

Registered Charity No: 1201851  
CE031330

**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Report of the Trustees and Financial Statements**

**for the year ended**

**5th April 2025**

**Wenn Townsend**

**Chartered Accountants**

**Oxford**

## **Future Trees Trust**

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## **Future Trees Trust CIO**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 5th April 2025**

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5th April 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1st January 2019).

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The governing scheme defines the charity's objects as being to:

- i) TO PROMOTE, FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC, THE CONSERVATION, PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT BY PROMOTING AND COMMISSIONING RESEARCH INTO HARDWOOD FORESTRY AND IN PARTICULAR RESEARCH INTO THE GROWING AND IMPROVEMENT OF BRITISH HARDWOOD SPECIES, AND THE DISSEMINATION OF THE USEFUL RESULTS OF ANY SUCH RESEARCH.
- ii) TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN THE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH WORK OF THE BRITISH AND IRISH HARDWOODS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME AND IN SUSTAINABLE FOREST AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT. (SUSTAINABLE FOREST AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT IS DEFINED AS BEING DEVELOPMENT THAT MEETS THE NEEDS OF THE PRESENT WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE ABILITY OF FUTURE GENERATIONS TO MEET THEIR OWN NEEDS.)

## **AIM**

To create genetically diverse breeding populations of tree species which contribute to the development of resilient, healthy and productive forests and to climate change mitigation.

## **OBJECTIVES**

1. Through programmes of progeny trialling and the establishment of clonal and seedling seed orchards, produce tested material of our core species.
2. Through programmes of plus tree selection and the establishment of clonal seed orchards, produce qualified material of minor species, prioritising species for wood production and woodland resilience.
3. Carry out genotyping of our plus trees to characterise and better understand the genetic diversity of our breeding populations.
4. Future proof our breeding populations by incorporating some selected trees of non-UK origin.
5. Promote the use of improved seed by forest nurseries and demonstrate the gains that can be made from using improved material through a series of demonstration plots around the country.
6. By the means described above, contribute to current policies to combat climate change, enhancing biodiversity, disease resilience and carbon sequestration.
7. Promote conservation of the forest genetic resources of UK native and naturalised broadleaved species.

## **Public benefit statement**

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

## **Future Trees Trust CIO**

### **Report of the Trustees for the year ended 5th April 2025**

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

Our aim is to carry out the long-term scientific research, trials and testing required to develop the best adaptive and productive genotypes of the principal hardwood species both native and naturalised or introduced to the UK. Our breeding programmes with oak, ash, wild cherry, sweet chestnut, birch, and sycamore consider aspects of vigour, form and disease resistance while ensuring a broad genetic base for adaptability and resilience. The timescale is 15 to 20 years of continuous monitoring and refining before better material can become widely available. Future Trees Trust has established the disciplines and the procedures to ensure the best possible outcomes in the shortest possible timescale.

The increased interest in sustainable forestry and homegrown timber production has given us a unique opportunity to demonstrate the value of our research and the need for long-term investment in tree breeding. Key achievements in 2024/25 include:

- Progeny trials for two of our core species, silver birch and sycamore, have now been planted with year 2 data collected this winter. These are growing well, and we will reassess them in year 5.
- The Living Ash Project phase 2 has now been completed with the planting of 2 clonal archives.
- Our Seed Sourcing Grant projects have delivered on three minor species: hornbeam, beech, and blackthorn, and we are progressing work on wild cherry.
- Craven Field, our new research woodland, has been planted with progeny trials, a blackthorn seed stand, and planting has commenced in sessile oak and wild cherry clonal seed orchards.
- Supersizing Broadleaves phase 1 has been completed.
- Demonstration plots were planted in 2022 which was a very hot and dry spring/summer, and results are poor at two of the four sites with many trees dying. We want to repeat this work with additional seed sources over the next two years.
- Continued support for the Patsy Wood Scholar.
- Continued support for Eamonn Cooper PhD student at Trinity College Dublin.

### **Staffing changes**

James Macintyre has joined us as a Researcher.

Ruaridh Phillips completed his year as the Patsy Wood scholar and Sam Carroll has joined us as the new PWS.

Catherine Barton has joined us as our Finance/Admin Assistant on a part-time basis.

The Board of Trustees met in person and online quarterly throughout 2024/25.



## **Future Trees Trust CIO**

### **Report of the Trustees (continued) for the year ended 5th April 2025**

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Income**

2024/25 has been a great year for Future Trees Trust as it's seen our team grow as we've taken on more projects. In a change from previous years, the level of public funding now exceeds that of charitable trusts putting us on a sounder financial footing.

