

LONG ASHTON NATURE COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 1203357

Details

Other names LANCE TRUST

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2023-06-01

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

Contact

Address 11 Weston Road
Long Ashton
Bristol
BS41 9LA

Phone 07798687681

Email lancet2021@protonmail.com

Website <https://www.lancetrust.org/>

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECT OF THE CIO IS:TO PROMOTE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC THE IMPROVEMENT AND CONSERVATION OF THE PHYSICAL AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT IN LONG ASHTON AND THE SURROUNDING AREA BY:A) CARRYING OUT PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES TO SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF BIODIVERSE, RESILIENT AND GREENER HABITATS WHICH HELP TO MITIGATE THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND CREATE HABITATS FOR DIVERSE SPECIES TO THRIVE;B) PROVIDING EDUCATION, SUPPORT, INFORMATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO THE PUBLIC AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS IN MATTERS RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND CREATING HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS.

Activities: The LANCE Trust is dedicated to stopping and reversing the decline of wildlife habitats and species in the parish of Long Ashton near Bristol.

Classification

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

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LOCAL
- Bristol City
- North Somerset

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	£3,886	£4,234	-	-
2024-05-31	£3,057	£269	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Amanda Barrett		2021-05-01
Ashleigh Williams		2025-04-22
Jenny Louise Hyndman		2021-05-01
Joff Fenton		2025-04-22
Laura Thain		2025-04-22
Owen Newman		2021-05-01
Peter Andresen		2021-05-01

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LONG ASHTON NATURE COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT TRUST
ANNUAL REPORT 2024/5

CHARITY NUMBER 1203357

1. RAISING AWARENESS

Regular blogs, articles in parish magazines, facebook posts continue to update people, raise awareness and pass on relevant biodiversity news

2. ONGOING PROJECTS

A. THE GREAT HEDGE CREATION PROJECT: On-going maintenance of the Great Hedge Creation Project – just under 6,000 saplings stretching some 1.5 kms – to link two semi-ancient/ancient woodlands and create a species-rich biodiverse hedge. Since our last report, this involved planting some 270 saplings in early spring and mid-autumn 2025 with the help of approx. 50 volunteers. This facilitated one corporate group (Hewlett Packard) to boost the charitable work of their volunteers by donating an hourly rate per volunteer (approx. 12 x 6 hours) to the children's charity, Little Hearts Matter.

B. SWIFT BOXES: Eleven further boxes were made by a trustee to boost the numbers of boxes to 44. This increased the number of boxes in swift hotspot areas and were utilised for houses that needed slightly different, more weather-proof boxes. Another Swift and Walk talk drew in 25 people from Long Ashton and further afield who learnt more about the behaviour and needs of this endangered species. The project has had a ripple effect with more homeowners keen to erect, make or buy their own boxes or retro-fit swift bricks including the local church who paid for their own four boxes to install in All Saints belfry. And the Parish Council is now recommending that newly built homes or extensions could install either a swift box or brick.

3. NEW PROJECTS

A. KEEDWELL WILDLIFE GARDEN: The Trust was asked to help restore a small wildlife-friendly garden adjacent to the Church. Over 70 wildlife-friendly plants, rootlets or bulbs were grown or collected from a trustee's garden and planted in the autumn whilst earlier on, a planting plan was drawn up to create a small shrubbery with wildlife-friendly plants.

B. RECYCLING TREE PVC GUARDS: The Trust researched how best to tackle the problem of the thousands of old, unwanted spiral PVC guards that can be found across the parish and beyond. Having found there's a method to bulk recycle them, the Trust instigated a project by liaising with key stakeholders and the community to collect as many as possible in the next year. Progress has been swift thanks to the Scouts and members of the Trust.

3. DATA COLLECTION

A. RIVER-FLY MONITORING: On-going monitoring of six certified sites to check for water quality on the three streams in the parish continued through-out the year with more people getting involved either as volunteers with certified people or becoming certified volunteers themselves.

B. OTHER SPECIES Over 200 sites were surveyed as part of Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count; over 50 veteran trees were mapped as part of the Woodland Trust's initiative; key native orchid sites were recorded; and several sites were surveyed for North Somerset's Bat Survey to gather spatial distribution data on bats to minimise the impact of development on bats and on-going bird surveys continued. The data collected from initiatives such as these helps identify sites that are high value for wildlife and those that could be more effectively managed.

C. SCRUB SURVEY An on-going survey into the use by birds of several acres of scrub continues to underline how important this under-valued habitat is. Scrub like this is rare in our parish yet with the co-operation of landowners, corners of fields could easily be left to scrub ensuring a network of invaluable habitat across the parish with minimal expenditure and minimal loss of agricultural land

C. SILT POLLUTION INCIDENT: On-going work from a large development has caused considerable silt pollution. Photos and reports from several years finally resulted in the Council notifying the developer and limited remedial action taken. Silt pollution such as this reduces biodiversity downstream considerably.

4 COMMUNITY LIAISON

A. The Trust mentored a University of Bristol zoology student over the summer to introduce them to butterfly surveys for Butterfly Conservation.

B. The Trust also facilitated a Duke of Edinburgh student showing them how to identify and map ancient trees.

C. The Trust gave a talk on swifts to the local primary Eco-Council at Birdwell School.

D. THE Trust gave a talk for the eco-Church project in Flax Bourton (a neighbouring parish) on 'Learn to Love the Little Wild Things'.

E. Regular blogs on the website continue to be enjoyed by many whilst posts on facebook attract others.

D. Engagement with key stakeholders within the parish such as the Parish Council and local landowners continues.

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CHARITY NUMBER 1203357

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT 2024/25

1st June 2024 to 31st May 2025

INCOME	£	£
GRANTS	1,436.72	
DONATIONS	1,958.16	
VILLAGE MARKET CAFE	316.57	
TALKS	175.00	
Total Income		3,886.45

EXPENDITURE		
SWIFT BOXES	911.42	
RIVERFLY MONITORING	674.41	
HEDGE PROJECT	549.77	
MAPPING	360.00	
STRIMMER	1,147.80	
VILLAGE MARKET CAFE	36.99	
NORTHLEAZE SCHOOL FLOWER MEADOW	350.00	
BLUE HEARTS	43.50	
BANK CHARGES	6.20	
INSURANCE	154.00	
Total Expenditure		4,234.09

Surplus/(Deficit) (347.64)

RESERVES

Opening Current Account Balance	3,600.15
Surplus/(Deficit)	(347.64)

Closing Current Account Balance 3,252.51

LONG ASHTON NATURE COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT TRUST

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Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	01	04	2023		31	05	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name LONG ASHTON NATURE COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST

Other names charity is known by LANCE Trust

Registered charity number (if any) 1203357

Charity's principal address

School Farm House
Barrow Street, Barrow Gurney
Bristol
Postcode BS48 3RU

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	Peter Andresen			
2	Myles Mayne			
3	Amanda Barrett			
4	Owen Newman			
5	Jenny Hyndman			
6				
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17				
18				
19				
20				

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

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Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

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

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

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

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

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Section C Objectives and activities

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

To promote for the benefit of the public the improvement and conservation of the physical and natural environment in Long Ashton and the surrounding area by:

- a) carrying out projects and activities to support the establishment and management of biodiverse, resilient and greener habitats which help to mitigate the harmful effects of climate change and create habitats for diverse species to thrive;
- b) providing education, support, information and encouragement to the

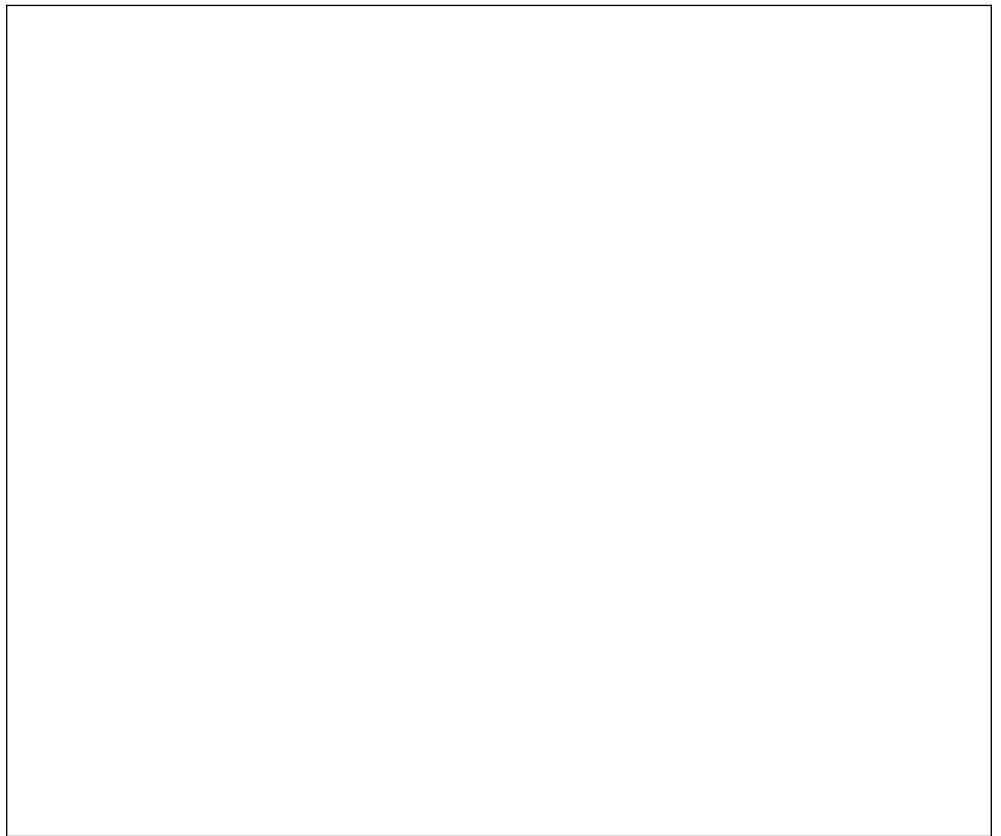
<p>public and other stakeholders in matters relating to environmental protection and creating healthy ecosystems.</p>
<p>Actions undertaken for Public Benefit in the above period:</p> <p>We continued to maintain, monitor and assess success of increase in species on Lark Meadow, our one-hectare, species-rich wildflower meadow sown on a previously intensively-farmed arable field in 2022.</p> <p>Swifts have been one of our main areas of focus in this reporting period. We have raised awareness that Long Ashton has a significant summer nesting population concentrated in two areas in the west of the village. We look forward to the swifts' return next spring and hope they will use the new boxes.</p> <p>We teamed up with North Somerset District Council and a local farmer to plant 1.8km of mixed hedgerow to link areas of wildlife habitat. We gathered volunteers from the local community and businesses.</p> <p>We trained local volunteers to collect Riverfly data from waterways in the Parish of Long Ashton. Any future pollution or degradation of water quality can now be assessed against the baseline of the data collected. This will be especially important as there are proposals to build many thousands of houses in the parish in the next few years.</p> <p>Members of the Trust undertook wildlife surveys (butterflies, bats & birds) at various locations in the parish for national groups such as Butterfly Conservation, North Somerset Bat Conservation & RSPB.</p> <p>We engaged with many community groups including developing a wildflower area at a local primary school; sowing and maintaining wildflower areas in a local park; giving talks to local organisations including Brownies and the Long Ashton Horticultural Society; and mentoring two Duke of Edinburgh volunteers.</p> <p>Finally, the Trust drew up and instigated a Local Biodiversity Action Plan for Long Ashton Parish Council focusing on five species and ecosystems specifically (swifts, hedgehogs, brimstone butterflies, healthy rivers and gardens for biodiversity).</p> <p>The LANCE Trustees believe that we have met the Charity Commission for England and Wales's public benefit criteria for the advancement of environmental protection or improvement, education, health, citizenship and community development and animal welfare.</p>

