



Company Registration No. 00959609 (England and Wales)
Charity Number 259558

STAFFORDSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED
31 MARCH 2021



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CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

For society in general, 2020 will always be remembered as the year of the Covid pandemic. For the Staffordshire Wildlife Trust, the lasting memory may be more about the resilience and enterprise shown by the organisation and its staff in the face of the huge challenges thrown up as a consequence.

Elsewhere in the report there are full details of the financial impact of the pandemic and its various periods of lockdown, but thanks in part to the fact that our membership numbers held up remarkably well and even increased, the overall effect was relatively limited.

Even so, a significant unrestricted funds loss reflects the hit taken across our commercial and people engagement activities as these were largely halted during the lockdown periods. Of course, the Government's assistance schemes and business grants helped to soften the financial impact, particularly when staff needed to be furloughed for certain periods.

What the figures do not show is the considerable amount of progress which was made throughout the year in many areas of the Trust's work. Our conservation staff were for the most part able to continue working, maintaining our reserves and continuing with the major landscape projects in the Trent Valley and the Sunrise areas of Stoke and Newcastle whenever possible. The latter attracted national interest including visits from MPs, from Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts central charity and featured on the BBC's Countryfile programme.

At the same time, our People Engagement staff developed ever more innovative ways of reaching their various audiences, including programmes of virtual activities for schools, which were eagerly accessed. The re-discovery of the physical and mental benefits of the countryside and contact with the natural world also undoubtedly helped our appeals for funding for two outstanding new reserves, at Gun Moor near Leek and at Craddocks Moss on the border with Shropshire, a rare pristine peat bog habitat. Both of these had no official conservation status, but the purchase of both during 2020 will guarantee their protection and enhancement for the benefit of wildlife and people in perpetuity.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone involved with the Trust – my fellow Trustees, staff, volunteers and all of our members – for their support, dedication, patience and resilience during one of the most challenging years in our history. If some good emerges from this dark period, it may well be a greater recognition of the importance of wildlife and wild places to the well-being of us all, and a renewed enthusiasm to help us to further the cause of wildlife across our county.

Richard Higgs
Chairman, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Board have pleasure in presenting their report together with the audited consolidated accounts for the period ended 31 March 2021. The Board 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). The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Registration and legal structure

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Limited is a charity registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales No.259558 and is a company limited by guarantee No. 00959609.

During the year it had two wholly owned subsidiary companies: Staffordshire Wildlife Trading Limited (Company No. 3387233) and Staffordshire Ecological Services Limited (Company No.06775503). Staffordshire Ecological Services Limited did not trade during the year.

Registered office

The Wolseley Centre, Wolseley Bridge, Stafford, ST17 0WT.

Charitable objects

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Limited is required by charity and company law to act within the objects of its Memorandum of Association, which are as follows:

1. For the benefit of the public, to advance, promote and further the conservation, maintenance, restoration, regeneration and protection of:
 - Wildlife and its habitats
 - Places of natural beauty
 - Places of zoological, botanical, geographical, archaeological or scientific interest
 - Features of landscape with geological, physiographical or amenity value in particular, but not exclusively, in ways that further biodiversity.
2. To advance the education of the public in:
 - The principles and practice of sustainable development
 - The principles and practice of biodiversity conservation.
3. To promote and undertake research in all areas of the natural world and to publish the useful results thereof.

This translates into the following aims that represent the Trust's mission statement:

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Limited's mission is to protect and enhance the wildlife and wild places of Staffordshire and to promote understanding, enjoyment and involvement in the natural world.

Organisation

The affairs of the Trust are managed by the Board of Management, who are the Trustees.

Officers of the Trust:

The Trust will have the following Officers: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer.



REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

The Trust's Articles of Association state that the minimum number of Trustees shall be nine (9) and (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) the maximum number shall be fourteen (14).

At each annual general meeting all Trustees appointed at the Annual General Meeting four years previously must retire from office.

The Trust may by ordinary resolution at an Annual General Meeting appoint as a Trustee any member who is willing to act and who is either a Trustee retiring in accordance with the above mentioned circumstance and who has indicated a wish to be reappointed; or a member recommended by the Trustees; or a member in respect of whom the Trust has been given a notice, not less than fourteen (14) or more than thirty-five (35) clear days before the date of the meeting, which is signed by two members entitled to vote at the meeting; states that members' intention to propose the election of the member in respect of whom the notice is given by the Trustee; is signed by the person who is to be proposed as a Trustee to show his or her willingness to act; contains the details that, if the person were to be appointed, the Trust would have to file at Companies House; The Trustees may at any time appoint a member who is willing to act to be a Trustee but a Trustee so appointed must retire at the next Annual General Meeting.

The appointment of a Trustee whether by the Trust in the Annual General Meeting or by the Trustees may not cause the number of Trustees to exceed any number fixed as the maximum number of Trustees.

A retiring Trustee who has been a Trustee for twelve (12) or more consecutive years may not be reappointed until at least one year after the date of his or her retirement.

Members of the Board

The Trustees of the charity, who are also Members of the Board, who have held office in the period, were:

Mr Richard Higgs – Chairman from 21 June 2015 (re-elected Member from 4 June 2018)
Mr Michael Walker – Vice Chairman from 25 January 2020 (Re-elected Member from 24 June 2019)
Mr Nicholas Young (Re-elected Member from 21 May 2017)
Mr Ian Downing – Treasurer from 1 January 2016 (Re-elected member from 24 June 2019)
Mr Paul Hackney – Secretary from 21 June 2015 (Re-elected member from 24 June 2019)
Mrs Lisa Stephenson (Elected member from 4 June 2018)
Mr Philip Shore (Elected member from 4 June 2018)
Ms Alison Glaisher (Elected member from 24 June 2019)
Mr Elliott Lancaster (Elected member from 24 June 2019)
Mr David Rogers (Elected member from 24 June 2019)
Miss Alana Wheat (Elected member from 7 December 2020)
Mr Stephen Smith (Elected member from 7 December 2020)
Miss Suzanne Carr – Vice Chairman from 21 June 2015 (resigned 27 January 2020)

The Board meets monthly except for May, August and December to review the work of the Trust. During the Covid-19 pandemic the board continued to meet monthly, but physical meetings were replaced with online conferencing technology.

The maintenance of an annual plan with associated reporting of progress by staff will ensure that the Board are appraised of the charity's performance and can manage and control the charity's activities.

Induction and training of Board members

Trustees' skills are reviewed regularly to ensure that the balance is suitable. New Trustees are inducted into the charity by discussions between themselves and other Trustees, and members of staff, as opportunities arise. They are presented with background information and have access to the Charity Commission's website.



REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Chief Executive

The day to day management of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Limited was delegated on 11 May 2015 to Mr Julian Woolford, Chief Executive.

Links with other Charities

Although an entirely independent charity, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust (SWT) is one of 46 similar charities that are members of The Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT), which working together act as one of the largest environmental charities in the UK. RSWT works at both English and UK levels particularly in ways that facilitate activity in Staffordshire, for which the Trust makes a financial contribution to RSWT each year.

Share capital

The Company does not have a share capital and is limited by guarantee.

Strategic report

Review of activities

Main objectives and achievements for 2020

1. Conservation priorities

1.1 Nature reserves

We now manage 32 nature reserves, covering about 4022 acres. These are some of the county's most important habitats and continue to play a pivotal role in our conservation work and contribute to our ambition of creating a Nature Recovery Network (NRN) across the county.

This year our plans were significantly impacted by Covid. For several months, reserve staff and volunteers were unable to carry out work, and then when lockdowns eased, significant proportions of time were spent on dealing with fly-tipping and vandalism on reserves, as well as working with a wave of visitors to our reserves, who had been shackled by Covid restrictions and were exploring their local countryside for the first time.

Notwithstanding the pandemic, we continued to develop and refine management and monitoring plans for all our reserves, with a particular focus on the impact of climate change. Sixteen of our sites are nationally recognised through their designation as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and we worked towards ensuring that all our SSSI sites are in favourable condition.

Highlights of the year, however, were the completion of our purchase of Gun Moor in the South-West Peak District, which we'd purchased the previous year with help from the Esmeé Fairbairn Foundation, and the acquisition of Craddocks Moss, a unique lowland raised bog situated to the west of Newcastle-under-Lyme. Thanks to the support of our members and local supporters who generously donated to our campaign to purchase the site, we were able to take control of the site in the midst of the pandemic, a notable feat.

Negotiations continue to take over 11 Staffordshire Moorlands District Council sites, but are much delayed, not least by the impact of the pandemic. We expect these finally to be under our management by early 2022.

1.2 Nature Recovery Network (NRN)

The Government's 25-year plan for the environment sets out ambitions to create a network of habitats across the UK that are richer in wildlife. It includes the creation of an NRN, working both at a national and a local scale. While existing protected sites, such as our nature reserves, provide oases for wildlife, we also need to link existing sites together and create new 'corridors' and habitats in which wildlife can flourish.



We made excellent progress during the year in helping local authorities develop nature recovery maps for their areas as part of our contribution to a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). However, we were unable to complete work with all authorities due to Covid and lack of capacity in our conservation team.

Notable highlights were the completion of our mapping work in Staffordshire Moorlands which underpins the District Council's Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan. In Stafford Borough we were commissioned to use our recently completed NRN mapping in the Borough to inform the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA).

1.3 Living landscapes

Within the NRN in Staffordshire, we continued to prioritise important 'living landscape' areas, playing a leading role in the delivery of programmes and projects that benefit wildlife and people in these areas.