Total income for the year was £526k, of which £356K is restricted to research. This figure represented a significant difference against budget and was primarily due to the bringing forward by a year the planting of two ash archives at the end of 2024/25. Money received as a result of fundraising activity (both core and research) totaled £236k, thanks to our very generous supporters and an increasing understanding of the importance of our work. Core costs for the year totaled £181k (2023/24 £129k). This increase is due to a number of one off costs associated with the move to the new CIO entity, website and IT improvements and branding materials plus a general increase in costs for professional services provided and the addition of admin support.

While we continue to be heavily dependent on Charitable Trusts and Foundations, the percentage of this income against the total is reducing in line with previous years. Our percentage of funding from public sources continues to grow and means that the charity income streams are more diverse. Defra continues to support the Living Ash Project and we again received funding from Scottish Forestry. We are grateful to all our donors and supporters, without whom our work would not be possible. A full list of our supporters is included later in this Annual Report.

### **Expenditure**

Success in securing research grants in 2023/24, has enabled us to undertake new research projects and therefore our expenditure has broadened correspondingly. Much of our expenditure is on research both staff and project specific expenses. We have also made investments into our Brand development and systems within the organisation.

### **Strategic Partnership with the National Trust**

In early 2024, we launched an exciting partnership with the National Trust, aligning with both organisations' strategic goals. This collaboration enabled us to relocate to NT Buscot and Coleshill Estate, advance plans for a National Centre, and establish a research woodland at Craven Field in Uffington, south Oxfordshire. By combining our strengths, we reduce project risk while creating a valuable sector resource. This milestone also marks Future Trees Trust's first opportunity for direct land management, supporting our 10-year strategy and enabling us to increase awareness of our work.

The next phase of our partnership project involves converting The Granary, a Grade 1 Listed heritage building, into a National Centre for Broadleaved Tree Improvement and Outreach.

The National Centre will serve as an innovative hub focused on advancing environmental education, tree improvement, and sustainable forest management.

Built for learning and collaboration, it will bring together researchers, educators, and industry leaders to drive positive change by promoting sustainable forestry practices and environmental stewardship. We hope this development inspires the next generation by showcasing career opportunities in the forestry sector and encouraging future generations to explore these pathways while fostering a stronger connection to the natural world.

The Centre will also play a part in addressing climate change by promoting sustainable practices, encouraging people to take care of the environment and raising awareness of forestry's role in a more sustainable future.

Engaging the general public, particularly children and young people, is also a key focus of the Centre. Educating children about the environment fosters a generation of problem-solvers and leaders committed to sustainability. By teaching them about the importance of trees and forestry in achieving climate goals, we lay the foundation for a greener future.

## **Future Trees Trust CIO**

### **Report of the Trustees (continued) for the year ended 5th April 2025**

In addition to the progress being made against our 10-year strategy, we have also made significant progress in terms of infrastructure and future resilience:

- We have now moved to the new CIO entity.
- We have moved into our new offices at Coleshill.
- The number of highly influential people who have agreed to become Vice Patrons and promote the work that we do continues to grow.
- We have gone through a rebranding exercise and have updated our website and all communications materials.

We are really excited about the future and the key role Future Trees Trust can play in delivering significant improvements across the sector and we look forward to keeping our supporters informed of our developments over the coming months.

#### **RESEARCH PROGRAMMES**

Our research programmes are broad but with an overarching aim of improving the quality of planting stock in terms of timber traits and ensuring that all our trials and orchards are genetically diverse, helping the next generation of trees to thrive in our changing climate.

##### **Living Ash Project**

This year saw the culmination of ten years work under the Living Ash Project (LAP) with the planting of tolerant ash in two archives. Throughout this project, many ash resources have been screened for resistance to ash dieback, including research trials that were planted long before the arrival of the disease (40,000 trees), new mass screening trials (155,000 trees) and progeny trials (22,000 trees) planted by Forest Research, as well as trees in the wider environment ranging from nature reserves to highly managed forestry estates.

In the first five years of the project (LAP 1), we selected approximately 1,000 trees for tolerance to ash dieback. These were grafted and planted on the public forest estate in 2019 and have been monitored every year since. However, these selections were made early on and disease progression was relatively slow in some areas. Five years on, a third of these, unsurprisingly, have died, a third are living with the disease, and about 30% are still really healthy. Adding to this healthy third are 855 new, better, selections that we have made through LAP 2. These new selections have had prolonged exposure and greater inoculum pressure than the original LAP 1 selections, meaning their dieback tolerance is likely much greater.

All selections were made on the tree's phenotype – what disease symptoms are visible. We hoped to screen all trees to look for chemical markers associated with tolerance but have not yet been able to get this to work. Genomic predictions can also be made as to whether the tree contains DNA markers associated with tolerance, and this work is being taken forward by colleagues at Kew.

The trees were grafted at East Malling Research in Kent in January 2024, and have grown really well. Six ramets (copies) of each tree were grafted and this winter were planted in the original archive in Hampshire and in a second archive in Clackmannanshire, again on the public forest estate.

This work has been fully funded by Defra, for whom we are very grateful for their continued support. Going forward we will continue to monitor the archives and key research trials, remove any unhealthy selections, and hope to commence a breeding programme so that we can once again plant the graceful ash tree.

## **Future Trees Trust CIO**

### **Report of the Trustees (continued) for the year ended 5th April 2025**

#### **Supersizing Broadleaves**

This year saw the conclusion of our Supersizing Broadleaves Project which has been supported over the last three years by the Forestry Commission's Tree Production and Innovation Fund (TPIF). Asking the question 'What happens when you take the best seed available, raise it in the best way for that species, and establish it in the best way possible for a particular site?', we planted three full factorial trials with 48 various treatments to answer this.

We used seed from tree improvement programmes for silver birch, pedunculate oak and sycamore and compared these to typical source identified planting stock; we raised them in two common nursery practices of bare root and cell grown, and then planted them with different establishment protocols, applying weed control, fertilizer, a combination of these or no treatments as a control.

Two of our trials planted on restock sites unfortunately suffered attack by three species of weevils in May 2024, a common pest of coniferous plantations and much less known to attack broadleaves. We carried out a rapid assessment of every tree in spring, and also recorded survival, growth and damage this winter. Results were really interesting with the sycamore and birch that were badly damaged by weevil dying and the oak surviving, probably due to a larger root collar at time of planting (and thus were not girdled) and with bigger taproots and resources. Because the trials are large and well designed, there are sufficient trees to still answer the original question. We only have one year data at present, so results are very provisional. The TPIF is being launched again in 2025, and we hope to secure follow-on funding to allow us to monitor these trees for a few years more yet.

#### **Minor Species and Wild Cherry**

These aim to enhance seed supply of improved beech and wild cherry, as well as laying the ground work for future improvement programmes of other potential species like hornbeam and wild service. In two years, we have found 109 beech and 62 hornbeam plus trees, and the best of these beech trees have been climbed and graftwood collected to establish a seed orchard at our new research site.

This winter, the team made a mammoth effort, travelling across the country, to collect graftwood from 51 plus trees of beech, cherry and oak from Devon to Cumbria. We had two researchers in the field throughout January accompanying climbers and collecting precious graftwood.

We have made around 500 beech grafts and await results later this year. There was favorable weather for beech growth last year, so the quality of graftwood was good, and we are hoping to improve our number of successful grafts from the previous year. We also made almost 1,000 grafts from 114 cherry selections, including 18 new ones. Beech and cherry grafts will be deployed in new clonal seed orchards at our research woodland, Craven Field, next winter.

Also at this site, over winter, we have planted a genetically diverse blackthorn seed stand to aid seed supply of this species as well as provide a source of pollen and food for local wildlife.

## **Future Trees Trust CIO**

### **Report of the Trustees (continued) for the year ended 5th April 2025**

#### **Supporting Young Researchers and Foresters – The Patsy Wood Scholarship Programme**

The legacy grant that we received from the Patsy Wood Trust in 2017 has enabled us to support several early career foresters and researchers and is proving very successful. There is a chronic shortage within the sector of skilled young people, and particularly a lack of understanding of forest genetic resources and the role these play in helping to deliver resilient, productive and healthy woodlands. This year's scholar is Sam Carroll who is working with the Future Trees Trust with an additional placement with English Woodlands. Our current PhD student, Eamonn Copper, is investigating genetic diversity within British and Irish oak populations.

#### **Future Plans**

Building on the success of the last few years, we have exciting plans for the future which include:

- Raising funds to develop the Granary barn (in partnership with the National Trust) to provide an educational centre that will showcase the work of Future Trees Trust and the importance of forestry and the broader Woodland Sector.
- Recruit additional Trustees to ensure we have the skills required to help the organisation increase its impact over the next few years.
- Recruit a Senior Researcher to ensure we have the capacity to carry out all the projects identified in our 10 year strategy.
- Work with partners to deliver research projects that have a lasting impact on the sector.
- Identify new partnerships that will help us achieve our ambitious future goals.

