

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

England & Wales · Charity number 205245

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Other

Registered 1962-03-28

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

Contact

Address 4 Pollington Place
Crowborough
TN6 2NG

Phone 01892611414

Email ashdownfriends@aol.com

Website www.friendsofashdownforest.co.uk

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY ARE AS FOLLOWS:-(A) BY VOLUNTARY EFFORT TO ASSIST IN THE CONSERVATION OF ASHDOWN FOREST AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CHARITABLE PURPOSES OF THE ASHDOWN FOREST ACT.(B) TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUPPLEMENTING IN SUCH MANNER AS THE SOCIETY THINKS FIT THE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO THE BOARD OF CONSERVATORS.(C) TO PROMOTE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT BY ENCOURAGING INTEREST IN THE CONSERVATION, MAINTENANCE, PRESERVATION AND PEACEFUL ENJOYMENT OF THE FOREST BY SUCH MEANS AS THE SOCIETY THINKS FIT.

Activities: Assists the Conservators of Ashdown Forest to maintain the forest by provision of additional funds for specific items which they would otherwise not be able to afford.

Classification

- **How:** Makes Grants To Organisations
- **What:** Environment/conservation/heritage
- **Who:** Children/young People, Other Charities Or Voluntary Bodies, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** ASHDOWN FOREST
- East Sussex

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-06-30	£119,875	£90,042	-	-
2024-06-30	£83,789	£32,903	-	-
2023-06-30	£23,977	£22,330	-	-
2022-06-30	£31,323	£23,207	-	-
2021-06-30	£26,232	£21,016	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
MRS P ARNOLD	Chair	
Deborah Joan Barber MBE		2019-11-07
Hilary Jane Randall		2013-12-04
JANET WIRDNAM		
Rosalind Roger Marriott		2016-11-17
Susan Jane Taylor		2019-11-07
William Neil Lovett		2014-11-14

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

England & Wales - Charity number 205245

Accounts

Charity registration number 205245 (England and Wales)

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees	Mrs P Arnold Ms D J Barber MBE Ms S J Taylor Ms R R Marriott Mr W N Lovett Ms H J Randall Ms J Wirdnam
Charity number	205245
Registered office	4 Pollington Place Chapel Green Crowsborough East Sussex England TN6 2NG
Independent examiner	Oliver Read FCCA ACA James Todd & Co Limited Drayton House Drayton Lane Chichester West Sussex PO20 2EW

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 2
Independent examiner's report	3
Statement of financial activities	4
Balance sheet	5
Notes to the financial statements	6 - 12

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011 and "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 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The objects, as laid down in the constitution are:

- by voluntary effort to assist in the conservation of Ashdown Forest and the implementation of the charitable purpose of the Forest Act;
- to provide funds for the purpose of supplementing in such a manner as the charity think fit the resources available to the Board of Conservators; and
- to encourage interest in the conservation, maintenance, preservation and peaceful enjoyment of the Forest by such means as the Charity deems fit.

The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are to publicise the existence of the Charity by whatever means are thought fit and to raise funds by way of donations, subscriptions and legacies and there has been no change in these during the year.

The committee members have paid due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake regarding public benefit.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

The committee have continued to work, in a wholly voluntary capacity, to represent your interests in assisting the conservation, preservation and educational aspects of Ashdown Forest.

During this financial year, we have continued to support the funding of the Forest Centre Education Programme. The academic year 2024/25 has been another successful one for the team and over 2,500 children have visited the site. The team has again conducted outreach sessions in local schools, as well as running parent and toddler groups and a series of events for families and children. The monthly Youth Volunteer Group for young people from the age of thirteen up to sixth form age continues to be popular, with many activities from pulling bracken, bramble clearance and cutting Christmas trees to name but a few. As school budgets are increasingly tight and coach travel is becoming even more expensive, some of the schools continue to take up the travel bursaries provided by the Friends. Also, during this financial year, the Friends agreed to fund the refurbishment of the Information Barn at the Ashdown Forest Visitor Centre which will be ongoing during the autumn of 2025 and into 2026. This represents a major investment by the Friends.

Financial review

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

Plans for future periods

The demands on the Friends are likely to remain for the foreseeable future, and our mission is to continue to support the Conservators where we can in these challenging financial times. In light of recent funding cuts to the Forest and the pressure on their re-structured staff team, it is still envisaged we shall not be actively seeking opportunities to purchase land in the future. We shall continue to support the Forest Centre Education Programme, and this remains a priority. We shall also endeavour to help fund other projects as they arise in times to come, including improvements to the Ashdown Forest Visitor Centre.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Structure, governance and management

The charity was established by a charitable trust deed on the 2nd of December 1961.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

- Mrs P Arnold
- Ms D J Barber MBE
- Ms S J Taylor
- Ms R R Marriott
- Mr W N Lovett
- Ms H J Randall
- Ms J Wirdnam

Total aggregate amount of donations received from the Trustees amounted to £441 (2023: £362) made up as follows:

P Arnold £33, H Randall £120, N Lovett £36, J Wirdnam £36, D Barber £60, R Marriott £36, S Taylor £120.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.



.....
Mrs P Arnold

Trustee

Date: 10 / 12 / 2025
.....