The Churnet Valley remained a priority landscape for the Trust in 2021 with successful funding applications focussing on nature-based solutions, including slowing the flow of flood waters in our upland reserves by installing leaky dams and woody debris, as well as further species-rich grassland restoration on our Cotton Dell and Thorswood Nature Reserves.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund Transforming the Trent Valley (TTTV) project is a partnership of 18 organisations working together to restore and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the Trent Valley, with Staffordshire Wildlife Trust at the helm. After a strong first year of delivery in 2019, progress was slowed considerably by the pandemic. Reliance on volunteer and face to face work was largely halted for long periods of time, although progress was maintained in a limited way through virtual meetings. The National Lottery Heritage Fund has been very supportive in reprogramming the delivery in light of the pandemic. Highlights for the year include the river restoration work at Cherry Holme and the team's superb programme of on-line events and talks.

Delivery of a £3.6 million pound European-funded programme of 16 projects called SUNRISE in Stoke-on-Trent continued. The headline £1million project focused on the restoration of the River Trent near the old Victoria Ground football stadium was completed successfully. It garnered much praise from local community leaders and featured in national media, including BBC's Countryfile, and the project was topped off with an innovative 'virtual' opening which was attended by the local Member of Parliament, chief executive of the Environment Agency and The Wildlife Trust's national chief executive, Craig Bennett. We also completed a flagship project in Staffordshire University's grounds where we rewilded a 500-metre section of the 'canalised' river Trent.

Our work as a supporting partner continued in the Peak District National Park Authority-led Heritage Lottery-funded South West Peak (SWP) project. We are lead partners on three projects: the 'Wild Child' outdoor education programme, a project focused at the restoration of eroded footpaths on the Roaches and a project to conserve native crayfish in the Peak. We are also part of a wider project, led by the RSPB, focusing on wader protection. Our projects are either completed successfully or nearing completion, and plans for a legacy project are well under way.

HS2 remained a key priority for us. We continued to respond to consultations and took every opportunity to comment and input to the design of the Phase 2a plans. We continued to work with partners to explore 'offsetting' opportunities provided by the project and related funds. We joined national meetings with the Chair and Chief Executive of HS2 to make the case for new funds for mitigating the impacts of HS2 and improved working with contractors at a county level.

1.4 Priority species conservation and re-introductions

As identified in the State of Staffordshire's Nature report (2016), much of our wildlife in Staffordshire has already been lost or is in decline, such as the hedgehog, dormouse and water vole. While all of our landscape and nature reserve conservation work will benefit a range of species through specific habitat creation projects, we will focus in particular on two key species for the five-year period of this strategy.

In 2020 we completed initial feasibility studies on a number of our reserves for beaver re-introduction projects. We are currently in the process of carrying out detailed hydrology and vegetation surveys with the aim of applying for a licence to introduce beavers to the county.



We expanded our badger vaccination work on our own reserves and on neighbouring third party land to seven sites, and continue our campaign to stop badger culling in Staffordshire.

1.5 Restoring natural 'corridors'

We delivered projects aimed at making Staffordshire's agricultural landscapes more permeable to wildlife by protecting key stepping stones and linear habitats, such as ponds, watercourses, hedgerows, road verges and pollinator corridors. Staffordshire Wildlife Trust has a history of pioneering joint working with third party landowners. We have a successful track record of delivering natural flood management projects across Staffordshire aimed at floodwater attenuation and improving water quality.

We continued to be at the forefront of natural flood management projects, working with landowners through Countryside Stewardship Facilitation Funds and working with DEFRA to influence the new Environmental Land Management System through our 'Tests and Trials' scheme.

Highlights included undertaking the feasibility study, funded by Highways England, for the development of the Stafford Brooks project. Working with partners (Environment Agency and Stafford Borough Council) the project identified 25 sites across the town centre where interventions could be located to improve biodiversity, water quality and flood mitigation.

2. People Engagement priorities

2.1 Connecting children and young people to nature

Our plan this year had been to increase our offer to children and their families with more opportunities to deepen their connection with nature, with a focus on older children and young people. This would have been through face to face family events and activities where young people can attend independently.

We were really excited to open the Learning Hub at the Wolseley Centre for school visits, aiming to increase our connections with local schools and to continue to offer Forest School training programmes for learners, who in turn would work with more young people outdoors in Staffordshire.

We received more funding to extend the Strong Roots: Better Futures Forest Schools project across Stoke-on-Trent and we were heading into our final year of the Children in Need funded GetWild project in Stoke and Urban Newcastle. The TTTV & SWP Wildchild projects were continuing nicely, meeting milestones and delivering engagement in the Peak District and across East Staffordshire. Historically all of this work has relied on face to face contact with the people we work with.

The arrival of Covid-19 changed that.

We responded to the pandemic and associated restrictions by swiftly changing our delivery methods and did so largely successfully. Despite lockdown, and the major disruption to our programme, 22801 children still engaged with our face to face and new, online activities.

The majority of our existing funders were happy that we continued to deliver our engagement projects via remote or digital engagement activities, which meant we could keep most of the team working and keep supporting children, families and schools to connect with nature when they needed it the most. Our Virtually Wild classroom and GetWild TV launched in April 2020 and quickly became popular with new and existing contacts. Nature Packs were developed in the early lockdown period, working closely with local food banks and community groups and allowed us to get activities to families in need, to help them keep children active and connected to nature.

We worked with 87 primary schools, despite having to 'close the doors' to physical visits. 50% of this work has been delivered virtually with 41 schools taking part in our funded Virtually Wild classroom project. We have worked with seven secondary schools in 2020, through our Forest Schools delivery and Green Influencers project.



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In agreement with our main funders, Arts Council England, and in line with government guidance, we postponed the main Wildchild Festival event until August 2021. However, we were able to run several remote and virtual art projects with local young people. The projects resulted in the creation of artwork that formed a virtual art exhibition and youth takeover of our families Facebook page in August 2020.

Due to the impact of the pandemic restrictions our Annual Youth Debate on the environment was postponed at the request of SCVYS and was re-scheduled to take place in 2021/22.

When it was possible we did deliver face to face activities; this was done with close scrutiny of the government guidance and the production of Covid 19 risk assessments. We only delivered activities that we considered essential in supporting our community, such as running toddler groups for isolated new parents.

2.2 Forging links with local groups

We already work with a range of local adult and youth groups across Staffordshire. This work is designed to harness the passion individuals have for their local spaces and to use that to inspire whole communities to take action. A core part of this work is to create a sense of pride in local wild places, to encourage people to protect these spaces and to ensure that people are less likely to damage these sites deliberately, for example through vandalism, or accidentally, for example through wildfires.

This year we set out to increase our work with similar groups and to create new groups to increase awareness, understanding and engagement by people in their local areas. We also wanted to focus on providing training and volunteering opportunities which allowed people to take an active role in conserving and restoring their local environment, in particular with Nature Recovery Networks in mind. This work would also involve joint funding applications with community groups and piloting an ambassador programme.

The pandemic impacted how we were able to deliver our programmes, with most volunteering and community work forced to stop throughout the lockdowns. However, we were successful in extending the Wild about Tamworth project, a partnership between the Trust and Tamworth Borough Council, for a further five years. This enabled us to support a Tamworth group to secure funds from the Covid-19 Tamworth Voluntary Organisations Support Fund. This fund was for equipment to run Covid secure activities for families and volunteers.

We launched the Green Influencers programme which saw us working with secondary schools to mentor young people and encourage them to take action for wildlife. Whilst school and class closures had impacted our engagement ability, we developed an online programme for 2021 which aimed to work with young people (10-14) through Green Influencers and older young people (15-24) through the Wild About Tamworth youth rangers programme.

Through the SWP Wildchild project we delivered virtual outdoor play training to adults who work with young people in the Peak District National Park, through which we developed a new online training tool. We also delivered a 'Reflective School Support in the Outdoors' session to 15 teachers face to face as our first event in the Learning Hub.

As part of the Wildchild Festival we commissioned an artist to work with us to deliver the Cloud Piece project that saw a group of young adults act as ambassadors for the Trust through the creation of artwork and digital media. One of the participants of this project went on to become one of our Trustees.

2.3 Improving health and wellbeing

A growing body of medical evidence shows that people's health benefits in many different ways if they are close to nature. As the custodians of a range and variety of nature reserves, and as leaders in a number of landscape-scale projects, we can change lives by using nature to help people improve their mental and physical health. The pandemic showed how important this is.

This year we hoped to audit our skills to better plan our approach to wellbeing, run two youth action groups and develop a social prescribing offer.



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We were able to carry out a skills audit and have researched appropriate training and resources that we would need to develop a wellbeing programme. In addition, we have been able to train staff as fitness and yoga instructors, have written a Wild Wellbeing mission statement and have started to plan in house delivery. 2020 was a year spent gearing up to develop our skills and contacts in this area and responding to the community and opportunities around us.

We gained a grant from Baron Davenport's Charity for us to provide engagement sessions with their young people and have formed a relationship with the charity Liberty and planned to run practical conservation sessions with their young people. A SEND school group in Tamworth has begun work as an action group, as has a second high school group in Tamworth.

This year we were part of a partnership bid to pilot a new model of Green Prescribing in North Staffordshire. This bid was ultimately unsuccessful but this, and two smaller bids made to Thriving Communities, has put us on the radar of local health sector professionals and partners and has helped us make sure we're part of forums and networks to increase social prescribing in Staffordshire.

3. Income generation and marketing

3.1 Generating income for our work

In recent years, Staffordshire Wildlife Trust has been very successful in generating funds for our conservation and educational work, whether from the National Lottery, European funding schemes, local funding bodies, or businesses.

But we are also supported by a strong and passionate membership base and have been hugely heartened by their vital and ongoing support throughout the pandemic.

We feared members, worried about their own finances, would cancel memberships but by the period's end we had actually increased our membership to more than 17,000 members, a record high for us and perhaps partly the result of new supporters understanding the importance of nature on their doorstep in times of crisis. Members and supporters also donated generously to our campaigns to raise funds for our latest nature reserves Craddocks Moss and Gun Moor.

We continue to be grateful too for legacies that we have received.