#### **Reserves policy**

The trustees deem that reserves should be sufficient to allow the charity to continue its work for as long as possible in the event that income should diminish, especially in a period of economic uncertainty. Given the current economic climate, and the long term nature of our work, the trustees believe it is prudent to maintain a financial reserve of at least twelve months' core operating costs as a contingency against unexpected circumstances, with six months of these costs held in a designated fund. As at 5th April 2025, free reserves totaled £96,770 (2024: £106,825), and the trustees are content that this is broadly in line with the above target.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Governing document**

The Charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO), registered on the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

The Trustees are legally responsible for the governance and management of the Charity, and responsible for the setting of strategies and policies for ensuring that these are implemented.

#### **Related parties**

There are no related parties.

#### **Risk management**

The charity's trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have systems and procedures in place to manage the significant risks and to mitigate any adverse outcomes.


**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Report of the Trustees (continued)  
for the year ended 5th April 2025**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

<b>Charity Registration Number:</b>	1201851
<b>CIO Number:</b>	CE031330
<b>Trustees</b>	C Calahan R Coppock J Hubert (resigned 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2025) J Leigh-Pemberton (Chair) A Snowden A Stafford
<b>Principal Office</b>	Unit 3 The Sheepyard Home Farm Coleshill SN6 7PT
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	B Hayes FCA Wenn Townsend 30 St Giles Oxford OX1 3LE
<b>Bankers</b>	Barclays Bank PLC Leicester LE87 2BB

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
J Leigh-Pemberton  
Trustee

## **Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees of Future Trees Trust CIO**

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Future Trees Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 5th April 2025.

### **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 2002 ('the Act').

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

### **Independent examiner's statement**

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a registered member of the ICAEW which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.



**B Hayes BSc FCA**

**Wenn Townsend**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**Oxford**

*3rd Sept*  
..... 2025

Future Trees Trust CIO

Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ended 5th April 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
<b>Income and Endowments from</b>					
Donations, grants and legacies	2	169,708	355,507	525,215	535,779
Investment income	3	302	-	302	4,738
<b>Total</b>		170,010	355,507	525,517	540,517
<b>Expenditure on</b>					
Raising funds	5	86,195	-	86,195	63,372
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Scientific research and testing	4	82,401	341,425	423,826	438,886
<b>Total</b>		168,596	341,425	510,021	502,258
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		1,414	14,082	15,496	38,259
Transfers between funds		4,756	(4,756)	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		6,170	9,326	15,496	38,259
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		235,375	258,146	493,521	455,262
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		241,545	267,472	509,017	493,521

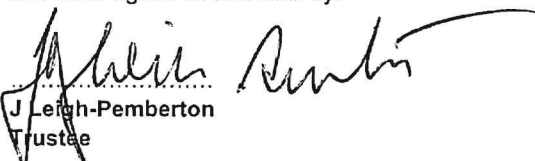


Future Trees Trust CIO

Balance Sheet  
As at 5th April 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>					
Tangible assets	10	775	-	775	1,550
<b>Current Assets</b>					
Debtors – funding recoverable		2,000	61,656	63,656	33,660
Cash at bank		246,644	234,772	481,416	493,230
		<u>248,644</u>	<u>296,428</u>	<u>545,072</u>	<u>526,890</u>
<b>Creditors</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(7,874)	(28,956)	(36,830)	(34,919)
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>240,770</u>	<u>267,472</u>	<u>508,242</u>	<u>491,971</u>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		<u>241,545</u>	<u>267,472</u>	<u>509,017</u>	<u>493,521</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>		<u>241,545</u>	<u>267,472</u>	<u>509,017</u>	<u>493,521</u>
<b>Funds</b>	12				
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund				97,545	108,375
Designated fund				144,000	127,000
				<u>241,545</u>	<u>235,375</u>
Restricted funds				<u>267,472</u>	<u>258,146</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>				<u>509,017</u>	<u>493,521</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 3rd September 2025 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
J Leigh-Pemberton  
Trustee



Future Trees Trust CIO

Statement of Cash Flows  
for the year ending 5th April 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities</b>		
Net movement in funds	15,496	38,259
Depreciation charge	775	775
Investment income	(302)	(4,738)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(29,996)	(6,731)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	1,911	31,554
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>	<u>(12,116)</u>	<u>59,119</u>
 <b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>	 <u>(12,116)</u>	 <u>59,199</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Interest income	302	4,738
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	-	(2,325)
<b>Cash used in investing activities</b>	<u>302</u>	<u>2,413</u>
 Increase in cash and cash equivalents in the year	 (11,814)	 61,532
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	493,230	431,698
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	<u>481,416</u>	<u>493,230</u>

## Future Trees Trust CIO

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 5th April 2025

#### 1. Accounting policies

##### Basis of preparing the financial statements

Future Trees Trust CIO is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) in England / Wales. The address of the registered office is given in the charity information on page 5 of these financial statements. The nature of the charity's operations and principal activities are detailed in the Trustees Report.