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

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

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

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



Section D

Achievements and performance

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Lark Meadow: We feel that we have made a real difference to the wildlife potential in Long Ashton. Our wild flower meadow, Lark Meadow, planted in 2022 continues to develop and the summer of 2024 saw an increase in perennial plant species such as lesser knapweed, ox-eye daisy with a corresponding increase in insects including grassland butterflies such as marbled whites and meadows browns alongside several species of dragonfly. Out of 130 sites surveyed in the parish and adjacent boundary areas for Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count, Lark Meadow was in the top twenty in terms of both variety of species and individuals within species.

Swifts: Residents in these areas have been approached and many have opted to have a nesting box erected on their house. The Trust built and erected 30 nest boxes for swift and also arranged a Swift Walk & Talk attended by over 40 people from Long Ashton & further afield.

Native hedgerow: Planted and maintained 5,664 saplings and standards to create a 1.8 km wildlife corridor linking two semi-ancient/ancient woodlands with the help of over 350+ volunteers giving well over 1,100 hours of their time. This included some help from pupils at a local primary school. The failure rate of the plants is less than 4% with only 200 saplings needing to be replaced the following year.

Riverfly Monitoring: Supported by Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART), we successfully applied for a grant from Long Ashton Parish Council to pay for the training of seven local people to undertake monitoring of the health of local watercourses. The Riverfly Monitoring project is now running with six volunteers sampling locations on three streams in the parish. Results are being logged monthly on a national database. The results show that the stream waters are of moderate to good quality.

Survey data: We have successfully conducted surveys for North Somerset Bat Survey led by the Bat Conservation Research Lab at the University of Bath, the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch and 130+ sites for Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count (one of the top ten highest site records in the whole country)

Young people: Our links to the local primary schools and Brownie groups continue to prosper. The Trust obtained funding from a private donor to facilitate pupils at one of our primary schools to plant a wildflower area with help from Avon Schools Eco Network. Talks were given to the children with wild life walks to our wild flower meadow. Two evening sessions with the Brownies focused on (1) on swifts and (2) hedgehogs.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

Our charity is small and has only a small volume of outgoings and overheads. We will only spend money from funds that that have been obtained for a specific project. We consider that our reserves are adequate for 6 months.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

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

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

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Section F Other optional information

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Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
Full name(s)		
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)		
Date		

Lance Trust Accounts 01/06/23 to 31/05/24

Year 2			
Jun '23 - May '24	Unrestricted	Resticted	Total
<i>Opening Bank</i>	£352.52	£689.28	£1,041.80
<i>Opening Net Assets</i>			
<i>Opening Liabilities</i>			-£1,287.64
<i>Opening Net Reserves</i>			-£245.84
Income	£3,057.16		£3,057.16
Direct Costs		-£186.21	-£186.21
Gross Surplus	£3,057.16	-£186.21	£2,870.95
Administration	-£82.70		-£82.70
Operating Surplus	£2,974.46	-£186.21	£2,788.25
Balance Sheet			
Assets			
Liabilities	-£229.90		
<i>Closing Bank</i>	£3,097.08	£503.07	£3,600.15
Add Net Current Assets			
Less Accrued Liabilites			
Reserves	£3,097.08	£503.07	£3,600.15