3.2 Building awareness of the wildlife and climate crisis, and the work of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust

The pandemic has helped people value nature, particularly locally. This has helped make our case for protecting and restoring the natural environment and the widespread support for this can be seen in the tens of thousands of people who have supported key campaigns such as on HS2, damaging neonicotinoid pesticides, the badger cull and more. The Trust will need to encourage more supporters to advocate for change in order to achieve our aims.

We have had significant media coverage locally and nationally about our work, and have continued to engage with MPs and other key local leaders. Our social media coverage continues to increase its penetration.

4. Running a successful organisation

2020 tested our resilience and creativity in new ways. In the space of a couple of weeks, we had to develop new plans and a new budget in the face of the pandemic. Our response was a testament to the expertise and experience of our team as we battled to continue our work in the face of Covid-19.

Almost overnight we moved to a home-working environment, and rapidly ensured that we gave staff the support they needed to work outside the office, improving our use of IT, new technologies and hardware. Within months, our conservation team were largely able to continue 'as normal' but our people engagement staff, our membership recruiters and our trading teams had to contend with a range of significant challenges, the effects of which continue.

Our volunteers too were unable to work and as such a crucial force in our work, that was a significant loss, although we started to get volunteers out on site again towards the end of the year.



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We were also able to launch a new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion programme, alongside the wider Wildlife Trust movement, to begin to redress the imbalance in our staff, Trustees and volunteers.

We have invested heavily into recruiting many new staff since coming out of the pandemic which the HR team have done very successfully, despite the recruitment shortage experienced nationally. We are also looking at developing our staff with regards to succession planning in the future.

In 2020 we benchmarked our Carbon Footprint using data from 2019 as part of a Wildlife Trust wide drive to measure our collective carbon emissions. Using 2019 data we assessed our annual carbon impact to be 464 tonnes CO₂e. This excludes any impact of our land management work on carbon sequestration. The pandemic also accelerated our drive to become carbon neutral as an organisation by 2030: the move to home-working allowed us to unexpectedly fast track our thinking around how to reduce our carbon footprint. As Trust transport and commuting are significant contributors to our footprint, the move to home-working allowed us to consider a longer-term approach to hybrid working, as well as review our office footprint and our wider facilities management.

In the later stages of 2020 we began developing our carbon reduction strategy and a series of actions to start bringing down our collective impact. This work is ongoing and will lead to us reducing our carbon footprint and giving staff greater flexibility about where they work.

Our finance team has had to work hard during this exceptional year to ensure we had timely and accessible financial information. This was amid changing guidance around furlough schemes, business support grants and implementing a new finance system. This has helped us closely monitor our financial performance and allowed us to end the year in a far stronger position than our initial projections crafted in the early days of the pandemic. The Government support through furlough and grants was utterly crucial, however, to our survival and was a sobering reminder of the need to manage our businesses efficiently at all times.

5. Commercial priorities

Our trading activities were hit very hard. Our cafes at the Wolseley Centre and Westport Lake Visitor Centre, as well as our charity shops, were closed for prolonged periods, leading to a significant financial loss despite the Government's support through the furlough scheme and business grants. It led to tough decisions and the need to make key trading staff redundant as we scrambled to reduce our losses and restructure our business for the future. That work is still ongoing and we are pleased with the slow but steady growth in our commercial activities in recent months and are optimistic about the future.

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the Commercial team both cafes and all charity shops are currently performing well against budget with the only exception being retail sales at The Wolseley Centre. We are therefore addressing this problem and introducing new locally sourced and sustainable products which fit with our ethos and will hopefully attract sales.

Future developments

Priorities for 2021/22

6. Conservation priorities

6.1 Nature reserves

Our focus in the coming year will continue to be on exemplary management of our nature reserves for wildlife, particularly regarding the impact of climate change, and as part of developing a Nature Recovery Network for Staffordshire. We will also continue to focus on improving habitats for wildlife in the wider countryside around our nature reserves, including buying or leasing new sites where feasible.

We hope to take control of Staffordshire Moorland District Council sites after several years of negotiations.

Sixteen of our sites remain nationally recognised through their designation as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and we will continue to work towards ensuring that all our SSSI sites are in favourable condition.

6.2 Nature Recovery Network

We will play a leading role in the development of a Local Nature Recovery Network Strategy for Staffordshire, working with key partners across the county and setting up a Nature Recovery Partnership.

We will continue our work to ensure that the LNRN will be embedded in all local authority planning departments and statutory bodies to ensure Biodiversity Net Gain opportunities are maximised.

Our ambition is that 30% of land in Staffordshire is managed for nature by 2030.

6.3 Living landscapes

We will continue to prioritise important 'living landscape' areas in the county. Over the next year, our conservation work will continue to focus on creating and restoring:

- A nationally-important network of wetland habitats in the floodplains of the Trent.
- Habitats for wildlife and for people to enjoy in the urban areas of Stoke-on-Trent and urban Newcastle.
- The peatlands, moorlands and cloughs of the south-west Peak District, creating new habitats for invertebrates, waders and birds of prey.
- The grasslands, woodlands and wetlands around the Churnet Valley, home to important species such as greater butterfly orchid, willow warbler and pied flycatcher.
- The lowland heaths of Cannock Chase, Gentleshaw, Highgate and the remnants of ancient heath across southern Staffordshire.

6.4 Priority species conservation and re-introductions

We will continue our plans to identify potential sites for the reintroduction of beavers to Staffordshire.

We will expand our badger vaccination work on our own reserves and on neighbouring third party land, and continue our campaign to stop badger culling in Staffordshire.



6.5 Restoring natural 'corridors'

We will continue to deliver projects aimed at making Staffordshire's agricultural landscapes more permeable to wildlife by continuing to protect key stepping stones and linear habitats, such as ponds, watercourses, hedgerows, road verges and pollinator corridors.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust's history of pioneering joint working with third party landowners is also set to continue. We have a successful track record of delivering natural flood management projects across Staffordshire aimed at floodwater attenuation and improving water quality.

We will continue to be at the forefront of natural flood management projects, working with landowners through Countryside Stewardship Facilitation Funds and working with DEFRA to influence the new Environmental Land Management System through our 'Tests and Trials' scheme.

7. People Engagement priorities

7.1 Connecting children and young people to nature: Wildchild

We will continue to offer children and their families opportunities to deepen their connection with nature. Our approach will continue to be face-to-face and hands-on wherever possible but we will use our new skills and digital channels to reach people who do not have access to our face to face work.

We will use our new Learning Hub to deliver exciting learning opportunities for pupils and families, and use the bespoke set up of this building to reach groups that have previously faced access barriers. We will also work with educational professionals and other partner organisations to offer opportunities to experience, enjoy and learn about nature while at school.

We will make our events locally-relevant so that children are not just learning about nature, but learning about nature *where they live*.

By engaging more extensively with young people between the ages of 12 and 18, through providing a range of further learning opportunities, we will inspire the next generation of conservationists, campaigners, members and supporters.

We will seek opportunities to work with disadvantaged children and families, ensuring we reduce inequalities surrounding access to nature, by continuing with our Aiming High programmes.

7.2 Forging links with local groups: Team Wilder

We will update our approach to working with communities, motivating and inspiring them to take action for nature where they live, as well as empowering people to speak out and campaign for action on the climate and biodiversity crisis.

We already work with a range of local adult and youth groups across Staffordshire, but we know that if we want real societal change we need to reach 1 in 4 people living in Staffordshire. Over the next year, we will increase our work with similar groups, offering toolkits and resources to support direct community action. We will also create a new network of champions to increase awareness and understanding of nature and climate issues locally.

We will focus on providing volunteering opportunities which allow people to take an active role in conserving and restoring their local environment. We will support these local groups to become activists for their local wildlife and wild spaces, better able to make their case with local decision makers such as MPs, local councillors and businesses.

7.3 Improving health and wellbeing: Wild Wellbeing

With partners, we will develop and support new programmes and projects which allow people suffering from health problems to benefit from experiencing and taking part in nature-based activities such as new volunteering opportunities or guided walks. We will explore opportunities to work with GPs to provide 'green prescriptions' as an alternative to conventional treatments.

By using the skills and passion of our People Engagement team we will encourage people to recognise the importance of nature and wildlife for their own mental and physical wellbeing. We will use our Nature Recovery Network work and our existing nature reserves as a vehicle to improve health and wellbeing, and we will find creative ways to improve health outcomes for people living in nature depleted areas. Through this work we will increase people's understanding and support for the natural environment in policy and planning decision-making and funding.

8. Income generation and marketing

8.1 Generating income for our work

We are supported by a strong and passionate membership base: we have increased our membership to more than 17,000 members, the highest in our history. Furthermore, we are extremely grateful for the legacies we've received from our supporters.

Over the next year, we will continue to invest in retaining and attracting members, growing our fundraising expertise and activities, strengthening our relationships with businesses, and making our Trading operations profitable.

8.2 Building awareness of the wildlife and climate crisis, and the work of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust

Widespread awareness of, and interest in, environmental issues has never been higher, particularly as a result of Covid-19. From new government policies to public protest, the appetite to take action on climate change, plastic pollution and the wildlife crisis has increased significantly in recent years. The impact of the pandemic has led to people valuing access to the outdoors and nature.

In the next year, we will significantly increase our effectiveness as a wildlife charity by investing in our communications and marketing activities, particularly digitally.

8.3 Running a successful organisation

The impact of the pandemic has shown how valuable our people are: their knowledge, experience and resilience have helped us weather the Covid-19 storm. It is vital that we are professional in the way we support them: from IT to vehicles, from the right offices in the right places, to learning and development opportunities, we will always put our people first.

A key focus for the year ahead will be managing the ongoing impact of Covid-19 on our workforce, supporting them as we increasingly move to a hybrid way of working. We will continue to develop a learning culture and seek to train, develop and empower staff to make decisions and carry actions for the environment.