The CIO acquired the net assets of the unincorporated Future Trees Trust (registered charity 1103202) on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2024, and this has been accounted for using merger accounting as required by the FRS 102 SORP in order to present a true and fair view.

Under merger accounting the comparative figures in these accounts represent the results and financial position of the unincorporated charity (there was no activity in the CIO before then).

As at the transfer date the old unincorporated charity reported:

	£'000
Total income	540
Total expenditure	(502)
Net movement in funds	38
Net assets	494
Represented by:	
Unrestricted funds	236
Restricted funds	258
Total funds	494

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102. 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 issued in October 2019, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Charities Act 2011, and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to include certain items at fair value. The financial statements are presented in sterling which is the functional currency of the charity. The significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated.

## **Future Trees Trust CIO**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 5th April 2025**

#### **Income recognition**

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when the charity is legally entitled to the income after any performance conditions have been met, the amount can be measured reliably and it is probable that the income will be received.

For donations to be recognised the charity will have been notified of the amounts and the settlement date in writing. If there are conditions attached to the donation and this requires a level of performance before entitlement can be obtained then income is deferred until those conditions are fully met or the fulfilment of those conditions is within the control of the charity and it is probable that they will be fulfilled.

Donated facilities and donated professional services are recognised in income at their fair value when their economic benefit is probable, it can be measured reliably and the charity has control over the item. Fair value is determined on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity. For example, the amount the charity would be willing to pay in the open market for such facilities and services. A corresponding amount is recognised in expenditure. No amount is included in the financial statements for volunteer time in line with the SORP. Further detail is given in the Trustees' Annual Report.

Investment income is earned through holding cash deposit balances, and includes interest received. Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

#### **Expenditure**

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

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

#### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost (or deemed cost) or valuation less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Cost includes costs directly attributable to making the asset capable of operating as intended.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets, at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a systematic basis over its expected useful life as follows:

Computer equipment – 33% on cost

#### **Taxation**

The charity is an exempt charity within the meaning of schedule 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

## **Future Trees Trust CIO**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) for the year ended 5th April 2025**

#### **1. Accounting policies (continued)**

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The cost of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements

##### **Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

##### **Debtors and creditors receivable / payable within one year**

Debtors and creditors with no stated interest rate and receivable or payable within one year are recorded at transaction price. Any losses arising from impairment are recognised in expenditure.

##### **Employee benefits**

When employees have rendered service to the charity, short-term employee benefits to which the employees are entitled are recognised at the undiscounted amount expected to be paid in exchange for that service.

The charity operates a defined contribution plan for the benefit of its employees. Contributions are expensed as they become payable.

##### **Going concern**

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the trustees believe that no material uncertainties exist. The trustees have considered the level of funds held and the expected level of income and expenditure for 12 months from authorising these financial statements. The budgeted income and expenditure is sufficient with the level of reserves for the charity to be able to continue as a going concern.

**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)  
for the year ended 5th April 2025**

**2. Donations, grants and legacies**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
ALA Green Charitable Trust	15,000	-
Alfred Williams Charitable Trust	3,000	2,500
Brian D Newman Foundation	-	8,590
Britford Bridge Trust	15,000	-
Calisen Impact Charitable Trust	12,250	-
Chapman Charitable Trust	-	3,000
DCR Allen Charitable Trust	8,000	-
DEFRA	135,542	123,324
Dr PR Morrison	5,000	-
DS Smith Trust	9,750	-
Duke of Devonshire	5,000	-
Dulverton Trust	-	30,000
Earl Fitzgerald Charitable Trust	2,500	-
Earth Trust	-	1,975
Edward Cadbury Grant	-	5,000
Emerton Christie	2,000	-
Esme Mitchell Trust	2,000	3,000
Evolving Forests	1,500	-
FC England	80,819	170,261
FC England – Beech	-	18,455
FC England – SSBL	-	12,117
Finnis Scott Foundation	4,000	-
Frazier Trust	2,000	2,000
Gresham House	10,000	-
HDH Wills 1965 Trust	30,000	-
Hugh Fraser	2,000	-
Hugh Symonds	2,000	-
Ian Addison Charitable Trust	2,000	2,000
John Coates Charitable Trust	-	5,000
John Swire Charitable Trust	-	10,000
Langdale Trust	8,000	-
Leslie Carter Charitable Trust -	-	3,000
Lord Belstead Charitable Settlement	2,000	-
Lord Faringdon Charitable Trust	1,500	1,500
Maelor Forest	4,679	-
Martin Wills Fund	-	25,000
Miriamog Trust	1,500	-
Nottingham University	-	2,535
Pilkington Charitable Trust	3,000	-
Provincial Grand Charity of Derbyshire	2,500	-
Pye Settlement	3,000	2,000
Ratcliff Foundation	2,000	-
Richard Radcliffe Charitable Trust	2,000	2,000
Richer Sounds Foundation	3,000	5,000
Rothermere Foundation	2,000	-
Sandra Charitable Trust	-	3,000
Scottish Forestry	35,300	33,000
Scottish Forestry Trust	2,500	-
Shanley Foundation	5,000	2,500
Stanley Grundy Foundation	6,000	2,500

**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)  
for the year ended 5th April 2025**

**2. Donations, grants and legacies (continued)**

Tay Charitable Trust	2,000	2,000
The Barber Charvet BCT	10,000	10,000
The Cobb Charity	1,500	1,500
The Ormonde Charitable Trust	2,000	-
The Rockley Charity	2,500	-
The Snyder Foundation	2,000	-
Tilhill Forestry	-	2,500
Trees Please Limited	2,000	2,000
Trees Scott Gredine	4,000	-
Vastern Timber	10,000	10,000
Whitaker Charitable Trust	5,000	4,000
Woodland Heritage	-	2,000
Xylem Global	2,000	-
Sundry other donations (£1,000 and under)	48,875	22,522
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	525,215	535,779
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)  
for the year ended 5th April 2025**

**3. Investment income**

	2025 £	2024 £
Deposit account interest	302	4,738
	<u>302</u>	<u>4,738</u>

**4. Charitable activities costs**

Expenditure on charitable activities comprised :

	2025 £	2024 £
Scientific research and testing	328,376	372,605
Support costs (note 5)	94,675	65,506
Depreciation of computer equipment	775	775
	<u>423,826</u>	<u>438,886</u>

Expenditure on scientific research testing comprised:

	2025 Unrestricted £	2025 Restricted £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Birch Group	-	6,893	6,893	10,941
Cherry Group	-	28,148	28,148	9,285
Oak Group	-	28,006	28,006	41,335
Sycamore Group	-	2,179	2,179	4,943
Living Ash Project	-	92,530	92,530	86,279
NTIS	-	3,830	3,830	6,402
PWT Legacy	-	131,391	131,391	38,818
Sustainable Seed Source Project	-	19,300	19,300	65,228
Supersizing Broadleaves	-	7,361	7,361	85,689
Other projects	-	8,738	8,738	23,685
	<u>-</u>	<u>328,376</u>	<u>328,376</u>	<u>372,605</u>

**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)  
for the year ended 5th April 2025**

**5. Support costs**

	Fundraising £	Charitable Activities £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Support costs comprise the below items, and were allocated on a usage/time basis:				
Consultancy costs	56,309	11,314	67,623	103,222
Salary costs	6,685	60,160	66,845	-
Office rent	728	728	1,456	8,393
Other support costs	17,498	17,498	34,996	10,306
Governance costs (see note 6)	4,975	4,975	9,950	6,957
	<u>86,195</u>	<u>94,675</u>	<u>180,870</u>	<u>128,878</u>

**6. Governance costs**

	2025 £	2024 £
Meeting expenses	3,468	2,249
Accountancy and legal fees	6,482	4,708
	<u>9,950</u>	<u>6,957</u>

**7. Trustees' and key management personnel remuneration and expenses**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 5th April 2025 nor for the year ended 5th April 2024.

**Trustees' expenses**

During the year ended 5th April 2025 travel expenses of £1,082 were paid to four of the trustees (2024: one paid £222).

The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel is £122,230 (2024: £52,823). The Trust considers its key management personnel comprise the CEO and Head of Research.



**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)  
for the year ended 5th April 2025**

**8. Staff costs**

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	173,605	107,955
Social security costs	12,729	10,512
Other pension costs	8,618	5,723
	<u>194,952</u>	<u>124,190</u>

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

The average number of employees during the year was 6 (2024: 4). Full-time equivalent numbers of staff were as follows:

	2025	2024
CEO	0.8	0.6
Head of Research	1	1
Researcher	1	1
Research Technician	1	0.8
Patsy Wood Scholar	0.5	0.5
Administrator	0.12	-

**9. Independent examiner's remuneration**

The independent examiner's remuneration amounts to an independent examination and accounts preparation fee of £2,250 (2024: £2,040).

**10. Tangible fixed assets**

	Computer Equipment £
<b>Cost</b>	
At 6th April 2024	4,319
Additions	-
	<u>4,319</u>
At 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	4,319
<b>Depreciation</b>	
At 6th April 2024	2,769
Charge for year	775
	<u>3,544</u>
At 5th April 2025	3,544
<b>Net book value</b>	
At 5th April 2025	775
	<u>1,550</u>
At 5th April 2024	<u>1,550</u>

**11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2025 £	2024 £
Other creditors	36,830	34,919
	<u>36,830</u>	<u>34,919</u>

**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)  
for the year ended 5th April 2025**

**12. Movement in funds**

	At 6.4.24 £	Net income £	Transfers between funds £	At 5.4.25 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	108,375	1,414	4,756	114,545
Designated fund	127,000	-	-	127,000
	<u>235,375</u>	<u>1,414</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>241,545</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Birch Group fund	7,147	(5,869)	-	1,278
Cherry Group fund	-	3,593	-	3,593
Chestnut Group fund	3,766	-	-	3,766
Craven Field fund	-	11,244	-	11,244
Oak Group fund	25,596	(3,773)	-	21,823
Living Ash Project	33,419	(14,025)	-	19,394
NTIS	6,007	170	-	6,177
Patsy Wood Trust Legacy	171,745	14,610	-	186,355
Sycamore Group fund	5,057	1,596	-	6,653
Sustainable Seed Source fund	253	7,006	-	7,259
Supersizing Broadleaves fund	109	-	-	109
Outreach and Comms fund	4,756	-	(4,756)	-
Other restricted funds	291	(470)	-	(179)
	<u>258,146</u>	<u>14,082</u>	<u>(4,756)</u>	<u>267,472</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>493,521</u>	<u>15,496</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>509,017</u>

Net income, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	170,010	(168,596)	1,414
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Birch Group fund	5,400	(11,269)	(5,869)
Cherry Group fund	43,219	(39,626)	3,593
Craven Field fund	20,400	(9,156)	11,244
Oak Group fund	32,548	(36,321)	(3,773)
Living Ash Project	123,819	(137,844)	(14,025)
NTIS	5,000	(4,830)	170
Patsy Wood Trust Legacy	27,750	(13,140)	14,610
Sycamore Group fund	10,000	(8,404)	1,596
Sustainable Seed Source fund	68,939	(61,933)	7,006
Supersizing Broadleaves fund	13,045	(13,045)	-
Other restricted funds	5,387	(5,857)	(470)
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>525,517</u>	<u>(510,021)</u>	<u>15,496</u>

**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)  
for the year ended 5th April 2025**

**12. Movement in funds (continued)**

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 6.4.23 £	Transfers Net income £	between funds £	At 5.4.24 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General fund	76,899	31,476	-	108,375
Designated fund	127,000	-	-	127,000
	<u>203,899</u>	<u>31,476</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>235,375</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Birch Group fund	7,498	(351)	-	7,147
Oak Group fund	16,256	9,340	-	25,596
Living Ash Project	8,303	25,116	-	33,419
NTIS	4,409	1,598	-	6,007
Patsy Wood Trust Legacy	210,063	(38,318)	-	171,745
Sycamore Group fund	-	5,057	-	5,057
Sustainable Seed Source fund	-	253	-	253
Supersizing Broadleaves fund	-	109	-	109
Outreach and Comms fund	-	4,756	-	4,756
Other restricted funds	4,834	(777)	-	4,057
	<u>251,363</u>	<u>6,783</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>258,146</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>455,262</u>	<u>38,259</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>493,521</u>

Net income, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General fund	161,259	(129,783)	31,476
<b>Restricted funds</b>			
Birch Group fund	10,590	(10,941)	(351)
Oak Group fund	50,675	(41,335)	9,340
Living Ash Project	111,395	(86,279)	25,116
NTIS	8,000	(6,402)	1,598
Patsy Wood Trust Legacy	500	(38,818)	(38,318)
Sycamore Group fund	10,000	(4,943)	5,057
Sustainable Seed Source fund	65,481	(65,228)	253
Supersizing Broadleaves fund	85,798	(85,689)	109
Outreach and Comms fund	25,000	(20,244)	4,756
Other restricted funds	11,819	(12,596)	(777)
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>540,517</u>	<u>(502,258)</u>	<u>38,259</u>

## **Future Trees Trust CIO**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements (continued) for the year ended 5th April 2025**

#### **12. Movement in funds (continued)**

##### **Unrestricted funds**

Our accounts indicate net unrestricted assets of £241,545. This sum reflects the unrestricted donations received throughout the year in addition to opening funds. As no specific restriction was applied by each donor, the total amount of each donation has to be reported in our accounts as unrestricted income.