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Friends of Ashdown Forest (the charity) for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn. I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



Oliver Read FCCA ACA

James Todd & Co Limited
Drayton House
Drayton Lane
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 2EW
England

Dated: 11 / 12 / 2025

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

		Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	119,021	-	119,021	82,909	-	82,909
Investments	4	854	-	854	880	-	880
Total income		<u>119,875</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>119,875</u>	<u>83,789</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,789</u>
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	5,191	-	5,191	5,170	-	5,170
Charitable activities	6	84,851	-	84,851	27,733	-	27,733
Total expenditure		<u>90,042</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>90,042</u>	<u>32,903</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,903</u>
Net gains/(losses) on investments	11	<u>(3,957)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,957)</u>	<u>20,323</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,323</u>
Net income and movement in funds		<u>25,876</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>25,876</u>	<u>71,209</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,209</u>
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 July 2024		<u>277,667</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>278,055</u>	<u>206,458</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>206,846</u>
Fund balances at 30 June 2025		<u>303,543</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>303,931</u>	<u>277,667</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>278,055</u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

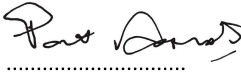
THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Investments	13		211,598		215,555
Current assets					
Debtors	14	183		183	
Cash at bank and in hand		93,770		63,847	
		<u>93,953</u>		<u>64,030</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(1,620)</u>		<u>(1,530)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>92,333</u>		<u>62,500</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>303,931</u>		<u>278,055</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	16		388		388
Unrestricted funds	17		303,543		277,667
			<u>303,931</u>		<u>278,055</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 10 / 12 / 2025



 Mrs P Arnold
 Trustee



 Mr W N Lovett
 Trustee

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Friends of Ashdown Forest is a charity registered with the Charities Commission of England and Wales, number 205245. The charity is governed by a Trust Deed dated 8 November 2012, as detailed in the Trustees' Report.

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Donations and gifts	27,343	69,877
Legacies	91,678	2,554
Other	-	10,478
	<u>119,021</u>	<u>82,909</u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Interest receivable	854	880

5 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Seeking donations, grants and legacies	5,191	5,170

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Direct costs		
Charitable donations	-	1,872
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	76,702	11,584
Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)		
Support	2,247	12,747
Governance	5,902	1,530
	<u>84,851</u>	<u>27,733</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>84,851</u>	<u>27,733</u>

7 Grants payable

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £
Grants to institutions:		
Education and school travel	76,702	11,584

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

8 Support costs allocated to activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Printing, postage and stationery	1,235	1,168
Insurance	232	239
Podcast	-	10,750
Calendars	248	338
Website costs	532	120
Governance costs	5,902	1,662
	<u>8,149</u>	<u>14,277</u>
Analysed between:		
Unrestricted funds	<u>8,149</u>	<u>14,277</u>

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

11 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Unrestricted funds 2024
	£	£
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	<u>(3,957)</u>	<u>20,323</u>

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

13 Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 July 2024	215,555
Valuation changes	(3,957)
	<u>211,598</u>
At 30 June 2025	211,598
	<u>211,598</u>
Carrying amount	
At 30 June 2025	211,598
	<u>215,555</u>
At 30 June 2024	<u>215,555</u>

14 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	183	183
	<u>183</u>	<u>183</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals and deferred income	1,620	1,530
	<u>1,620</u>	<u>1,530</u>

16 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 July 2024 £	At 30 June 2025 £
Chelwood Vachery	388	388
	<u>388</u>	<u>388</u>
Previous year:		
	At 1 July 2023 £	At 30 June 2024 £
Chelwood Vachery	388	388
	<u>388</u>	<u>388</u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

16 Restricted funds (Continued)

The fund labelled Chelwood Vachery consists of amounts received with the restricted purposes of reclaiming and improving an area of Ashdown Forest known by this name.

17 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 July 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	At 30 June 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	277,667	119,875	(90,042)	(3,957)	303,543
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Previous year:	At 1 July 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	At 30 June 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	206,458	83,789	(32,903)	20,323	277,667
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2025	2025	2025
	£	£	£
At 30 June 2025:			
Investments	211,598	-	211,598
Current assets/(liabilities)	91,945	388	92,333
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	303,543	388	303,931
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£
At 30 June 2024:			
Investments	215,555	-	215,555
Current assets/(liabilities)	62,112	388	62,500
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	277,667	388	278,055
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

England & Wales - Charity number 205245

Accounts

Charity registration number 205245 (England and Wales)

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Trustees

Mrs P Arnold
Ms D J Barber MBE
Ms S J Taylor
Ms R R Marriott
Mr W N Lovett
Ms H J Randall
Ms J Wirdnam

Charity number

205245

Independent examiner

Oliver Read FCCA ACA
James Todd & Co Limited
Drayton House
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CONTENTS

	Page
Trustees' report	1 - 2
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THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

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The objects, as laid down in the constitution are:

- by voluntary effort to assist in the conservation of Ashdown Forest and the implementation of the charitable purpose of the Forest Act;
- to provide funds for the purpose of supplementing in such a manner as the charity think fit the resources available to the Board of Conservators; and
- to encourage interest in the conservation, maintenance, preservation and peaceful enjoyment of the Forest by such means as the Charity deems fit.

The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are to publicise the existence of the Charity by whatever means are thought fit and to raise funds by way of donations, subscriptions and legacies and there has been no change in these during the year.

The committee members have paid due regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the Charity should undertake regarding public benefit.

Achievements and performance

Significant activities and achievements against objectives

The committee have continued to work, in a wholly voluntary capacity, to represent your interests in assisting the conservation, preservation and educational aspects of Ashdown Forest.