Our volunteers remain an essential part of our delivery model. We will continue to invest in recruiting and training our volunteers to support our workforce, and we will develop new placement and apprenticeship opportunities for them.

Health and safety, and safeguarding are paramount. Every day our people are out and about, often in difficult terrain and challenging weather, delivering for wildlife in Staffordshire. To ensure their safety we will continue to invest in health and safety management and training.

We will ramp up our efforts to put diversity and inclusion at the heart of what we do, ensuring that we deliver for the widest possible audience.

Managing our finances carefully to get as much 'bang for our buck' as possible is central to our success. We will continue to refine our financial capability and capacity to deliver a first class financial management approach for the Trust.

We have now embarked on a drive to reduce our carbon emission to zero by 2030. Next year will see the introductions of new measures to help us: from hybrid working to reduce staff travel, to the introduction of electric vehicles, to greater use of renewable energy.

8.4 Commercial priorities

In 2021/22, we will seek to recover from the significant impact of Covid-19 on our trading operations. We have made tough choices to continue to make the business viable and we will continue to evolve our plans to run first class cafés, and retail shops, as well as charity shops and conferences. We will develop a Masterplan for the next phase of development at the Wolseley Visitor Centre.



REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Financial review

This year's accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2015).

Review of the year

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust's financial position remained broadly stable during the year and the consolidated unrestricted funds decreased to £3,211,000 (2019 increased to £3,463,000) at the period end.

At 31 March 2021, the Trust's free reserves stood at £954,000 (31 December 2019: £1,147,000). Free reserves are considered to be unrestricted funds that can be readily converted into cash if required, and as such are calculated as total reserves, less restricted funds, less the net book value of tangible fixed assets.

Income

	2021	2019	Increase / (Decrease)
Total income received in the year	5,810,000	4,207,000	1,603,000
Total income includes the following:			
Membership income	981,000	661,000	320,000
Legacy income	81,000	421,000	(340,000)
Income from charitable activities, grants and donations	4,729,000	3,101,000	1,628,000

Expenditure

	2021	2019	Increase / (Decrease)
Total resources expended during the year	5,409,000	3,670,000	1,739,000
Total expenditure includes the following:			
Costs of raising funds	1,578,000	1,323,000	255,000

Policy and charity governance

Governance

The Board should review its governance process on a four-year cycle, and is next due to review it in 2023. The governance was last reviewed in 2019; no recommendations arose that required an update to the governance statement and updated Articles of Association that were approved at the AGM in June 2015.

Risk management

The Board recognises the risks faced by the Trust. The Board maintains a risk register which is reviewed and updated annually. The current risk register addresses Governance Risks, Operational Risks, Financial Risks, Compliance with Law and Regulation, and External Risks.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Executive Remuneration

The Chief Executive and the Senior Leadership Team make up the key management personnel of the Trust. In the period ended 31 March 2021 the Senior Leadership Team comprised; Two Senior Managers of Conservation Delivery, a Fundraising and Membership Manager, a Head of People Engagement and Resources, a Head of Commercial Operations and a HR Manager. During the year the Head of Commercial Operations role was made redundant due to the ongoing covid-19 pandemic and resultant loss of income. In setting the remuneration of the Chief Executive and the senior leadership team the Board have looked at the remuneration of their peers across The Wildlife Trusts, as well as the skills needed to carry out the roles to the benefit of the Trust. The total executive remuneration paid in the 15 months ended 31 March 2021 was £318,000 (£294,000 in the year ended 31 December 2019).

Financial reserves

The Board aims to maintain sufficient unrestricted general funds to cover six to nine months' of core operating expenses. This is currently considered to be approximately £1,300,000. This is a prudent estimate based on the relatively static income from members and the variable income schedule of grants. In 2010 a financial reserve was set up specifically for Highgate Common and this is recorded in designated unrestricted funds.

At 31 March 2021 the Board consider the consolidated unrestricted funds of the Trust to be £3,211,000, comprising £751,000 of designated funds and £ 2,460,000 of general funds. The designated funds support the Trustees' commitment to manage Trust reserves in future years.

Investment powers and policy

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Limited's Articles of Association enables it to invest monies not immediately needed for its purposes in such investments as may be thought fit, subject to conditions and consents required by law.

The Trust relies on a professional investment manager for the day-to-day management of the Trust's investment portfolio. On 23rd September 2002 the Board agreed to give the investment manager authority to manage the Trust's portfolio on a discretionary basis subject to the following conditions:

Choosing Investments

The Trust's policy is to review the portfolio annually and instigate an annual meeting between the investment manager and a committee of trustees. This last occurred in September 2020. The suitability of the investments should not knowingly be in conflict with the Trust's Mission Statement 'To protect and enhance the wildlife and wild places of Staffordshire and to promote understanding, enjoyment and involvement in the natural world.' In 2019, the trustees went further than this and instructed the Trust's investment manager to specifically seek out investments that fitted an explicit ethical criteria. By the end of 2019 the majority of investments had been transitioned to fit this criteria, and that transition continued in 2020 and through 2021. The Trust's policy is to limit the risk attached to investments by requiring the investment manager to invest in a spread of assets including equities, gilts and cash with the aim of achieving the best possible return while safeguarding the capital value.

Rate of Return

The Trust sets the investment manager no specific rate of return to achieve other than that expected from a duly diligent professional investment manager. The investment performance will be compared with a suitable index on an annual basis.

Review

The Trust will review the situation annually, or sooner if there is need. At least every three years the Trust will consider whether or not the investment manager has the appropriate knowledge and experience, is carrying out his work competently, and has regard to the suitability of each investment and category of investment. In 2009, a sub-committee of trustees received submissions from three investment management firms and decided to remain with the incumbent. This decision was subsequently reaffirmed and was next due for review in 2020. Due to the covid-19 pandemic this review was put on hold until physical meetings allow.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Taxation

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Limited is a registered charity and can claim exemption from Corporation Tax on income and gains which are applied for charitable purposes under section 505, Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

The subsidiary trading companies are subject to Corporation Tax. Whilst most of the surplus is donated to the Charity, the trading companies pay tax on that left to maintain and build up their working capital.

Auditors

Azets Audit Services (Formerly Baldwins Audit Services) were re-appointed as the Trust's auditors at the Annual General Meeting on 7th December 2020.

Bankers

National Westminster Bank
75 High Street
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire
ST5 1PP

Solicitors

Keelys LLP
28 Dam Street
Lichfield
Staffordshire
WS13 6AA

Investment Advisors

Investec Wealth & Investment Limited
2 Gresham Street
London
EC2V 7QN

Auditors

Azets Audit Services (Formerly Baldwins Audit Services)
Rumer Hill Business Estate
Rumer Hill
Cannock
West Midlands
WS11 0ET



REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Statement of the Board's responsibilities

The trustees (who are also directors of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and the group and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable group for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and the group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Public benefit statement

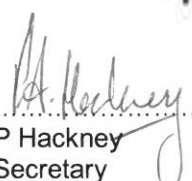
The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

The Trust's public benefit is enshrined in its charitable objects as outlined on Page 3.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

The members of Board who were in office on the date of approval of these financial statements have confirmed, as far as they are aware, that there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware. Each of the members of Board have confirmed that they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as members of Board in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

The Report of the Board of Management, which includes the Strategic Report on pages 3 to 18, was approved by the Board on ... 1/12/21 ... and signed on their behalf:


P Hackney
Secretary

Date of Signing: 1/12/21

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

		2021	2021	2021	2021	2019
	Note	Unrestricted £'000	Restricted £'000	Endowment £'000	Total Funds £'000	Total Funds £'000
Incoming and endowments from:						
Donations and Legacies	2	1,080	110	-	1,190	1,239
Charitable Activities	3	640	2,928	-	3,568	2,125
Other Trading activities	4	582	1	-	583	819
Investment income	5	14	-	-	14	20
Other		5	-	-	5	4
Total income		2,321	3,039	-	5,360	4,207
Other operating income						
	6	450	-	-	450	-
Expenditure on:						
Raising Funds	7	1,576	2	-	1,578	1,323
Charitable activities	8	1,505	2,326	-	3,831	2,347
Total expenditure	9	3,081	2,328	-	5,409	3,670
Net gains/(losses) on investments		55	-	-	55	109
Net income/(expenditure)		(255)	711	-	456	646
Transfers between funds		3	(3)	-	-	-
Other recognised – gains/(losses):					-	-
Net movement in funds carried forward		(252)	708	-	456	646

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Note	2021 Unrestricted Funds £'000	2021 Restricted Funds £'000	2021 Endowment Funds £'000	2021 Total Funds £'000	2019 Total £'000
Net movement in funds brought forward		(252)	708	-	456	646
Reconciliation of Funds:						
Fund balances at 1 January (brought forward)		3,463	971	3,474	7,908	7,262
Fund balances at 31 December (carried forward)	22	3,211	1,679	3,474	8,364	7,908

The statement of financial activities contains all gains and losses for the year.

