

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND
UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023
FOR
SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

van Dijk Accountants Limited
Georgian House
34 Thoroughfare
Halesworth
Suffolk
IP19 8AP

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

CONTENTS OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 3
Independent Examiner's Report	4
Statement of Financial Activities	5
Statement of Financial Position	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7 to 11
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	12

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The objectives of the Charity are to study and record the fauna, flora and geology of the county; to publish Suffolk Natural History, Suffolk Birds and the newsletter White Admiral; to liaise with other natural history societies and conservation bodies in the county; to promote interest in natural history and the activities of the Society; and to apply the net income of the Society at the Trustees' discretion in such manner as they think fit in the furtherance of the Society.

The Society continues to look at ways in which it can raise its profile locally and attract new members. Looking to the future, it is anticipated that the Society will continue with its annual publications, members' meetings, and conferences when appropriate. The Society will continue to re-establish and build strong links with other scientific, environmental and conservation bodies. Grant funding will be made available for approved natural history projects and commissioned natural history work. The Society also plans to identify, finance and carry out its own projects within Suffolk, and to attempt to recruit additional Council members in order to push ahead with these initiatives.

The trustees have paid due regard to guidance issued by the Charity Commission in deciding what activities the charity should undertake in respect of public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

The Society's membership fell significantly (8%) from 607 to 559, this has reduced our income from subscriptions by £730. The Society is conscious it must continue to actively promote membership as there has been a steady decline over the years.

The COIF Charities Ethical investment fund increased significantly in value from £437,022 at the end of 2022 to £480,369; interest rates were relatively stable so there was a slight increase in investment income from £13,662 in 2022 to £14,172 in 2023.

Expenditure on publications was a little more than the previous year (£20,628 compared to £20,027 in 2022) but these figures mask a significant (43%) rise in distribution costs. The Society will continue to produce its publications on Suffolk natural history as well as seeking to assist in the publications of the work of others. Publication sales were good, particularly for the Bird Report, with an increase from £1,634 in 2022 to £2,131 in 2023.

In March, the Society held its first online conference "Into the Wild" on the theme of rewilding. Tickets were sold at £8 for the two morning sessions (or £5 a single session) raising £1,061 which covered most of the expenditure on the event (£1,380).

A Morley Bursary of £300 was awarded for research on Bumblebee nestboxes in arable farmland. A Simpson Bursary of £500 over two years was awarded for research on seedbanks in Ghost Ponds in NE Suffolk.

The Society will continue to promote its bursaries and grants for research and other projects.

The Society is very grateful for a donation of £657 in memory of our late member Ben Perkins (See obituary TSNS 59:201).

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The charity was founded in 1929 by Claude Morley, as an unincorporated charity. It is registered with the Charity Commission under reference 206084.

The charity is governed by a written constitution, and is managed by its Council, whose members are the trustees of the charity. These comprise the Society's officers, together with a maximum of eight elected members. Major decisions are taken at the Annual General Meeting. The Council meets approximately every two months to attend to routine and operational matters.

The Society's officers and other Trustees are elected at the Society's Annual General Meeting, and hold office for four years, with two of the elected trustees retiring each year in turn. Ex officio officers are appointed as required. The Trustees set out above have held office during the whole of 2021 and up to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

The Trustees have identified and reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, both operational and financial, and have established appropriate systems designed to mitigate those risks. The Society is satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate their exposure to the major risks which have been identified and reviewed see Risk Register (<https://sns.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/sns-Risk-Register-revised-Mar-2019.pdf>) and Risk Management Policy (<https://sns.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/sns-Risk-Management-Policy-Jan-2019.pdf>)

The Trustees took steps to implement the General Data Protection Regulations May 2018 and are satisfied that the Society is compliant with the Regulations.

See Data Management Policy (<https://sns.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/sns-Data-Protection-Policy-14-Mar-18.pdf>)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity number
206084

Principal address
The Hold
131 Fore Street
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP4 1LR

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Trustees
J Hardingham
Ms G Broad (resigned 26.4.23)
M Sanford
J Hawkins
N Mason
C J Hawes
B Heather (resigned 26.4.23)
H Mottram
P J Vincent
D Tansley
D Casey
M Deans
H Honey
E Aldous (appointed 26.4.23)
S Jackson (appointed 26.4.23)

Lloyds Bank Plc
13 Cornhill
Ipswich
IP1 1DG

Independent Examiner
van Dijk Accountants Limited
Georgian House
34 Thoroughfare
Halesworth
Suffolk
IP19 8AP

Investment advisors
CCLA Investment Management Limited
Client Service Team
COIF Charity Deposit Funds
80 Cheapside
London
EC2V 6DZ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 9 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. N. Sanford', written in a cursive style.