During this financial year, we have continued to support the funding of the Forest Centre Education Programme. The academic year 2023/24 has been another successful one for the team and over 2,700 children have visited the site. The team has again conducted outreach sessions in local schools, as well as running parent and toddler groups and a series of events for families and children, including a trial of a monthly Wildlife Explorers Club for parents and their children aged 6-12. The monthly Youth Volunteer Group for young people from the age of thirteen up to sixth form age continues to be popular, with many activities from pulling bracken, bramble clearance and cutting Christmas trees to name but a few. As school budgets are increasingly tight and coach travel is becoming even more expensive, some of the schools continue to take up the travel bursaries provided by the Friends.

Financial review

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the charity that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use should be maintained at a level equivalent to between three and six month's expenditure. The trustees consider that reserves at this level will ensure that, in the event of a significant drop in funding, they will be able to continue the charity's current activities while consideration is given to ways in which additional funds may be raised. This level of reserves has been maintained throughout the year.

Plans for future periods

The demands on the Friends are likely to remain for the foreseeable future and our mission is to continue to support the Conservators where we can in these uncertain financial times. In light of recent funding cuts to the Forest and the pressure on their re-structured staff team, it is still envisaged we shall not be actively seeking opportunities to purchase land in the future. We shall continue to support the Forest Centre Education Programme, and this remains a priority. We shall also endeavour to help fund other projects as they arise in times to come, including improvements to the Ashdown Forest Visitor Centre.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

Structure, governance and management

The charity was established by a charitable trust deed on the 2nd of December 1961.

The trustees who served during the year and up to the date of signature of the financial statements were:

Mrs P Arnold

Ms D J Barber MBE

Ms S J Taylor

Ms R R Marriott

Mr W N Lovett

Ms H J Randall

Ms J Wirdnam

Total aggregate amount of donations received from the Trustees amounted to £362 (2023: £362) made up as follows:

P Arnold £36, H Randall £120, N Lovett £24, J Wirdnam £36, D Barber £60, R Marriott £36, S Taylor £50.

The trustees' report was approved by the Board of Trustees.

Mrs P Arnold

Trustee

7 December 2024

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

I report to the trustees on my examination of the financial statements of The Friends of Ashdown Forest (the charity) for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act 2011.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the financial statements in accordance with the relevant version of the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn. I understand that this has been done in order for the financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011.
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of financial statements set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.

Oliver Read FCCA ACA

James Todd & Co Limited
Drayton House
Drayton Lane
Chichester
West Sussex
PO20 2EW
England

Dated: 9 December 2024

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
	Notes						
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	82,909	-	82,909	23,534	-	23,534
Investments	4	880	-	880	443	-	443
Total income		<u>83,789</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>83,789</u>	<u>23,977</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,977</u>
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	5,170	-	5,170	7,770	-	7,770
Charitable activities	6	27,733	-	27,733	14,560	-	14,560
Total expenditure		<u>32,903</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,903</u>	<u>22,330</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,330</u>
Net gains on investments	11	20,323	-	20,323	8,408	-	8,408
Net income and movement in funds		<u>71,209</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71,209</u>	<u>10,055</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,055</u>
Reconciliation of funds:							
Fund balances at 1 July 2023		206,458	388	206,846	196,403	388	196,791
Fund balances at 30 June 2024		<u><u>277,667</u></u>	<u><u>388</u></u>	<u><u>278,055</u></u>	<u><u>206,458</u></u>	<u><u>388</u></u>	<u><u>206,846</u></u>

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Investments	13		215,555		146,626
Current assets					
Debtors	14	183		191	
Cash at bank and in hand		63,847		61,367	
		<u>64,030</u>		<u>61,558</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(1,530)</u>		<u>(1,338)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>62,500</u>		<u>60,220</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>278,055</u>		<u>206,846</u>
The funds of the charity					
Restricted income funds	16		388		388
Unrestricted funds	17		277,667		206,458
			<u>278,055</u>		<u>206,846</u>

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 7 December 2024

Mrs P Arnold
Trustee

Mr W N Lovett
Trustee

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Friends of Ashdown Forest is a charity registered with the Charities Commission of England and Wales, number 205245. The charity is governed by a Trust Deed dated 8 November 2012, as detailed in the Trustees' Report.

1.1 Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" ("FRS 102") and the Charities SORP "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 1 January 2019). The charity is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The charity has taken advantage of the provisions in the SORP for charities not to prepare a Statement of Cash Flows.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors or grantors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Endowment funds are subject to specific conditions by donors that the capital must be maintained by the charity.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the charity is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the charity has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the charity has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, 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 classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

1.6 Fixed asset investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 Financial instruments

The charity has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the charity's balance sheet when the charity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include debtors and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including creditors and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade creditors are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the charity's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

1.9 Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the charity is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Donations and gifts	69,877	23,534
Legacies	2,554	-
Other	10,478	-
	<u>82,909</u>	<u>23,534</u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

4 Income from investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Interest receivable	880	443

5 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Fundraising and publicity		
Seeking donations, grants and legacies	5,170	7,770

6 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Direct costs		
Charitable donations	1,872	-
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	11,584	9,320
Share of support and governance costs (see note 8)		
Support	12,747	3,806
Governance	1,530	1,434
	<u>27,733</u>	<u>14,560</u>
Analysis by fund		
Unrestricted funds	<u>27,733</u>	<u>14,560</u>

7 Grants payable

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £
Grants to institutions:		
Education and school travel	11,584	9,320

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

8 Support costs allocated to activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Printing, postage and stationery	1,168	1,251
Insurance	239	240
Podcast	10,750	2,000
Website costs	120	90
Miscellaneous expenses	338	225
Governance costs	1,662	1,434
	<u>14,277</u>	<u>5,240</u>
Analysed between:		
Unrestricted funds	<u>14,277</u>	<u>5,240</u>

9 Trustees

None of the trustees (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or benefits from the charity during the year.

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

11 Gains and losses on investments

	Unrestricted funds 2024	Unrestricted funds 2023
	£	£
Gains/(losses) arising on:		
Revaluation of investments	<u>20,323</u>	<u>8,408</u>

12 Taxation

The charity is exempt from taxation on its activities because all its income is applied for charitable purposes.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

13 Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 July 2023	146,626
Additions	48,606
Valuation changes	20,323
	<u> </u>
At 30 June 2024	215,555
	<u> </u>
Carrying amount	
At 30 June 2024	215,555
	<u> </u>
At 30 June 2023	146,626
	<u> </u>

14 Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Prepayments and accrued income	183	191
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Accruals and deferred income	1,530	1,338
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

16 Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used.

	At 1 July 2023 £	At 30 June 2024 £
Chelwood Vachery	388	388
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Previous year:		
	At 1 July 2022 £	At 30 June 2023 £
Chelwood Vachery	388	388
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

16 Restricted funds (Continued)

The fund labelled Chelwood Vachery consists of amounts received with the restricted purposes of reclaiming and improving an area of Ashdown Forest known by this name.

17 Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds of the charity comprise the unexpended balances of donations and grants which are not subject to specific conditions by donors and grantors as to how they may be used. These include designated funds which have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the trustees for specific purposes.

	At 1 July 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses At 30 June 2024	
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	206,458	83,789	(32,903)	20,323	277,667
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Previous year:	At 1 July 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses At 30 June 2023	
	£	£	£	£	£
General funds	196,403	23,977	(22,330)	8,408	206,458
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£
At 30 June 2024:			
Investments	215,555	-	215,555
Current assets/(liabilities)	62,112	388	62,500
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	277,667	388	278,055
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total
	2023	2023	2023
	£	£	£
At 30 June 2023:			
Investments	146,626	-	146,626
Current assets/(liabilities)	59,832	388	60,220
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	206,458	388	206,846
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

England & Wales - Charity number 205245

Accounts



Plummer Parsons
Chartered Accountants

Charity registration number 205245

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

Chartered Accountants
& Statutory Auditor

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Committee Members

Mrs P Arnold (Chairman)
Mrs H Randall (Vice Chair)
Mr N Lovett (Treasurer)
Mrs J Wirdnam (Secretary)
Mrs R Marriott
Mrs S Taylor
Mrs D Barber MBE

Charity number

205245

Principal address

Ashdown Forest Centre
Wych Cross
Forest Row
East Sussex
RH18 5JP

Independent examiner

Alastair Towler BFP ACA DChA
18 Hyde Gardens
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 4PT

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

CONTENTS

	Page
Committee Members' report	1 - 2
Independent examiner's report	3
Statement of financial activities	4
Statement of financial position	5
Statement of cash flows	6
Notes to the financial statements	7 - 13

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

The committee members present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2022.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the society's Constitution, the Charities Act 2011 and "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 1 January 2019).

Objectives and activities

The society's objects as laid down in the constitution are:-

- By voluntary effort to assist in the conservation of Ashdown Forest and the implementation of the charitable purpose of the Forest Act;
- to provide funds for the purpose of supplementing in such manner as the Society think fit the resources available to the Board of Conservators; and
- to encourage interest in the conservation, maintenance, preservation and peaceful enjoyment of the Forest by such means as the Society thinks fit.

The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are to publicise the existence of the Society by whatever means are thought fit and to raise funds by way of donations, subscriptions and legacies and there has been no change in these during the year.

The committee members have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the society should undertake regarding public benefit.

Achievements and performance

The committee have continued to work, in a wholly voluntary capacity, to represent your interests in assisting the conservation, preservation and educational aspects of Ashdown Forest.

During this financial year, we have continued to support the funding of the Forest Centre Education Programme. The academic year 2021-22 has been an extremely successful one for the education team and school visits have moved towards returning to pre-pandemic normality. Nearly 3000 children from 49 schools have visited during the year and the team has, in addition, conducted outreach sessions in schools in the area. As school budgets are now very tight and coach travel is becoming much more expensive, some schools have taken up the travel bursaries provided by the Friends.

Financial review

The results for the year show a surplus of £8,116 before movements on fixed asset investments (2021: £5,216). Taking into account realised and unrealised gains on investment assets, the overall net movement in funds for the year was a surplus of £4,482 (2021: £26,901).

The Trustees consider that it is sufficient to maintain a reserves policy equal to 6 months or the Charity's normal expenditure, this is estimated to be around £11,600. At the year end the free reserves totalled £58,572, being more than the reserves policy. The Trustees plans to utilise this excess of free reserves in the coming period.

The committee members have assessed the major risks to which the society is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

The trustees believe that there are no material uncertainties about the charity being able to continue as a going concern.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

Plans for future periods

The demands on the Friends are likely to remain for the foreseeable future and our mission is to continue to support the Conservators where we can in these uncertain financial times. In the light of recent funding cuts to the Forest and the pressures on their re-structured staff team, we shall not be actively seeking opportunities to purchase land in the future. We shall continue to support the Forest Centre Education Programme and this remains a priority. We shall also endeavour to help fund other projects as they arise in times to come.

Structure, governance and management

The society was established by a charitable trust deed on 2nd December 1961.

The committee members who served during the year were:

Mrs P Arnold (Chairman)

Mrs H Randall (Vice Chair)

Mr N Lovett (Treasurer)

Mr J Sharp

(Deceased 31 July 2022)

Mrs J Wirdnam (Secretary)

Mrs R Marriott

Mrs S Taylor

Mrs P Wilson

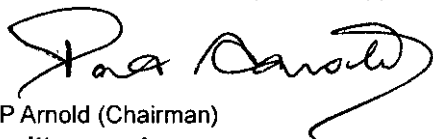
(Resigned 2 December 2021)

Mrs D Barber MBE

Appointments of the honorary officers were made at the AGM held on 2 December 2021 with Mrs P Arnold being re-appointed as Chairman, Mr N Lovett re-appointed as Treasurer, Mrs H Randall appointed as Vice Chairman and Mrs J Wirdnam re-appointed as Secretary.

The committee consists of The Officers (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) and not more than nine other persons. A member of the committee serves for three years. One third of the committee retires annually by rotation. To be a committee member one must be a member of the Society.

The committee members' report was approved by the Board of Committee Members.



Mrs P Arnold (Chairman)

Committee member

29 November 2022

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

I report to the committee members on my examination of the financial statements of The Friends of Ashdown Forest (the society) for the year ended 30 June 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the committee members of the society you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011. (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the society's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 society as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.



Alastair Towler BFP ACA DChA

18 Hyde Gardens
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 4PT

Dated: 20/12/2022

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	31,292	-	31,292	26,226	-	26,226
Investments	4	31	-	31	6	-	6
Total income		31,323	-	31,323	26,232	-	26,232
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	2,850	-	2,850	5,700	-	5,700
Charitable activities	6	20,357	-	20,357	15,316	-	15,316
Total expenditure		23,207	-	23,207	21,016	-	21,016
Net gains/(losses) on investments	11	(3,634)	-	(3,634)	21,685	-	21,685
Net movement in funds		4,482	-	4,482	26,901	-	26,901
Fund balances at 1 July 2021		191,921	388	192,309	165,020	388	165,408
Fund balances at 30 June 2022		196,403	388	196,791	191,921	388	192,309

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

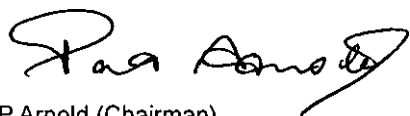
THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2022

	Notes	2022		2021	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Investments	12		138,219		141,853
Current assets					
Trade and other receivables	13	3,939		6,654	
Cash at bank and in hand		55,923		45,032	
		<u>59,862</u>		<u>51,686</u>	
Current liabilities	14	(1,290)		(1,230)	
Net current assets			<u>58,572</u>		<u>50,456</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>196,791</u>		<u>192,309</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	15		388		388
Unrestricted funds			196,403		191,921
			<u>196,791</u>		<u>192,309</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Committee Members on 29 November 2022



Mrs P Arnold (Chairman)
Trustee



Mr N Lovett (Treasurer)
Trustee

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	18		10,860		1,784
Investing activities					
Investment income received		31		6	
Net cash generated from investing activities			31		6
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			10,891		1,790
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			45,032		43,242
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>55,923</u>		<u>45,032</u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Friends of Ashdown Forest is a charitable trust. The principal address is Ashdown Forest Centre, Wych Cross, Forest Row, East Sussex, RH18 5JP.

1.1 Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the society. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the time of approving the financial statements, the committee members have a reasonable expectation that the society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Thus the committee members continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the committee members in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the society is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the society has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the society has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Income from sale of items such as DVD's is recognised on receipt.

Income received from HM Revenue & Customs relating to Gift Aid is recorded when it is received. This is due to the uncertainty around when a Gift Aid return will be completed and filed after the donation is received.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis when the liability is incurred.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in pursuit of its charitable objectives.

Both Support and Governance costs are recharged to the main activity and form part of charitable expenditure with a separate analysis being provided in the notes. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs include non-recoverable VAT.

1.6 Non-current investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 Financial instruments

The society has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the society's balance sheet when the society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the society's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the society's accounting policies, the committee members are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Donations and gifts	26,292	26,226
Legacies receivable	5,000	-
	<u>31,292</u>	<u>26,226</u>
Donations and gifts		
Donations	-	15,914
Gift Aid	-	3,461
Other	26,292	6,851
	<u>26,292</u>	<u>26,226</u>

4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest receivable	<u>31</u>	<u>6</u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

5 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
<u>Fundraising and publicity</u>		
Newsletter printing and postage	2,850	5,700
	<u>2,850</u>	<u>5,700</u>

6 Charitable activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	17,682	11,821
Share of support costs (see note 8)	1,385	2,267
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	1,290	1,228
	<u>20,357</u>	<u>15,316</u>

7 Grants payable

	2022	2021
	£	£
Grants to institutions:		
Education & school travel	6,272	5,869
Friends Wood	-	1,320
Replacement radio	-	4,632
Website Conservators	10,710	-
	<u>16,982</u>	<u>11,821</u>
Grants to individuals	700	-
	<u>17,682</u>	<u>11,821</u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

8 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2022	Support costs	Governance costs	2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Printing, postage and stationery	1,146	-	1,146	1,165	-	1,165
Insurance and fee	239	-	239	232	-	232
Website costs	-	-	-	870	-	870
Accountancy	-	1,290	1,290	-	1,228	1,228
	<u>1,385</u>	<u>1,290</u>	<u>2,675</u>	<u>2,267</u>	<u>1,228</u>	<u>3,495</u>
Analysed between Charitable activities	<u>1,385</u>	<u>1,290</u>	<u>2,675</u>	<u>2,267</u>	<u>1,228</u>	<u>3,495</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the independent examiners of £530 (2021- £504) for independent examination fees, and £760 (2021- £724) for other services.

9 Committee Members

None of the committee members (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or reimbursements during the year.

During the year the charity paid £239 (2021- £232) towards charity insurance, which included Trustee indemnity insurance.

The total aggregate amount of donations received (without conditions) from the Trustees amounted to £422 (2021- £408).

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

There were no employees whose annual remuneration was more than £60,000.

11 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2022	2021
	£	£
Revaluation of investments	<u>(3,634)</u>	<u>21,685</u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

12 Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 July 2021	141,853
Valuation changes	(3,634)
At 30 June 2022	<u>138,219</u>
Carrying amount	
At 30 June 2022	<u>138,219</u>
At 30 June 2021	<u>141,853</u>

13 Trade and other receivables

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other receivables	3,707	6,461
Prepayments and accrued income	232	193
	<u>3,939</u>	<u>6,654</u>

14 Current liabilities

	2022 £	2021 £
Accruals and deferred income	1,290	1,230
	<u>1,290</u>	<u>1,230</u>

15 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds		Movement in funds		
	Balance at 1 July 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 1 July 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 30 June 2022 £
Chelwood Vachery	388	-	388	-	388
	<u>388</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>388</u>

The fund labelled Chelwood Vachery consists of amounts received with the restricted purpose of reclaiming and improving an area of Ashdown Forest known by this name.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Fund balances at 30 June 2022 are represented by:						
Investments	138,219	-	138,219	141,853	-	141,853
Current assets/(liabilities)	58,184	388	58,572	50,068	388	50,456
	<u>196,403</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>196,791</u>	<u>191,921</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>192,309</u>

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2021 - none).

18 Cash generated from operations

	2022 £	2021 £
Surplus for the year	4,482	26,901
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(31)	(6)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	3,634	(21,685)
Movements in working capital:		
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables	2,715	(3,462)
Increase in trade and other payables	60	36
Cash generated from operations	<u>10,860</u>	<u>1,784</u>

19 Analysis of changes in net funds

The society had no debt during the year.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

England & Wales - Charity number 205245

Accounts



Plummer Parsons
Chartered Accountants

Charity Registration No. 205245

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST
ANNUAL REPORT AND UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Chartered Accountants
& Statutory Auditor

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Committee Members

Mrs P Arnold (Chairman)
Mrs H Randall (Vice Chair)
Mr N Lovett (Treasurer)
Mr J Sharp
Mrs J Wirdnam (Secretary)
Mrs R Marriott
Mrs S Taylor
Mrs P Wilson
Mrs D Barber MBE

Charity number

205245

Principal address

Ashdown Forest Centre
Wych Cross
Forest Row
East Sussex
RH18 5JP

Independent examiner

Nicholas Brown FCA DChA BFP
18 Hyde Gardens
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 4PT

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

CONTENTS

	Page
Committee Members' report	1 - 2
Independent examiner's report	3
Statement of financial activities	4
Statement of financial position	5
Statement of cash flows	6
Notes to the financial statements	7 - 14

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

The committee members present their report and financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2021.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the financial statements and comply with the society's [governing document], the Charities Act 2011 and "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 1 January 2019)".

Objectives and activities

The society's objects as laid down in the constitution are:-

- By voluntary effort to assist in the conservation of Ashdown Forest and the implementation of the charitable purpose of the Forest Act;
- to provide funds for the purpose of supplementing in such manner as the Society think fit the resources available to the Board of Conservators; and
- to encourage interest in the conservation, maintenance, preservation and peaceful enjoyment of the Forest by such means as the Society thinks fit.

The policies adopted in furtherance of these objects are to publicise the existence of the Society by whatever means are thought fit and to raise funds by way of donations, subscriptions and legacies and there has been no change in these during the year.

The committee members have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the society should undertake regarding public benefit.

Achievements and performance

The committee have continued to work, in a wholly voluntary capacity, to represent your interests in assisting the conservation, preservation and educational aspects of Ashdown Forest.

During this financial year, we have continued to support the funding of the Forest Centre Educational Programme. The academic year September 2020 to July 2021 was a challenging one for the Education Team because of Covid-19. School visits were concentrated in the autumn and summer terms, in between lockdowns. Local schools which could use parents to transport the children to the Forest Centre made up the bulk of the visits. Despite the pandemic and lockdown, numbers of children engaged in the outdoor sessions remained remarkably high given the circumstances and were greatly valued by the children, teachers and parents.

Financial review

The results for the year show a surplus of £5,216 before movements on fixed asset investments (2020: £14,217). Taking into account realised and unrealised gains on investment assets, the overall net movement in funds for the year was a surplus of £26,901 (2020: £21,188).

The Trustees consider that it is sufficient to maintain a reserves policy equal to 6 months or the Charity's normal expenditure, this is estimated to be around £10,500. At the year end the free reserves totalled £50,068, being more than the reserves policy. The Trustees plans to utilise this excess of free reserves in the coming period.

The committee members have assessed the major risks to which the society is exposed, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to the major risks.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Plans for the future

The demands on the Friends are likely to remain for the foreseeable future and our mission is to continue to support the Conservators where we can in these financially uncertain times. Over the years we have considered a prime purpose of the Friends is to finance the purchase of suitable land within the Pale to add back to the Forest, but in the light of recent funding cuts to the Forest and the pressures on their staff team, we shall not be actively seeking opportunities to purchase land in the near future. We shall continue to support the Forest Centre Education Programme and this remains a priority. We are engaging with the Board of Conservators to discuss their priorities and other opportunities to help fund their work.

Structure, governance and management

The society was established by a charitable trust deed on 2nd December 1961.

The committee members who served during the year were:

Mrs P Arnold (Chairman)

Mrs H Randall (Vice Chair)

Mr N Lovett (Treasurer)

Mr J Sharp

Mr E Thomas

(Resigned 30 September 2020)

Mrs J Wirdnam (Secretary)

Mrs R Marriott

Mrs S Taylor

Mrs P Wilson

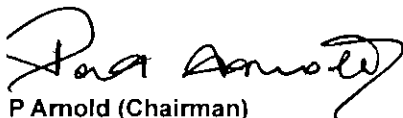
Mrs D Barber MBE

The former Chairman Mr D T Streeter remains President of the Friends in recognition of contribution over the years.

Appointments of the honorary officers were made at the AGM held on 16 November 2017 with Mrs P Arnold being re-appointed as Chairman, Mr N Lovett re-appointed as Treasurer, Mrs H Randall appointed as Vice Chairman and Mrs J Wirdnam re-appointed as Secretary.

The committee consists of The Officers (Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer) and not more than nine other persons. A member of the committee serves for three years. One third of the committee retires annually by rotation. To be a committee member one must be a member of the Society.

The committee members' report was approved by the Board of Committee Members.



Mrs P Arnold (Chairman)

Committee member

Dated: 13 October 2021

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

TO THE COMMITTEE MEMBERS OF THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

I report to the committee members on my examination of the financial statements of The Friends of Ashdown Forest (the society) for the year ended 30 June 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the committee members of the society you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act).

I report in respect of my examination of the society's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act. In carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the next statement.

Independent examiner's statement

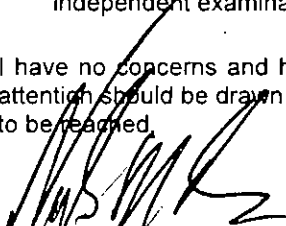
Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared financial statements in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has now been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for financial statements to provide a true and fair view in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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 society as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
- 2 the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- 3 the financial statements 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 financial statements to be reached.


Nicholas Brown FCA DChA BFP

18 Hyde Gardens
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 4PT

Dated: 11/11/21

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	3	26,226	-	26,226	23,999	-	23,999
Investments	4	6	-	6	88	-	88
Total income		26,232	-	26,232	24,087	-	24,087
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds	5	5,700	-	5,700	3,112	-	3,112
Charitable activities	7	15,316	-	15,316	6,758	-	6,758
Total resources expended		21,016	-	21,016	9,870	-	9,870
Net gains/(losses) on investments	11	21,685	-	21,685	6,971	-	6,971
Net movement in funds		26,901	-	26,901	21,188	-	21,188
Fund balances at 1 July 2020		165,020	388	165,408	143,832	388	144,220
Fund balances at 30 June 2021		191,921	388	192,309	165,020	388	165,408

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Investments	12		141,853		120,167
Current assets					
Trade and other receivables	13	6,654		3,193	
Cash at bank and in hand		45,032		43,242	
		<u>51,686</u>		<u>46,435</u>	
Current liabilities	14	(1,230)		(1,194)	
Net current assets			50,456		45,241
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>192,309</u>		<u>165,408</u>
Income funds					
Restricted funds	15		388		388
Unrestricted funds			191,921		165,020
			<u>192,309</u>		<u>165,408</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Committee Members on 13 October 2021

Mrs P Arnold (Chairman)
Trustee

Mr N Lovett (Treasurer)
Trustee

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash generated from operations	18		1,784		11,222
Investing activities					
Investment income received		6		88	
Net cash generated from investing activities			6		88
Net cash used in financing activities			-		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents			1,790		11,310
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year			43,242		31,932
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year			<u>45,032</u>		<u>43,242</u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charity information

The Friends of Ashdown Forest is a charitable trust. The principal address is Ashdown Forest Centre, Wych Cross, Forest Row, East Sussex, RH18 5JP.

1.1 Accounting convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the society's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016). The society is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

The financial statements have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a true and fair view. This departure has involved following the Statement of Recommended Practice for charities applying FRS 102 rather than the version of the Statement of Recommended Practice which is referred to in the Regulations but which has since been withdrawn.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the society. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified to include the revaluation of freehold properties and to include investment properties and certain financial instruments at fair value. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

1.2 Going concern

At the date of this report, there exists considerable uncertainty regarding the potential impact of the Coronavirus and the economic consequences, both within the U.K. and overseas, which may result from government policies to contain the spread. The duration and geographical extent of any possible lockdown or future government policies are unknown. Whilst we are unable to predict what the economic consequences may be and the impact on the charity's future ability to continue trading, we have continued to use the going concern basis as appropriate in the preparation of these accounts.

1.3 Charitable funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the committee members in furtherance of their charitable objectives.

Restricted funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the restricted funds are set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

Income is recognised when the society is legally entitled to it after any performance conditions have been met, the amounts can be measured reliably, and it is probable that income will be received.

Cash donations are recognised on receipt. Other donations are recognised once the society has been notified of the donation, unless performance conditions require deferral of the amount. Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Legacies are recognised on receipt or otherwise if the society has been notified of an impending distribution, the amount is known, and receipt is expected. If the amount is not known, the legacy is treated as a contingent asset.

Income from sale of items such as DVD's is recognised on receipt.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Income received from HM Revenue & Customs relating to Gift Aid is recorded when it is received. This is due to the uncertainty around when a Gift Aid return will be completed and filed after the donation is received.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis when the liability is incurred.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in pursuit of its charitable objectives.

Both Support and Governance costs are recharged to the main activity and form part of charitable expenditure with a separate analysis being provided in the notes. Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the statutory requirements of the charity and include independent examination fees and costs linked to the strategic management of the charity.

All costs include non-recoverable VAT.

1.6 Non-current investments

Fixed asset investments are initially measured at transaction price excluding transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at fair value at each reporting date. Changes in fair value are recognised in net income/(expenditure) for the year. Transaction costs are expensed as incurred.

1.7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities.

1.8 Financial Instruments

The society has elected to apply the provisions of Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instruments Issues' of FRS 102 to all of its financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the society's balance sheet when the society becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets and liabilities are offset, with the net amounts presented in the financial statements, when there is a legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Basic financial assets

Basic financial assets, which include trade and other receivables and cash and bank balances, are initially measured at transaction price including transaction costs and are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the transaction is measured at the present value of the future receipts discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial assets classified as receivable within one year are not amortised.

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Basic financial liabilities

Basic financial liabilities, including trade and other payables and bank loans are initially recognised at transaction price unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where the debt instrument is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest. Financial liabilities classified as payable within one year are not amortised.

Debt instruments are subsequently carried at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method.

Trade payables are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of operations from suppliers. Amounts payable are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities. Trade payables are recognised initially at transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the society's contractual obligations expire or are discharged or cancelled.

2 Critical accounting estimates and judgements

In the application of the society's accounting policies, the committee members are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amount of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised where the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods where the revision affects both current and future periods.

3 Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Donations and gifts	26,226	21,499
Legacies receivable	-	2,500
	<u>26,226</u>	<u>23,999</u>
Donations and gifts		
Donations	15,914	15,216
Gift Aid	3,461	3,000
Other	6,851	3,283
	<u>26,226</u>	<u>21,499</u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

4 Investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Interest receivable	6	88

5 Raising funds

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
<u>Fundraising and publicity</u>		
Newsletter printing and postage	5,700	3,112
	<u>5,700</u>	<u>3,112</u>

6 Charitable activities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Grant funding of activities (see note 7)	11,821	4,619
Share of support costs (see note 8)	2,267	913
Share of governance costs (see note 8)	1,228	1,226
	<u>15,316</u>	<u>6,758</u>

7 Grants payable

	2021	2020
	£	£
Grants to institutions:		
Education & school travel	5,869	4,619
Friends wood	1,320	-
Replacement radio	4,632	-
	<u>11,821</u>	<u>4,619</u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

7 Grants payable

(Continued)

8 Support costs

	Support costs	Governance costs	2021	Support costs	Governance costs	2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Printing, postage and stationery	1,165	-	1,165	581	-	581
Insurance and fee	232	-	232	232	-	232
Website costs	870	-	870	-	-	-
Miscellaneous expenses	-	-	-	100	-	100
Accountancy	-	1,228	1,228	-	1,226	1,226
	<u>2,267</u>	<u>1,228</u>	<u>3,495</u>	<u>913</u>	<u>1,226</u>	<u>2,139</u>
Analysed between						
Charitable activities	<u>2,267</u>	<u>1,228</u>	<u>3,495</u>	<u>913</u>	<u>1,226</u>	<u>2,139</u>

Governance costs includes payments to the independent examiners of £504 (2020- £504) for independent examination fees, and £724 (2020- £722) for other services.

9 Committee Members

None of the committee members (or any persons connected with them) received any remuneration or reimbursements during the year.

During the year the charity paid £232 (2020- £232) towards charity insurance, which included Trustee indemnity insurance.

The total aggregate amount of donations received (without conditions) from the Trustees amounted to £408 (2020- £408).

10 Employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Total	-	-

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

11 Net gains/(losses) on investments

	Unrestricted funds	Unrestricted funds
	2021	2020
	£	£
Revaluation of investments	21,685	6,971

12 Fixed asset investments

	Unlisted investments £
Cost or valuation	
At 1 July 2020	120,167
Valuation changes	21,686
At 30 June 2021	141,853
Carrying amount	
At 30 June 2021	141,853
At 30 June 2020	120,167

13 Trade and other receivables

	2021	2020
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other receivables	6,461	3,000
Prepayments and accrued income	193	193
	6,654	3,193

14 Current liabilities

	2021	2020
	£	£
Accruals and deferred income	1,230	1,194

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

15 Restricted funds

The income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the following unexpended balances of donations and grants held on trust for specific purposes:

	Movement in funds		Movement in funds		Balance at 30 June 2021 £
	Balance at 1 July 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Balance at 1 July 2020 £	Incoming resources £	
Chelwood Vachery	388	-	388	-	388

The fund labelled Chelwood Vachery consists of amounts received with the restricted purpose of reclaiming and improving an area of Ashdown Forest known by this name.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Fund balances at 30 June 2021 are represented by:						
Investments	141,853	-	141,853	120,167	-	120,167
Current assets/ (liabilities)	50,068	388	50,456	44,853	388	45,241
	<u>191,921</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>192,309</u>	<u>165,020</u>	<u>388</u>	<u>165,408</u>

17 Related party transactions

There were no disclosable related party transactions during the year (2020 - none).

18 Cash generated from operations

	2021 £	2020 £
Surplus for the year	26,901	21,188
Adjustments for:		
Investment income recognised in statement of financial activities	(6)	(88)
Fair value gains and losses on investments	(21,685)	(6,971)
Movements in working capital:		
(Increase) in trade and other receivables	(3,462)	(3,000)
Increase in trade and other payables	36	93
Cash generated from operations	<u>1,784</u>	<u>11,222</u>

THE FRIENDS OF ASHDOWN FOREST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

19 Analysis of changes in net funds

The society had no debt during the year.