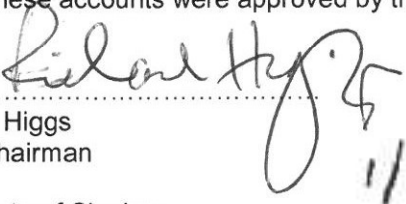
The notes on pages 23 to 44 form part of these financial statements

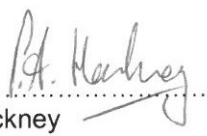
**CONSOLIDATED AND CHARITY BALANCE SHEETS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Note	Group		Charity	
		2021	2019	2021	2019
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	13	3,505	3,418	3,408	3,347
Heritage assets	14	2,450	2,372	2,450	2,372
Investments	15	681	629	681	629
Total fixed assets		6,636	6,419	6,539	6,348
Current assets					
Stocks		25	35	-	-
Debtors	16	485	812	646	976
Investments	17	5	5	5	5
Cash at bank and in hand		1,781	1,119	1,737	1,028
Total current assets		2,296	1,971	2,388	2,009
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	18	(443)	(333)	(425)	(309)
Net current assets		1,853	1,638	1,963	1,700
Creditors: Amounts falling due in more than one year	19	(125)	(149)	(75)	(149)
Total net assets		8,364	7,908	8,427	7,899
The funds of the charity					
Restricted Income Funds	20	1,679	971	1,679	971
Endowment	21	3,474	3,474	3,474	3,474
		5,153	4,445	5,153	4,445
Unrestricted Funds	22	3,114	3,391	3,177	3,382
Revaluation Reserve		97	72	97	72
Total funds		8,364	7,908	8,427	7,899

As permitted by s408 Companies Act 2006, the charity has not presented its own SOFA. The charity's net income for the year was £503 k.

These accounts were approved by the Board on 1/12/21


R Higgs
Chairman


P Hackney
Secretary

Date of Signing: 1/12/21

Date of Signing: 1/12/21

The notes on pages 23 to 47 form part of these accounts
Company number 959609



**CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

	Note	2021 £'000	2021 £'000	2019 £'000	2019 £'000
Net cash inflow from operating activities	29		857		396
Cash flows from investing activities					
Investment income		9		20	
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		23		344	
Purchase of fixed assets		(282)		(921)	
Purchase of heritage assets		(78)		(241)	
Proceeds from sale of investments		180		557	
Purchase of investments		(169)		(355)	
Net Cash provided by investing activities			(317)		(596)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Repayments of borrowing		-		-	
Net cash inflows from new borrowing		125		149	
Net Cash used in financing activities			125		149
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting year			665		(51)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting year			1,141		1,192
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting year	30		1,806		1,141

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Company Information

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Limited ("the charity") is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and is registered with the Charity Commission. The registered office is The Wolseley Centre, Wolseley Bridge, Stafford, ST17 0WT.

1.2 Basis of accounting

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, with the exception of listed investments which are included at their market value. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity Commission Statement of Recommended Practice - 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 (effective 1 January 2019).

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 £'000.

The Trustees confirm that the Charity is a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The company has extended its accounting period by 3 months and the financial statements have been prepared for the 15 months to 31 March 2021. The reason for the change is to align with grant bodies and partners who operate and report in the fiscal year. Consequently, the comparative amounts presented in the financial statements (including related notes) are not entirely comparable.

1.3 Group Accounts

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Balance Sheet consolidate the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertakings. The results of the subsidiaries are consolidated on a line by line basis.

The charity has availed itself of Paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 1 of the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and adapted the Companies Act formats to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

As most of the income from the subsidiary companies is transferred to the Trust the view taken is that there is no significant difference between the Group and Company figures. The subsidiaries are accounted for separately for management control purposes.

1.3 Going concern

The Trustees have considered the operating position of the Group and are of the opinion that there are no material uncertainties regarding the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

The covid-19 global pandemic has naturally created difficulties in all areas of the Trust. In particular, face to face activities and commercial income ceased completely for several months. While this has struck predicted income hard, the Trust has taken advantage of emergency funding and government support schemes available, and has also been fortunate to receive the cash relating to three significant legacies since the pandemic began. The combination of action taken to reduce costs and the additional income from legacies and emergency grants means that the trustees are confident that the charity will remain a going concern for the foreseeable future.

1.4 Fund Accounting

1.4.1 Unrestricted Funds

These funds can be used for any of the charity's purposes.

1.4.2 Restricted Income Funds

These funds have been given to the Trust for a particular purpose to be used in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

1.4.3 Endowment Funds

These funds have been given to the Trust for a particular purpose to be used in accordance with the wishes of the donor. The capital can generally not be realised.



1.4.4 Designated funds - Projects

These funds were set aside by the Trustees for specific projects. Many of these projects are partly funded with the unfunded element set aside from general funds.

1.5 Income

Income from investments, Gift Aid and deeds of covenant are included gross, and are accounted for when receivable or the charity's right to it becomes legally enforceable. Provision has been made for Income Tax reclaimable at the period end.

Legacy income is included in the accounts when the amount due can be quantified with reasonable certainty and the timing of the receipt is known.

Incoming resources in the form of donated assets have been included in the SOFA at a reasonable estimate of their value, taking into account the market value of the assets and comments made by the donor.

Grants receivable are accounted for when there is sufficient information to enable the claim to be made or the claim has been made and there is clear indication to suggest the claim will be met.

1.6 Volunteer Help

The Trust receives support from a wide variety of volunteers. It is not practical to place a value on the time volunteered by all these persons, due to the variety of duties performed, the differences in time spent, and the sheer number of volunteers who gave of their time.

1.7 Membership Income

Membership income is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities over the life of the subscription, taking into account the type of membership involved.

1.8 Local Groups

The Local and Special Interest Groups are referred to in note 25. They hold up to £500 each. Their activities have not been included in the consolidated figures, other than by way of the contributions they make. They are autonomous in their operation. Larger groups are consolidated into the Trust's accounts.

1.9 Expenditure

Indirect costs are allocated to the expenditure headings in the SOFA on the basis of the number of employees in each area of work.

Cost of Raising Funds consists of expenditure relating to appeals, communications requesting funds, applying for grants and other general publicity as part of fundraising together with associated support activities and cost of sales.

Administration and Support of charitable activities consists of those costs incurred in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity. These include the provision of the premises, personnel, information technology and audit fees.

1.10 Irrecoverable VAT

The charity and its subsidiaries are partially exempt. Irrecoverable VAT is allocated to the appropriate cost categories.

1.11 Key Estimations and Judgements

The Trust has included estimates and judgements where appropriate and it is not possible to obtain fully accurate information at the time of preparation. Income is accrued on actual agreed amounts but may be subject to change in certain circumstances, such as when an agreed amount is valued in a foreign currency and payment is based on the exchange rate at that time. Legacies are recognised at the point that they are highly likely to be received. This may be several months or years before receipt, and therefore the recognition of income is based on what is known at the time the accounts are prepared. Recognition of fixed assets is generally based on the substance over form rule, for example in cases where the trust has an option to purchase a reserve that it is managing. At this point the purchase is highly likely and in substance the asset belongs to the Trust and therefore is recognised as an asset.



1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Depreciation

Class of Asset	Rate
Freehold Buildings	2% Straight Line
Land	Not Depreciated
Equipment	20% Straight Line
Fixtures and Fittings	20% Straight Line
Motor Vehicles	20% Reducing Balance
Impermanent Structures	10% Straight Line
Integral Plant & Fixtures	6.67% Reducing Balance
Long-Term Infrastructure	4% Straight Line
Leasehold Property	Over the term of the lease

1.13 Heritage assets

The Charity's objects include the conservation of nature for the purpose of study and research and to educate the public in understanding and appreciation of nature, the awareness of its value and the need for its conservation. As such the Charity owns and maintains a number of nature reserves that fall into the definition of heritage assets in accordance with FRS 102. These assets have been capitalised at cost at the date of acquisition, and being land in nature have not been depreciated.

The costs of maintaining the heritage assets are expensed through the Statement of Financial Activities as incurred, as part of the Trust's charitable activities.

1.14 Investments

Investments are a form of basic financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction value and subsequently measured at their fair value as at the balance sheet date using the closing quoted market price. The statement of financial activities includes the net gains and losses arising on revaluation and disposals throughout the year.

The Trust does not acquire put options, derivatives or other complex financial instruments. The main form of financial risk faced by the charity is that of volatility in equity markets and investment markets due to wider economic conditions, the attitude of investors to investment risk, and changes in sentiment concerning equities and within particular sectors or sub sectors.

1.15 Stocks

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value, where cost comprises purchase price. There is no stock held by the charity. The Trading Company holds stock as stated in the balance sheet (note 22)

1.16 Pension Costs

The Trust operates a defined contribution scheme for the benefit of its employees. The costs of contributions are written off against incoming resources in the year they are payable. The assets of the scheme are held separately from the Trust in independently administered funds.

1.17 Redundancy Costs

Redundancy costs are recognised in the statement of financial activities upon settlement. There were no unpaid redundancy costs as at the period end.

1.18 Finance and operating leases

The Trust has no finance leases. Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged to income on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease except where another more systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the lease asset are consumed.



1.19 Land and buildings

Nature Reserves are included at cost in the accounts as the Board are of the opinion that they are to be preserved long-term by the Trust. As regards the Buildings at Wolseley at 30 May 2006 these were valued for insurance purposes, in respect of re-building costs of £1,562,000, so the board believes the cost is a fair valuation. The Wolseley development of 2018/2019 included construction and related invoices at cost.

1.20 Financial instruments

The Trust only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.21 Deferred income

Income is deferred in respect of projects that are timebound and recognised for the period in which the project is completed. Income is also deferred for membership subscriptions, where those subscriptions relate to a period after the end of the financial year.

1.22 Leases

Rentals payable under operating leases, including any lease incentives received, are charged to income on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease except where another more systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which economic benefits from the lease asset are consumed.

1.23 Government Grants

Government grants are recognised at the fair value of the asset received or receivable when there is reasonable assurance the the grant conditions will be met and the grants will be received.

A grant that specifies performance conditions is recognised in income when the performance conditions are met. Where a grant does not specify performance conditions it is recognised in income when the proceeds are received or receivable. A grant received before the recognition criteria are satisfied is recognised as a liability.

During the year Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Group received Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant income from the Government of £450,019 (2019: £nil)

1.24 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due.

1.25 Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement value.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

2 Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Membership income	981	-	-	981	661
Grants and donations	18	110	-	128	157
Legacies	81	-	-	81	421
	<u>1,080</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,190</u>	<u>1,239</u>

3 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Grants and Contracts	640	2,928	-	3,568	2,125
	<u>640</u>	<u>2,928</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,568</u>	<u>2,125</u>

4 Other Trading Activity

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Shop Sales	114	-	-	114	207
Conference and Room Hire	16	-	-	16	73
Café Sales	247	-	-	247	413
Fundraising Events (including local groups)	1	-	-	1	30
Other	204	1	-	205	96
	<u>582</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>583</u>	<u>819</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Interest	1	-	-	1	2
Dividends	13	-	-	13	18
	<u>14</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>20</u>



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

6 Other Operating Income

	Group		Charity	
	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Job Retention Scheme	450	-	-	-

7 Expenditure on raising funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost of Raising Donations	655	2	-	657	469
Event Costs	13	-	-	13	93
Charity Shops	99	-	-	99	126
Trading Company Costs	718	-	-	718	620
Advertising / Direct Mail	83	-	-	83	12
Investment Management	8	-	-	8	3
	1,576	2	-	1,578	1,323

8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Conservation Delivery	869	786	-	1,655	1,122
Education	395	105	-	500	678
Living Landscapes	-	1,435	-	1,435	361
Other Charitable Projects	241	-	-	241	186
	1,505	2,326	-	3,831	2,347

	Direct Costs	Grant Funding	Support	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Conservation Delivery	1,440	7	208	1,655	1,122
Education	346	-	154	500	678
Living Landscapes	1,369	-	66	1,435	361
Other Charitable Projects	(23)	-	264	241	186
	3,132	7	692	3,831	2,347

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

9 Total expenditure

	Staff Costs	Direct Costs	Other Support	Governance	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Expenditure on raising funds	1,292	200	78	-	1,570	1,320
Investment management costs	-	-	8	-	8	3
Conservation	628	496	531	-	1,655	1,122
Education	337	12	151	-	500	678
Living Landscapes	212	-	1,223	-	1,435	361
Other Projects	59	-	166	16	241	186
	<u>2,528</u>	<u>708</u>	<u>2,157</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>5,409</u>	<u>3,670</u>

Total expenditure is stated after charging:

Auditor's Remuneration	- Audit Services	14	11
	Other Non-Audit Services	-	-
Depreciation		176	106
Amounts Payable Under Operating Leases		<u>47</u>	<u>32</u>

10 Analysis of Support Costs

	Raising Funds £'000	Conservation Delivery £'000	Education £'000	Other £'000	Total £'000	Basis of Allocation
IT	7	14	8	13	42	Per Capita
Finance & CEO	50	100	57	72	279	Per Capita
Premises	76	154	88	110	428	Per Capita
HR & Volunteering	12	23	13	17	65	Per Capita
Governance	-	-	-	16	16	Actual
	<u>145</u>	<u>291</u>	<u>166</u>	<u>228</u>	<u>830</u>	



11 Staff costs

	Trust	Trading	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Salaries and Wages	1,652	492	2,144	1,745
Social Security Costs	116	22	138	124
Other Pension Costs	155	40	195	160
	<u>1,923</u>	<u>554</u>	<u>2,477</u>	<u>2,029</u>

Employees and Volunteers

The average number of employees,
analysed by function, was:

	Trust	Trading	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
Conservation	24	-	24	23
Education	44	-	44	34
Fundraising	15	-	15	15
Management and Administration	9	-	9	9
Subsidiaries	4	43	47	39
	<u>96</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>120</u>

We rely on volunteers to help in all aspects of our work particularly for practical conservation work, administration and fundraising.

Board's and employees' emoluments

Members of the Board did not receive any remuneration or benefits in kind during the period.
Costs incurred by the Board on business amounted to £120 (2019: £ 604).

Total donations received from Members of the Board were immaterial. (2019: £0). Small amounts are received in respect of events but nothing over £1,000.

One employee received emoluments within the band of £80,000-£90,000 (2019: one in the band £60,000-£70,000).

Executive Remuneration

The total executive remuneration paid in the 15-month period to 31 March 2021 was £318,000 (year ended 31 December 2019: £ 294,000)

Average Headcount

The average headcount in the group in the period ended 31 March 2021 was 139 (2019: 120), broken down as follows:

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust – 96 (2019: 81)

Staffordshire Wildlife Trading – 43 (2019: 39).

12 **Pension arrangements**

The Trust operates a Group Personal Pension Scheme. Contributions to the scheme are charged to the accounts as they fall due. The Trust has set up a stakeholder pension plan, open to all employees, to cover those who do not wish to contribute to the Group Scheme, to which no employer's contributions are made.

Pension costs are allocated between restricted and unrestricted funds on an actual cost basis relative to the employee's staff costs. The allocation of support costs to activities is therefore as stated in note 9.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

13 Tangible assets

Group	Freehold & Leasehold Land	Freehold Buildings	Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or Donated Value					
At 01 January 2020	321	3,579	506	192	4,598
Additions	56	167	18	41	282
Disposals	-	-	(9)	(37)	(46)
At 31 March 2021	377	3,746	515	196	4,834
Depreciation					
At 01 January 2020	14	666	361	139	1,180
Charge for the Year	20	104	33	19	176
Eliminated on Disposals	-	-	(5)	(22)	(27)
At 31 March 2021	34	770	389	136	1,329
Net Book Value					
At 31 March 2021	343	2,976	126	60	3,505
At 31 December 2019	307	2,913	145	53	3,418
Charity					
	Freehold & Leasehold Land	Freehold Buildings	Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost or Donated Value					
At 01 January 2020	321	3,579	360	164	4,424
Additions	-	167	7	41	215
Disposals	-	-	-	(24)	(24)
At 31 March 2021	321	3,746	367	181	4,615
Depreciation					
At 01 January 2020	14	666	277	120	1,077
Charge for the Year	3	104	22	19	148
Eliminated on Disposals	-	-	-	(18)	(18)
At 31 March 2021	17	770	299	121	1,207
Net Book Value					
At 31 March 2021	304	2,976	68	60	3,408
At 31 December 2019	307	2,913	83	44	3,347

The Trust acquired a 125 year lease at the Roaches on 1 May 2013. This has been included in freehold and leasehold land rather than as a heritage asset as the land is not owned by the Trust and is to be written off over the term of the lease.

14 Heritage assets

The Trust's nature reserves are held to advance the conservation objectives of the charity and therefore are recognised as Heritage assets. Such assets are central to the achievements of the Trust. Purchased heritage assets are included in the balance sheet at cost. Donated assets are only included in the balance sheet where a reliable valuation can be obtained at the date of donation.

The following nature reserves have been purchased or donated throughout the life of the Trust.

Date	Reserve	Cost £'000
1970-2000	Loynton Moss	138
1975	Castern Wood	16
1981-1996	Black Brook	201
1984	Doxey Marshes - Tillington Pasture	5
1987	Pasturefields	32
1987-2003	Brown End Quarry	4
1988	Doxey Marshes - Cadbury Pasture	28
1993	Doxey Marshes - Central Pastures	1
1993-1995	Rod Wood	45
1994	Weags Barn	53
1996	Colwich	4
1996	Black Firs and Cranberry Bog	4
1997	Doxey Marshes - Tillington Meadow	52
1997	Oakwood Pastures	39
1998	Hem Heath & Parrots Drumble	21
1999	Cotton Dell	88
1999	Doxey Marshes - Darling Pasture	65
1999-2000	Black Heath & Casey Bank	99
Pre-2000	Bateswood	5
2002	Newstead Wood	9
2002-2003	Thorswood	186
2004	Radford Meadows	122
2006	Croxall Lakes	9
2007	Brankley Pastures	304
2009	Highgate Common	-
2010	Black Brook	31
2013	Tucklesholme	339
2015	Shawside	88
2016	Nan's Wood	25
2016	Hazel Barrow	108
2017	Hem Heath - Wedgwood	10
2019	Knotbury Common	79
2019	Gun Moor	162
2020	Craddock's Moss	78
		<u>2,450</u>

In addition to the purchased or donated nature reserves, the following are being leased or rented at a nominal rental.

There is a management agreement for Burnt Wood and Bleak House. Public access to the sites is generally unrestricted subject to health and safety, temporary operational or other restrictions such as within leases or conveyance documents.

	2021	2019	2018	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost Bought Forward	2,372	2,131	2,131	2,121	1,988
Purchases in the Year	78	241	-	10	133
Cost Carried Forward	2,450	2,372	2,131	2,131	2,121

15 Investments

The movement on quoted investments is as follows:

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Investments comprise:

	31 March 2021 £'000	31 December 2019 £'000
Fixed Interest Securities	100	106
UK Equities	172	173
Overseas Equities	279	243
Property Funds	31	19
Other	79	71
	<u>661</u>	<u>612</u>

The following investments are considered to be material in the context of the value of the portfolio (over £46,000):

	31 March 2021 £'000
Aberdeen Standard UK Ethical Equity Fund	59
BMO Responsible UK Equities	36
Brown Advisory US Sustainable Growth	45
Edentree Sustainable Global Equity	48
Henderson Investments Global Sustainable Equity	49
Rlum Sustainable Investments	38
	<u>275</u>

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Limited owns the entire share capital (2 ordinary shares of £1) in its subsidiary, Staffordshire Wildlife Trading Limited (company no. 03387233), which is incorporated in England.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Limited also owns the entire share capital (2 ordinary shares of £1) in its subsidiary, Staffordshire Ecological Services Limited (company no. 06775503), which is incorporated in England. Further details concerning the activities and assets of these companies is given in note 22.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

16 Debtors

	Group		Charity	
	31 March 2021	31 December 2019	31 March 2021	31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Trade Debtors	90	45	90	40
Amounts Due from Subsidiary Companies	-	-	169	186
Other Debtors	1	-	-	-
Prepayments and Accrued Income	394	767	387	750
	<u>485</u>	<u>812</u>	<u>646</u>	<u>976</u>

17 Investments – Current assets

Group and Company	31 March 2021	31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000
COIF Charities Deposit Fund at CCLA Investment Management Limited	5	5
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

18 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Charity	
	31 March 2021	31 December 2019	31 March 2021	31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Trade Creditors	6	80	2	65
Other Creditors	163	31	160	25
Other Taxes and Social Security	67	55	65	66
HLF Creditor	-	-	-	-
Accruals and Deferred Income	207	167	198	153
	<u>443</u>	<u>333</u>	<u>425</u>	<u>309</u>

Deferred income

Included within Accruals and Deferred Income is deferred income relating to membership subscriptions paid in advance and annual partnership payments to projects paid in advance.

	Group £'000	Charity £'000
Balance at 1st January 2020	104	104
Amount released to income received from charitable activities	(104)	(104)
Amount deferred in the period	73	73
Balance at 31st March 2021	<u>73</u>	<u>73</u>



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

19 Creditors: Amounts falling due in more than one year

	Group		Charity	
	31 March 2021	31 December 2019	31 March 2021	31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Amount Due to Esmee Fairbairn Foundation	75	149	75	149
Coronavirus Bounce Back Loan	50	-	-	-
	<u>125</u>	<u>149</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>149</u>

20 Restricted funds – Projects

These funds have been set aside for specific projects. These projects may arise out of the Trust's ongoing activities, or the Trust may be asked to carry out a specific task. Either way, at some stage in the project, grants and donations will have been received specific to that project. Therefore once a project is commenced any funds allocated to it are restricted to that fund. It is anticipated that these funds will be used over the coming months and years as the expenditure for which these funds were raised is incurred. There are therefore many small funds and for the purposes of statutory reporting these have been grouped together under two main headings.

Group and Company	Balance 01 Jan 2020	Incomings	Outgoings	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 2021
	£'000				£'000
Conservation Delivery	700	1,092	(806)	(3)	983
Living Landscapes	252	1,788	(1,435)	-	605
Education	19	159	(87)	-	91
	<u>971</u>	<u>3,039</u>	<u>(2,328)</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>1,679</u>

The following funds of £46,000 or more (individual or cumulative) were received in support of projects:

Funder	Project	Amount £'000
Biffa Award	Learning Hub at The Wolseley Centre	80
EA	Natural Flood Management	125
EA	Transforming the Trent Valley	173
EA	Stoke and Urban Newcastle: Rediscovering Its Secret Environments	512
ERDF	Stoke and Urban Newcastle: Rediscovering Its Secret Environments	675
Highways England	Stafford Brooks	88
National Lottery	Transforming the Trent Valley	356
Severn Trent	Water for Wellbeing	63
Severn Trent	Trent Vale Environment Undertaking	307
		<u>2,379</u>

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust has received funding of less than £46,000 during 2020-21 from the following funders:

Accelerate Learning Training & Resource Services; Aggregate Industries UK Ltd; The Arts Council; Audley Parish Council; Barton Under Needwood and Dunstall Key Trust; Biffa Award; Cannock Chase District Council; Children in Need; DEFRA; Derbyshire Environment Trust; East Staffordshire Borough Council; The Edward Cadbury Trust; Ernest Cook Trust; Groundwork UK; Hanson Aggregates; Hednesford Town Council; Historic England; Lafarge Tarmac UK; Lichfield District Council; National Forest; National Lottery Community Fund; National Trust; Natural England; Newcastle Borough Council; RSWT; Rugeley Power Ltd; Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council; South Staffordshire Plc; Sports England; Stafford Borough Council; Staffordshire County Council; Staffordshire Moorland District Council; Staffordshire Police and Crime Commissioner; Stoke on Trent City Council; Tamworth Borough Council; Veolia; The Woodland Trust.

21 Endowment Funds

These are funds which will have arisen from an Appeal, or from a specific donation, or from grants. The funds have been used to acquire the sites operated and the headquarters. There are also donations of fixed assets which have been valued, and the valuation placed here.

Group and Company	Balance 01 Jan 2020	Incomings	Outgoings	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 2021
	£'000				£'000
Black Brook	198	-	-	-	198
The Roaches	273	-	-	-	273
Black Firs	4	-	-	-	4
Black Heath	34	-	-	-	34
Brankley	304	-	-	-	304
Brown End Quarry	4	-	-	-	4
Casey Bank	63	-	-	-	63
Castern Wood	4	-	-	-	4
Colwich Brickworks	4	-	-	-	4
Cotton Dell	87	-	-	-	87
Croxall	7	-	-	-	7
Doxey Marshes	138	-	-	-	138
Hazel Barrow	108	-	-	-	108
Hem Heath	18	-	-	-	18
Highgate Common	220	-	-	-	220
Loynton: Shooting Rights	44	-	-	-	44
Loynton Moss	137	-	-	-	137
Oakwood Pastures	39	-	-	-	39
Nan's Wood	25	-	-	-	25
Newstead	10	-	-	-	10
Pasturefields	22	-	-	-	22
Radford	122	-	-	-	122
Rod Wood	45	-	-	-	45
Shawside	88	-	-	-	88
Thorswood	96	-	-	-	96
Tucklesholme	285	-	-	-	285
Weag's Barn	52	-	-	-	52
Westport Undercroft	76	-	-	-	76
Wolseley Gatehouse	154	-	-	-	154
Wolseley HQ	813	-	-	-	813
	3,474	-	-	-	3,474



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

22 Unrestricted funds

These funds have been set aside for projects that are not fully funded by restricted income. Any unspent funds will be spent over the coming years as the expenditure for which these funds have been set aside is incurred.

	Balance 01 Jan 2020 £'000	Incomings	Outgoings	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 2021 £'000
Designated Funds - Projects					
- Conservation Delivery	850	127	(256)	30	751
	850	127	(256)	30	751
General Funds	2,613	2,699	(2,825)	(27)	2,460
Total Unrestricted Funds	3,463	2,826	(3,081)	3	3,211

23 Trading companies

The following activities are carried out by 'Staffordshire Wildlife Trading Limited':

- Operation of a cafe and conference facilities at Westport Lake Visitor Centre in Burslem. The building is on stilts and overlooks a large lake.
- Running a Visitor Centre, café, retail shop and conference facilities at the Trust's Headquarters at Wolseley Bridge
- Running three charity shops across the county, selling mainly donated goods.
- An online shop which sells retail goods especially in the run up to Christmas
- Leasing of vehicles
- A SWT lottery, which is drawn every week and awards three prizes for each draw.

Staffordshire Wildlife Trading Limited entered into no sales or purchases with any of the other members of the group in the year.

At the period end Staffordshire Wildlife Trading Limited owed £ 168,757 (2019: £ 171,561) to its parent company. This debt is made up of payments and receipts that have been received and paid by suppliers to/from the wrong group member, as well as liabilities arising under group arrangements.

22 Trading companies (continued)

The statutory income statement and statement of financial position of Staffordshire Wildlife Trading Limited were as follows:

Staffordshire Wildlife Trading Limited

Income Statement
Period ended 31 March 2021

	2021 £'000	2019 £'000
Revenue	744	788
Cost of sales	(675)	(623)
Gross profit	69	165
Administrative expenses	(142)	(164)
Operating profit	(73)	1
Investment Income	-	-
Profit before taxation	(73)	1
Taxation	-	-
(Loss)/Profit for the financial year	(73)	1
Total comprehensive income for the year	(73)	1

A gift aid payment of £Nil (2019 - £Nil) was made by the subsidiary to the parent charity.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

22 Trading companies (continued)

Staffordshire Wildlife Trading Limited

Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 March 2021

	2021 £'000	2021 £'000	2019 £'000	2019 £'000
Fixed assets				
Property, Plant and Equipment		96		71
Current assets				
Stock and Work in Progress	25		35	
Trade and other receivables	8		21	
Cash at bank and in hand	44		90	
	<u>77</u>		<u>146</u>	
Current Liabilities	(189)		(210)	
Net current liabilities		<u>(112)</u>		<u>(64)</u>
Long term liabilities		(50)		-
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>(66)</u>		<u>7</u>
Equity				
Called up share capital		-		-
Retained Earnings		(66)		7
Total Equity		<u>(66)</u>		<u>7</u>



22 **Trading companies** (continued)

Staffordshire Ecological Services Limited

The principal activity of Staffordshire Ecological Services Limited was that of providing environmental consultancy services. This company ceased trading on 30 September 2015.

Staffordshire Ecological Services Limited entered into no sales or purchases with any of the other members of the group in the year.

At the period end Staffordshire Ecological Services Limited owed £Nil (2019: £Nil) to its parent company. This debt was made up of charges for premises, staff and management costs that were not recharged before it ceased trading. However, due to the fact that the company will not trade for the foreseeable future and will not, therefore, be in a position to repay the debt, the loan has been impaired. The amount owed between Staffordshire Wildlife Trading and Staffordshire Ecological Services has now been transferred and included as a balance between Staffordshire Wildlife Trading and the parent company.

Staffordshire Ecological Services Limited remained dormant throughout the period ended 31 March 2021.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

22 Trading companies (continued)

Staffordshire Ecological Services Limited

Statement of financial position
As at 31 March 2021

	2021 £'000	2021 £'000	2019 £'000	2019 £'000
Fixed assets				
Property, Plant and Equipment				
Current assets				
Trade and other receivables	-	-	-	-
Cash at bank and in hand	1	1	1	1
	<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>	
Current Liabilities	-	-	-	-
	<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net current assets		1		1
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>
Equity				
Called up share capital	-	-	-	-
Retained Earnings	1	1	1	1
	<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>	
Total Equity		<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>

Both Staffordshire Wildlife Trading Limited and Staffordshire Ecological Services Limited are wholly owned subsidiaries of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Limited

23 **Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted	Restricted		Total
		Projects	Capital	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Tangible fixed assets	2,091	-	1,414	3,505
Heritage assets	166	-	2,284	2,450
Long-term investments	681	-	-	681
Stock and work in progress	25	-	-	25
Debtors	297	188	-	485
Cash at bank and in hand	226	1,423	132	1,781
Short-term investments	5	-	-	5
Current liabilities	(230)	(64)	(149)	(443)
Long term liability	(50)	-	(75)	(125)
Total net assets	3,211	1,547	3,606	8,364
Revaluation reserve included within long-term investments	97	-	-	97

24 **Members guarantee**

The liability of each member is limited to £1.