Our reserves policy, as stated on page 3 of the accounts, is to hold a designated reserve of six months of operating costs, with a further six months covered by free reserves.

Accordingly, although our accounts show unrestricted assets of £241,545, this includes the sum we have designated to support half of our operating costs for 2025/26 - £84,000 based on the 2025/26 budget. Of the remaining £157,545, a further £60,000 has been designated for expected future research infrastructure costs.

##### **Restricted funds**

In 2017, Future Trees Trust were awarded a legacy grant from the Patsy Wood Trust to enable us to employ our first research staff. At that time, funding was for a Head of Research and research assistant for five years. In addition to this, it included funds to support two doctoral students and five apprenticeships. The Head of Research started work in 2018, and the Researcher in 2019. To date, we have supported two PhD Students, and four apprenticeships.

We continue to raise funds to support these positions through specific project work, and this therefore allows this restricted funding to extend further. £186,355 of our £267,472 restricted funding remains in the Patsy Wood Trust fund and continues to support these positions.

The remaining £81,117 sits across our main project work for our core species.

Material fund movements and balances are detailed above.

#### **13. Related party disclosures**

During the year ended 5th April 2025 there were no transactions with related parties (2024: None).

**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)  
for the year ended 5th April 2025**

**14. Comparative statement of financial activities**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
<b>Income and Endowments from</b>			
Donations, grants and legacies	156,521	379,258	535,779
Investment income	4,738	-	4,738
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Total</b>	161,259	379,258	540,517
 <b>Expenditure on</b>			
Raising funds	63,372	-	63,372
 <b>Charitable activities</b>			
Scientific research and testing	66,411	372,475	438,886
Public education and lobbying to further charitable objectives	-	-	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Total</b>	129,783	372,475	502,258
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	31,476	6,783	38,259
 Transfers between funds	-	-	-
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	31,476	6,783	38,259
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
 <b>Reconciliation of funds</b>			
 <b>Total funds brought forward</b>	203,899	251,363	455,262
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	235,375	258,146	493,521
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)  
for the year ended 5th April 2024**

**15. Comparative balance sheet**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2024 Total Funds £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	1,550	-	1,550
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors – funding recoverable	-	33,660	33,660
Cash at bank	233,825	259,405	493,230
	<u>233,825</u>	<u>293,065</u>	<u>526,890</u>
<b>Creditors</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	-	(34,919)	(34,919)
	<u>233,825</u>	<u>258,146</u>	<u>491,971</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>			
	<u>235,375</u>	<u>258,146</u>	<u>493,521</u>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>			
	<u>235,375</u>	<u>258,146</u>	<u>493,521</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>235,375</u>	<u>258,146</u>	<u>493,521</u>
<b>Funds</b>			
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund			108,375
Designated fund			127,000
			<u>235,375</u>
Restricted funds			<u>258,146</u>
<b>Total Funds</b>			<u>493,521</u>

**Future Trees Trust CIO**

**Detailed Statement of Financial Activities  
for the year ended 5th April 2025**

	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income and endowments</b>		
<b>Donations and legacies</b>		
Donations	525,215	535,779
<b>Investment income</b>		
Deposit account interest	302	4,738
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<u>525,517</u>	<u>540,517</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
Computer equipment depreciation	775	775
Scientific research and testing	328,376	372,605
	<u>329,151</u>	<u>373,380</u>
<b>Support costs</b>		
Core salaries	66,845	-
Consultancy fees	11,314	70,236
Fundraising fees	56,309	32,986
Motor expenses	4,710	2,114
Office rent	1,456	8,393
Travelling and subsistence	1,049	954
Website expenses	17,807	1,065
Staff training	1,920	1,161
Telephone	900	1,095
Postage and stationery	6,093	1,848
Miscellaneous expenses and subscriptions	1,533	737
Insurance	902	1,243
Bank charges	82	89
	<u>170,920</u>	<u>121,921</u>
<b>Governance costs</b>		
Meeting expenses	3,468	2,249
Accountancy and legal fees	6,482	4,708
	<u>9,950</u>	<u>6,957</u>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<u>510,021</u>	<u>502,258</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>	<u><u>15,496</u></u>	<u><u>38,259</u></u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements