



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			
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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

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)

public and other stakeholders in matters relating to environmental protection and creating healthy ecosystems.
<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>

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

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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 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.

Section F**Other optional information****Section G****Declaration**

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)		
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
<i>Add Net Current Assets</i>			
<i>Less Accrued Liabilites</i>			
Reserves	£3,097.08	£503.07	£3,600.15