

Dean Trail Volunteers 2024-25 Annual Report





Charitable Objectives & News

- The advancement of the amateur sport of Mountain Biking in the Forest of Dean for the public benefit by the assistance in the provision of facilities for participation in the sport of Mountain Biking at the Forest of Dean Cycle Centre
- To promote for the benefit of the public the conservation protection and improvement of the physical and natural environment within the Forest of Dean Cycle Centre
- Registered as a charity 4th July 2024.
- Won the KAVS in October 2024.



**The King's Award
for Voluntary Service**



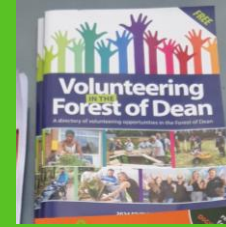
Trustees for the period 2024-25

- Andrew Davies - Dig Coordinator (Chair)
- Sara Packer - Secretary (and Deputy Chair)
- Ben Herycz – Treasurer
- Neil Wheeler - Health & Safety Officer
- Ian Officer - Non-Executive Trustee
- Alan Grist – Non-Executive Trustee
- Rebecca Prayoga - Marketing Officer
- Robert Yates - Fundraising Officer



Volunteering

- Total volunteer hours: 3,298 (78% increase from 1,853 hours in 2023)
- 219 active volunteers with 32 contributing over 60% of the totals hours
- Social events at BPW, Christmas Meal and various Social Rides
- Benja wins volunteer award





Trail Digging

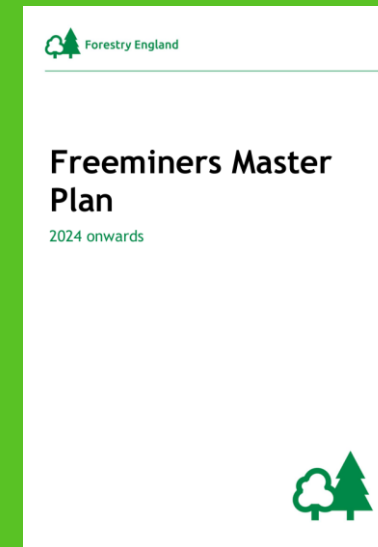
- Freeminers Focus
 - Red Skills Area Opened
 - Reworked Original Boneyard
 - Dizzy's Down
 - New Start
 - Velo's Machine Built Section
 - New top section
 - Adit TNT Revamped
- Next Period get Freeminers open and look at revamping some DH tracks
- FoD Night Riders collab. 281 hours of additional volunteering around Enduro Hill area
- More First Aiders trained up and nothing to report for Health and Safety





Forestry England

- Opening of Old Bob a Green accessible trail is great news for the Cycle Centre
- Collaboration on the 5 Year Master Plan for trails within the Cycle Centre
- Cycle Centre Stats (FY25-26)
 - Car Parking 134k
 - Launchpad 107k
 - Blue Skills 215k
 - Verderers 73k
 - Colliers 115k
 - Old Bob 20k (Oct-Mar)





Environment

- Regular Litter Picks and Dead-Hedging (new technique for marking boundaries) account for 120h of volunteer time
- This activity is highly suitable for corporate events especially when the organisation has environmental goals
- Replanting around trails becomes standard practice
- Rewilding funding secured from the Friends of the Cotswolds (£2,000)





Partner Digs

- 192 Corporate Social Responsibility hours, primarily with NVIDIA
- Digs and generous member benefits from close partner PedalABikeAway
- Further collaboration in 2025/26 and growing our CSR programme



“The trail network is the lifeblood of the cycle centre. It is the pull factor that brings people into ride the Forest of Dean. The work that Dean Trail Volunteers do is vital to creating a strong and vibrant riding community, which is why we try to support it through the member benefits and bringing our staff out on quarterly dig days!”

Gareth Sheppard Jones (PedalABikeAway)



Inclusive Activities

- John Kyrle High School we spent 300h volunteering with kids and teachers. Helped otherwise excluded kids find purpose in a natural environment
- Women's digs continued. Aim to make more permanent feature in 2025/26 improve on 45 hours this year
- Disabled bike access project supported by Barnwood Trust funding (£4,400) waiting to fund Adaptive Bike Project
- Ongoing support of Duke of Edinburgh popular on Saturday digs





Fund Raising

- Approx. 300h of volunteering at Table Sale and fund-raising events
- New larger container has transformed set-up time for monthly Table Sales
- £12,293 raised in total, aim to hit £19k in 25/26 and £25k in 26/27





Marketing and Communications

- Social Media
 - Followers: Facebook 2.7k, Instagram 4.2k
 - Email: 231 subscribers
 - Facebook Group: 81
 - YouTube, TikTok, LinkedIn no presence
- Objectives for next Financial Year:
 - Marketing Year Plan integrated comms across platforms and fund raising, supporting volunteer recruitment and volunteer retention
 - Adopt LinkedIn to target CSR Partners
 - Reinstate regular comms via Email Newsletters to all groups
 - New Integrate Website



IT and Data Protection

- Secured a substantial Non-Profit Grant from Microsoft for provision of the Teams platform. With 300 Business Basic licences to provide a secure replacement of the existing disparate systems. This will allow us to store the required membership data and attentional information required for reporting purposes in a fully compliant fashion.
- Began a limited pilot project on rollout of Teams which will become focus of FY25-26
- Develop a system on SharePoint for storing and reporting on Volunteer Hours data.
- While the current privacy policy was fit for purpose with the move to a membership charity this year this will need addressing in the next financial year period.



Finance (see also Finances Report)

- **Income for the Year: £47,871**
- **Restricted funds (£21,400):** Which includes
 - £4,400 from Barnwood Trust for disabled bike projects
 - £2,000 from Friends of the Cotswolds for rewilding project
 - £15,000 from private donors for Boneyard
- **Expenditure for the Year: £19,409**



Objectives for FY2025-26

- New Website, Mar/Comms Calendar and Regular Email Updates
- Rollout Teams and GDPR Compliant Members Database
- New DTV Tracker for capturing Volunteer Hours
- Complete Freeminers Revamp
- Move to update DH Tracks
- Adoption of Enduro Hill trails
- Increase Number of Regular Women's Diggers and Dig Leads
- Built the Blow'n'Mow team and launch ahead of Autumn
- Recruit Membership Trustee, DPO Trustee and Secretary
- Build Volunteering and Donation based Partnerships with CSR Companies
- Produce a report on Paid Membership options for vote at 25/26 AGM
- Become VAT registered



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Dean Trill Volunteers

1208988

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

04/07/2024

To

31/03/2025

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Crowdfunding	272	-	-	272	-
Grant income	-	2,000	-	2,000	-
Race payments	257	-	-	257	-
Misc donations	1,221	15,000	-	16,221	-
Paypal donations	593	-	-	593	-
Donations for gear	12,293	-	-	12,293	-
Net receipts prior to becoming a registered charity	11,835	4,400	-	16,235	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	26,471	21,400	-	47,871	-
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
N/A	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	26,471	21,400	-	47,871	-
A3 Payments					
Tools and materials	341	-	-	341	-
Advertising	93	-	-	93	-
Accountancy software	92	-	-	92	-
Equipment maintenance	104	-	-	104	-
Events	856	-	-	856	-
Insurance	431	-	-	431	-
Subscriptions	20	-	-	20	-
Paypal fees	66	-	-	66	-
Subcontractor fees for builds	1,964	15,000	-	16,964	1
Volunteer supplies	340	-	-	340	2
Website costs	102	-	-	102	3
Sub total	4,409	15,000	-	19,409	6
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
-	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	4,409	15,000	-	19,409	6
Net of receipts/(payments)	22,062	6,400	-	28,462	6
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	22,062	6,400	-	28,462	6

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 Main bank account	-	-	-
	DTV Paypal	-	-	-
	Trailpixie Paypal	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	-	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	Agreed and correct	Agreed and correct	OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Benjamin Herycz	14/03/26
	Andrew Davies	13/03/2026



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

IE

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Dean Trail Volunteers

On accounts for the
period

4th July 2024 to 31st March 2025

Charity no
(if any)

1208988

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 period 4th July 2024 to 31 March 2025.

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity's trustees, 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 all 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:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

Signed:

FMS

Date:

16/03/2026

Name:

Felicity Sang

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

FCA

Address:

Hazlewoods LLP, Staverton Court, Staverton, GL51 0UX

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material 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.