25 **Local and special interest groups**

Within the overall operation of the Trust there exists some 20 local and special interest groups. These local and special interest groups are autonomous, and responsible for their own financial matters. They organise their own fundraising activities, cover their own running costs, and make contributions to the Trust as and when funds are available. Their results have not been incorporated within these figures. An exception to this is the special interest group, Barn Owl Action Group, which is a larger operation than other local and special interest groups. In the case of this, the group's operations have been included as a restricted fund within the Trust's financial statements.

26 **Contingent liabilities**

There are certain covenants in respect of projects and sites which require that if the land is sold any funding would be returned to the funder. Land and buildings can be viewed as permanent assets of the Trust and have not been acquired for onward selling. It is therefore unlikely that these covenants will ever be breached and a liability incurred.



NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (continued)
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

27 Financial instruments

	Group		Charity	
	31 March 2021	31 December 2019	31 March 2021	31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Financial Assets				
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit or loss	685	634	685	634
Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost	2,231	1,880	2,186	1,957
	<u>2,916</u>	<u>2,514</u>	<u>2,871</u>	<u>2,591</u>
Financial Liabilities				
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	570	229	418	149

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise investments.

Financial assets that are debt instruments measured at amortised cost comprise trade debtors, cash at bank, amounts owed by group undertakings, other debtors and accrued income.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise trade creditors, amounts owed to group undertakings, taxation and social security, other creditors and accruals.

28 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 March 2021 the charity had non-cancellable commitments under operating leases which fall due as follows:

	Land and Buildings		Other	
	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019	15 Months ended 31 March 2021	Year Ended 31 December 2019
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Within 1 year	37	22	-	-
Within 2-5 years	42	43	-	-
	<u>79</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>



29 Reconciliation of cash inflow from operating activities

	31 March 2021 £'000	31 December 2019 £'000
Profit for the financial year	456	646
Depreciation	176	106
Unrealised gains on investments	(25)	(62)
Non-cash donation	-	-
(Profit) / Loss on disposal	(34)	(19)
Investment income	(14)	(20)
Decrease / (increase) in trade and other debtors	327	(284)
Decrease / (increase) in stock	10	(14)
Increase / (decrease) in trade creditors	(39)	43
Net cash flow from operating activities	857	396

30 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	31 March 2021 £'000	31 December 2019 £'000
Cash at bank and in hand	1,781	1,119
Cash on short term deposit	5	5
Cash held as part of investment portfolio	20	17
	1,806	1,141

31 Related party transactions

There are no related party transactions that require disclosure under FRS 102.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Staffordshire Wildlife Trust Limited (the "parent charitable company") and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the period ended 31 March 2021 which comprise the consolidated and parent Statement of Financial Activities, the consolidated and parent Balance Sheet, the consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102: The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group and of the parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2021 and of the group and parent's charity's income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the group and parent charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the group and charity's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information; we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, incorporating the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report, incorporating the directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and charity and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Annual Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and proper accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

Responsibilities of the trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 18 the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group and charity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.



INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [\[www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities\]](https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Charity's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Charity's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Azets Audit Services

John Hegney FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Azets Audit Services

Rumer Hill Business Estate

Rumer Hill

Cannock

West Midlands

WS11 0ET

1/12/21

Date

Azets Audit Services (formerly Baldwins Audit Services) is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

**APPENDIX – DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED FUNDS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Restricted Fund Income and Balances

	Balance 01 Jan 2020 £'000	Incomings	Outgoings	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 2021 £'000
Conservation Delivery					
Action for Invertebrates	-	20	(1)	-	19
Badger Vaccinations	1	1	-	-	2
Barn Owl Action Group	8	1	(2)	-	7
Branston Leas	64	44	(45)	-	63
Catchment Based Approach	9	325	(14)	-	320
Central Rivers initiative	(6)	6	-	-	-
Churnet Valley Area Projects	41	-	-	-	41
Crayfish	17	7	(11)	-	13
Craddock's Moss	-	76	(12)	-	64
Environmental Land Management Test & Trials	(2)	8	(4)	(2)	-
Facilitation Funds	20	18	(1)	(43)	(6)
Gentleshaw Common	87	42	(63)	-	66
Gun Moor	30	46	(8)	-	68
Local Records Centre	186	121	(92)	-	215
Highgate	14	-	-	-	14
Knotbury Common	72	8	(11)	-	69
Mammal Group	2	1	-	-	3
Natural Flood Management	35	170	(114)	-	91
Peatland Fund	(16)	16	(44)	-	(44)
Scotch Brook	26	9	(50)	(22)	(37)
Stafford Brooks	-	88	(125)	-	(37)
Staffordshire Flora	7	-	-	-	7
Staffordshire Moorlands DC sites	(9)	-	-	-	(9)
Stoke and Urban Newcastle	151	1,185	(1,152)	-	184
Transforming the Trent Valley	60	603	(283)	-	380
Trent Valley 'Living Legacy'	50	-	(2)	-	48
Tucklesholme	27	13	(71)	-	(31)
Water for Wildlife	-	-	(3)	-	(3)
Weir Work	78	-	(2)	-	76
Wild About Tamworth	(1)	13	(17)	-	(5)
Wildlife Sites	1	49	(114)	64	-
Postcode Climate Challenge	-	10	-	-	10
	<u>952</u>	<u>2,880</u>	<u>(2,241)</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>1,588</u>

Education

Aiming High	1	-	(1)	-	-
Building Better Opportunities	(5)	5	-	-	-
Children in Need	10	36	(31)	-	15
Green Influencer	-	19	(8)	-	11
Strong Roots, Better Futures	-	21	(15)	-	6
Water for Wellbeing	-	63	(4)	-	59
Wildchild	17	(17)	-	-	-
Wildchild - South West Peak	(4)	32	(28)	-	-
	<u>19</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>(87)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>91</u>

Total Restricted Funds

<u>971</u>	<u>3,039</u>	<u>(2,328)</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>1,679</u>
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This page does not form part of the statutory accounts on which the auditors have reported.



**APPENDIX – DETAILED BREAKDOWN OF RESTRICTED AND DESIGNATED FUNDS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Designated Project Fund Income and Balances

	Balance 01 Jan 2020 £'000	Incomings	Outgoings	Transfers	Balance 31 Mar 2021 £'000
Conservation Delivery					
Allimore	1	-	(1)	-	-
Bateswood	9	-	(1)	-	8
Black Brook	1	-	-	-	1
Black Firs	2	-	-	-	2
Bleak House	-	25	(39)	-	(14)
Brankley Pastures	70	-	(3)	-	67
Branston Leas	-	-	-	-	-
Brown End Quarry	4	-	-	-	4
Castern Wood	17	-	-	-	17
Cotton Dell & Side Farm	29	1	(1)	-	29
Colwich	-	-	-	-	-
Croxall	2	3	(4)	-	1
Doxey Marshes	111	2	(4)	-	109
Gentleshaw	25	4	(9)	-	20
Georges Hayes	6	-	(1)	-	5
Harston	3	-	-	-	3
Hem Heath	21	(1)	(3)	-	17
Highgate	359	27	(75)	-	311
Ipstones Edge	11	-	-	-	11
Jacksons Coppice	-	-	(3)	-	(3)
Loynton	6	9	-	-	15
Natural Flood Management	-	-	-	-	-
Newbold South	6	-	(1)	-	5
Parrots Drumble	1	-	-	-	1
Pasturefields	2	(1)	-	-	1
Radford Meadows	34	(1)	-	-	33
Roaches	21	54	(101)	30	4
Rod Wood	6	1	-	-	7
Shawside	74	-	(1)	-	73
Thorswood	27	3	(9)	-	21
Tucklesholme	-	-	-	-	-
Weag's Barn	2	1	-	-	3
	850	127	(256)	30	751

This page does not form part of the statutory accounts on which the auditors have reported.

**APPENDIX – GLOSSARY OF TERMS
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 MARCH 2021**

Acronyms used within the financial statements

AGM	Annual General Meeting
CaBA	Catchment Based Approach (Partnership for River Catchments)
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CIN	Children in Need
CVLLP	Churnet Valley Living Landscape Partnership
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
FRC	Financial Reporting Council
FRS	Financial Reporting Standard
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
HLF	Heritage Lottery Fund (Now National Lottery Heritage Fund)
HS2	High Speed 2
ISA	International Standards on Auditing
LEI	Landscape Enhancement Initiative
NFM	Natural Flood Management
NLHF	National Lottery Heritage Fund (formerly Heritage Lottery Fund)
RSWT	The Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SER	Staffordshire Ecological Record
SMDC	Staffordshire Moorlands District Council
SOFA	Statement of Financial Activities
SORP	Statement of Recommended Practice (for Charity Reporting)
SSSI	A Site of Special Scientific Interest
SUNLL	Stoke and Urban Newcastle Living Landscape
SUNRISE	Stoke and Urban Newcastle: Rediscovering its Secret Environments
SWP	South West Peak
SWT	Staffordshire Wildlife Trust
TTTV	Transforming the Trent Valley
TWVP	Tame Valley Wetlands Partnership
WEG	Water Environment Grant

This page does not form part of the statutory accounts on which the auditors have reported.