M Sanford - Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF
SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Suffolk Naturalists' Society

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Suffolk Naturalists' Society (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

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

Independent examiner's statement

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

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

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

P N van Dijk FMAAT

van Dijk Accountants Limited
Georgian House
34 Thoroughfare
Halesworth
Suffolk
IP19 8AP

9 April 2024

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Endowment funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		10,340	-	10,340	24,284
General income	2	16,215	88	16,303	15,296
Total		<u>26,555</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>26,643</u>	<u>39,580</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Costs		26,209	-	26,209	26,616
Net gains/(losses) on investments		<u>12,354</u>	<u>30,993</u>	<u>43,347</u>	<u>(61,539)</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		12,700	31,081	43,781	(48,575)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		<u>158,340</u>	<u>310,992</u>	<u>469,332</u>	<u>517,907</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>171,040</u></u>	<u><u>342,073</u></u>	<u><u>513,113</u></u>	<u><u>469,332</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

31 December 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Endowment funds £	31.12.23 Total funds £	31.12.22 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Investments	6	139,017	341,352	480,369	437,022
Cash at bank		32,923	721	33,644	35,713
		<u>171,940</u>	<u>342,073</u>	<u>514,013</u>	<u>472,735</u>
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(900)	-	(900)	(3,403)
		<u>171,040</u>	<u>342,073</u>	<u>513,113</u>	<u>469,332</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS					
		<u>171,040</u>	<u>342,073</u>	<u>513,113</u>	<u>469,332</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>171,040</u>	<u>342,073</u>	<u>513,113</u>	<u>469,332</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>171,040</u>	<u>342,073</u>	<u>513,113</u>	<u>469,332</u>
FUNDS	8				
Unrestricted funds				171,040	158,340
Endowment funds				342,073	310,992
TOTAL FUNDS				<u>513,113</u>	<u>469,332</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 9 April 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



M Sanford - Trustee

J Hardingham - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

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

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures, fittings and equipment-3 years straight line

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. GENERAL INCOME

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Investment income	14,172	13,662
Publication sales	2,131	1,634
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	16,303	15,296
	<hr/>	<hr/>

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2023 nor for the year ended 31 December 2022.

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	24,284	-	24,284
General income	15,210	86	15,296
Total	39,494	86	39,580
EXPENDITURE ON			
Costs	26,616	-	26,616
Net gains/(losses) on investments	(17,539)	(44,000)	(61,539)
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(4,661)	(43,914)	(48,575)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	163,001	354,906	517,907
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	158,340	310,992	469,332

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings £
COST	
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	1,264
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	1,264
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 December 2023	-
At 31 December 2022	-

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

6. CURRENT ASSET INVESTMENTS

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
COIF income units	480,369	437,022
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.12.23	31.12.22
	£	£
Trade creditors	900	3,403
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.1.23	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.23
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	158,340	12,700	171,040
Endowment funds			
Endowment	310,992	31,081	342,073
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	469,332	43,781	513,113
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains and losses	Movement in funds
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	26,555	(26,209)	12,354	12,700
Endowment funds				
Endowment	88	-	30,993	31,081
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	26,643	(26,209)	43,347	43,781
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	163,001	(4,661)	158,340
Endowment funds			
Endowment	354,906	(43,914)	310,992
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>517,907</u>	<u>(48,575)</u>	<u>469,332</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	39,494	(26,616)	(17,539)	(4,661)
Endowment funds				
Endowment	86	-	(44,000)	(43,914)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>39,580</u>	<u>(26,616)</u>	<u>(61,539)</u>	<u>(48,575)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.22 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.23 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	163,001	8,039	171,040
Endowment funds			
Endowment	354,906	(12,833)	342,073
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>517,907</u>	<u>(4,794)</u>	<u>513,113</u>

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	66,049	(52,825)	(5,185)	8,039
Endowment funds				
Endowment	174	-	(13,007)	(12,833)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	66,223	(52,825)	(18,192)	(4,794)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

9. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2023.

SUFFOLK NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

DETAILED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	31.12.23 £	31.12.22 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations and gifts	125	50
Legacies	657	15,007
Conference	1,061	-
Subscriptions	8,497	9,227
	<hr/> 10,340	<hr/> 24,284
General income		
Investment income	14,172	13,662
Publication sales	2,131	1,634
	<hr/> 16,303	<hr/> 15,296
Total incoming resources	26,643	39,580
EXPENDITURE		
Costs		
Insurance	944	631
Webhosting and internet	346	2,209
Suffolk Bird Report	7,139	7,825
Suffolk Natural History	4,726	5,426
SNS Newsletter	4,257	3,630
General expenses	619	248
Paypal fees	111	94
Distribution costs	4,506	3,146
Admin expenses	310	-
Direct Debit processing	171	630
Bursaries and grants	550	1,618
Honorarium	250	250
Conference	1,380	-
Accountancy	900	900
Bank charges	-	9
	<hr/> 26,209	<hr/> 26,616
Total resources expended	26,209	26,616
Net income before gains and losses	434	12,964
Unrealised recognised gains and losses		
Unrealised gain/loss on investments	43,347	(61,539)
Net income/(expenditure)	<hr/> <hr/> 43,781	<hr/> <hr/> (48,575)

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements