, which met the policy.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	n/a
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	n/a
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	The Trustees agreed that the charity can continue to operate as a going concern.

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	Constitution
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	CIO by Association
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	Election at AGM or co-option, no organisational appointments

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	West Dorset Wilding
Other name the charity uses	n/a
Registered charity number	1196964
Charity's principal address	SYMONDSBURY ESTATE OFFICE UNIT 6 MANOR YARD MILL LANE SYMONDSBURY BRIDPORT DT6 6HG

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	Luke Montagu	Chair		
2	Nicholas Gray	Treasurer		
3	Arthur Crutchley			
4	Philip Colfox			
5	Tarsha Finney		9/12/22 to 31/3/23	
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

Director name		
n/a		

Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	
n/a		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

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

Additional information (optional)

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountant	Leigh Hansford	Coombe Hope Accountants 60 West Street Bridport Dorset DT6 3QP

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

Samuel Rose – Executive Director (self-employed)
--

Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

n/a

Other optional information

n/a

Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)	Luke Montagu	Philip Colfox
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	
Date	29/12/23	

West Dorset Wilding

Accounts

7th December 2021 to 31st March 2023

Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of West Dorset wilding

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of West Dorset wilding for the Period ended 31st March 2023

Responsibilities and basis of Report

As the charity trustees of West Dorset Wilding, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent Examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed



Leigh Hansford – FCCA
8th August 2023

Coombe Hope Accountants
60 West Street
Bridport
Dorset
DT6 3QP

WEST DORSET WILDING
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
PERIOD FROM 7TH DECEMBER 2021 TO 31ST MARCH 2023

	2023 £
Income	
Subscriptions - Voting Membership	6,250
Subscriptions - Non voting Membership and linked donations	628
Individual donations	750
Corporate grants	4,847
Sundry income	0
<u>Restricted project income</u>	
Rewilding Britain	13,000
Natural England	8,000
	<u>33,474</u>
Expenditure	
Executive Director	9,750
Support Work	75
Postage & Stationery	5
Phone & Internet	216
Insurance	96
Donor box fees	9
Event costs	35
Sundry expenditure	0
<u>Restricted project expenditure</u>	
Rewilding Britain	6,163
Natural England	550
	<u>16,899</u>
Surplus / (Defecit) for period	<u>16,575</u>



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name
West Dorset Wilding

On accounts for the year
ended

31st March 2023

Charity no
(if any)

1196964

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2023.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention (other than that disclosed below *) in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date: 8th August 2023

Name:

Leigh Hansford

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCCA (Association of Chartered Certified Accountants)

Address:

17 Stuart Way

Bridport

Dorset, DT6 4AU

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.