

THE COUNTRYSIDE EDUCATION TRUST

England & Wales · Charity number 269546

Details

Status Registered

Legal form Trust

Registered 1975-06-30

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

Contact

Address Finance Department
John Montagu Building
Beaulieu Brockenhurst
Hampshire
SO42 7ZN

Phone 01590614632

Email mail@cet.org.uk

Website www.cet.org.uk

Activities

Objects: (A) TO PROVIDE OR PROMOTE THE PROVISION OF FACILITIES WHEREBY THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL AND YOUNG PERSONS IN PARTICULAR MAY GAIN ACCESS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE IN GENERAL AND TO BEAULIEU MANOR AND THE NEW FOREST IN PARTICULAR AND WHEREBY THEY MAY BE EDUCATED ABOUT THE COUNTRYSIDE IN GENERAL AND ABOUT MATTERS CONCERNING THE COUNTRYSIDE AND THE ENJOYMENT THEREOF. (B) TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE AND TO STIMULATE PUBLIC INTEREST IN AND CARE FOR THE BEAUTY AND CHARACTER OF THE COUNTRYSIDE. (C) THE CONSERVATION OF THE NEW FOREST INCLUDING IN PARTICULAR THE RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION OF BUILDINGS OF NATIONAL HISTORIC OR SCIENTIFIC INTEREST.

Activities: The Countryside Education Trust helps children and adults understand, protect and conserve the countryside. Home Farm is its residential centre, with an educational farm, garden, and orchard. The new Fort Climate Centre focuses on climate education. Nearby Treehouse classrooms in ancient woodland inspire broader environmental activities. Ensuring fair access for all is central to its mission.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Buildings/facilities/open Space, Provides Services, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** General Charitable Purposes, Education/training, The Advancement Of Health Or Saving Of Lives, The Prevention Or Relief Of Poverty, Arts/culture/heritage/science, Animals, Environment/conservation/heritage, Recreation, Other Charitable Purposes
- **Who:** Children/young People, Elderly/old People, People With Disabilities, The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£385,414	£507,044	-	-
2023-12-31	£547,501	£494,327	£1,021,987	12
2022-12-31	£610,961	£417,168	£968,813	11
2021-12-31	£358,163	£323,572	-	-
2020-12-31	£419,360	£408,133	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Philip Johnson	Chair	2023-04-27
Guy Pitt-Hardacre		2023-07-13
Krista Burwood		2022-07-01
LORD RALPH MONTAGU OF BEAULIEU		
Malcolm Wade		2018-01-18
Margaret Claire Lee		2023-12-14
Owen Turgoose		2023-12-14
Stuart William Newey		2023-12-14

THE COUNTRYSIDE EDUCATION TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 269546

Accounts

The Countryside Education Trust Annual Report and Accounts 2024



Charity Number 269546



Pond-dipping during stream study, October 2024

The Countryside Education Trust

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The Countryside Education Trust

Legal and administrative information For the year ended 31 December 2024

Trustees	Lord Montagu of Beaulieu A Moore-Gwyn (resigned 4 July 2024) R Channell (resigned 4 July 2024) N Burt M Wade K Burwood P Johnson (appointed Chair 27 March 2025) G Hardacre C Lee O Turgoose S Newey V Edwards (appointed 26 January 2024 and resigned 13 March 2025) P Foster (appointed 4 April 2024 and resigned 12 September 2024)
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The Countryside Education Trust is a tenant of Lord Montagu and the Beaulieu Estate.

Charity Commission registration number	269546
Registered office	John Montagu Building Beaulieu Hampshire SO42 7ZN
Independent Examiners	Saffery LLP Midland House 2 Poole Road Bournemouth BH2 5QY
Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc 4 th Floor, Block A Apex Plaza Forbury Road Reading RG1 1AX

The Countryside Education Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 December 2024

Objectives of the Countryside Education Trust

The Countryside Education Trust (269546) was founded in 1975. Its objectives and activities are to:

- Provide or promote the provision of facilities so that the public and young people in particular, can gain access to the countryside, especially the Beaulieu Estate and the New Forest: and that they can both enjoy and be educated about the countryside;
- Protect, preserve and care for the beauty and character of the countryside and to stimulate the general public to do the same
- Conserve the New Forest for the benefit of the public, including the restoration and preservation of buildings of national, historic or scientific interest.

Our Mission

The Countryside Education Trust enables meaningful and enjoyable access to the countryside for all, particularly those who are the most disadvantaged, through excellent teaching and access to well-cared for special places. We connect people with the countryside.

Public Benefit

The Trustees believe that the charity operates under the following sections of the Charities' Act 2011 and has a long tradition of ensuring maximum access to its services:

- The advancement of education
- The advancement of environmental protection or improvement
- The advancement of citizenship or community development
- The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

Public benefit is evident in the wide variety of ages and backgrounds of people who access our services. We continually strive to make access fair and affordable.

We take seriously our commitment to ensuring that both sites are looked after to high ecological, environmental and animal welfare standards.



President's Highlights 2024

We are continuing our traditional work with schools and the public, but 2024 has been a particularly notable year for the Trust. New opportunities have resulted from collaborations with other organisations. Post pandemic, partnership is central to the way that charities need to operate, and the CET team has proved effective at this way of working.

Youth For Climate and Nature (YouCAN) funded by the National Lottery, has been one such success story. The Trust has been working with seven environmental organisations centred on the New Forest National Park, but including the cities of Southampton and Bournemouth, to provide opportunities for young people from 11-25 to engage with nature. We delivered our first Environmental Careers Taster Week in July, which covered environmental education, sustainable farming, conservation, woodland management, and community engagement, and proved a highly positive experience for participants from 16-21. Another element of YouCAN is our internship programme, and in November we offered a paid residential week to interns who worked collectively on a variety of joint tasks and delivered individual projects for the Trust subsequently. Beyond these initiatives, YouCAN has supported community events, staff costs and long-term roles for two young people at the beginning of their environmental education careers. As well as financial support, the development opportunities for our team have been incalculable and relationships with colleagues in associated charities and the National Park have deepened.

I am delighted to report the early success of the Fort Climate Centre during 2024, its first full year of operations since its opening by HRH The Countess of Wessex. In total, 2000 people visited, including all schools using the residential centre. Each school spends time in the centre during the stay, and the children leave with more ideas about how their behaviour can help the planet. Beyond that, the Fort Climate Centre is becoming a hub for positive conversations about climate change as well as a venue for lectures and public events. It is a popular space for local organisations, and this year Southampton University, New Forest National Park (almost every month, including running their Green Leaders Course here), New Forest Land Advice Service, New Forest Business Partnership, and the New Forest Marke have all visited.

The Countryside Education Trust's work around conservation has taken a more central place during the year, one good example being land on the Beaulieu Estate which had been degraded by previous management regimes. Volunteers pulled ragwort before a conservation grazing regime was instituted, focussed especially on the Trust's prize-winning Shetlands, and the difference is notable even at this early stage. This experiment will provide a good case study for local farmers and especially the general public.

2025 will see the implementation of the first phase of a new strategy, centred on 'People for Nature, and Nature for People' as well as the opportunity to celebrate 50 years of the Countryside Education Trust, a major achievement for the small charity imagined by my father, Edward Lord Montagu, in 1975.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu
President & Trustee

Activities

Education is central to the identity of the Trust, whether formal education with schools or through the Trust's work with the wider community. The Trust has a residential centre with a capacity of 44, the Fort Climate Centre, a small farm, heritage orchard and remarkable ancient woodlands, with our award-winning Treehouses.

Residential school visits were 10% weaker this year largely due a drop to only 27 children per class attending, from an earlier average of 32. On the positive side, the Trust managed to fund 27% of all visits fully or partly, ensuring that children from the most challenged backgrounds did not miss out on an opportunity to experience a residential with all the social, cultural and educational benefits these confer.

Day visits remain popular, especially the stream study; the Hartford Stream rises on the heath just above our site, which means that young people can walk the course of the stream all the way to the Beaulieu River, perfect for scientific enquiry as well as an opportunity to explore semi-ancient woodland, and one of the best habitats for a host of rare flora and fauna, some only found in the New Forest.



Water science in action, Hartford Wood, 2024

Community education had a successful year, especially as a result of major projects with the Lottery, which Lord Montagu has highlighted, and with the Environment Agency. Championing Coastal Coordination was a stand-out success in 2024. The focus of this project was the 18.5km stretch of New Forest National Park coastline running east of the Lymington River to Calshot, much of the land designated as SSSI, SPA and SAC. Not only is this at high risk due to climate change, but policy also currently indicates

that it will not attract public funding. People locally have various degrees of understanding about this, so the Championing Coastal Coordination project aimed to begin to engage the local community and inform local landowners of the threats and opportunities around mitigations. One to one conversations with landowners provided a good baseline for future collaborative efforts, and a series of public events focussed on the theme of 'Our Coast'.



The winners (adult, youth and child) with Lord Montagu

These ranged from lectures ('Archaeology of the Western Solent' and 'Climate Change and Wildlife') to a photography competition and exhibition, and a vox pop film (by an intern) asking coastal users about their relationship with the coastline. Conservation efforts included young people aged 10-14 making and painting terns for deployment to attract nesting birds, to a beach clean with over 130 people. The project also afforded the development of education and interpretation materials.



At work creating music in the Treehouses with Oliver Tarney

This year with the support of the Arts Council and Culture in Common, the Trust launched the New Forest Song. Working with a professional conductor, composer and librettist, the project seeks to turn the words of local children into a song series, celebrating the New Forest. The children either visit one of our sites, or we visit the school, and in the spring the inaugural concert was held, bringing together local schools to sing the songs they had worked on. This project will reach 12 schools and homeschool groups over the course of the project.

The Trust continues to run fully subscribed children's clubs, from our OWLs clubs (0-13 year olds, Owlets, Little Owls, Big Owls and Eagle Owls) to the after-school Farm Club, where the children, mainly from non-farming backgrounds, can help on the farm, developing into proficient young sheep handlers. We offer a wide and growing range of opportunities for young people to become involved, from work experience for year 10s and students at local colleges, youth volunteering and several paid internships each year.



Teaching coppicing techniques to interns, November 2024

Home Farm is a small-holding based on a Victorian model farm, but it provides the perfect teaching base for schools and adults as we have a small number of many different animals. Our growing success is in breeding pedigree Shetland sheep, a perfect breed for the farm's clay fields as they are light on their feet, good mothers and relatively sociable. These small sheep come in a wide variety (30+) of colours and markings, which means that we have a genetic laboratory laid out in front of visitors on the farm for teaching purposes. They are also excellent conservation grazers. As well as more conventional farmers, we are commoners too, so the education offering focusses on the ancient traditions and language built into the history of the New Forest landscape. The Trust, as Commoners, can graze pigs and ponies on the Forest.

These farming connections are demonstrated in the fact that the New Forest Southern Cluster is based in the Fort Climate Centre, 17 farmers, tenants and land agents looking to achieve landscape scale climate and environment change through collaboration. Early work centres on carbon audits and soil health, but the Cluster has the potential to deliver real environmental change for the Forest.



Corporate volunteers from RWD

The Trust could not accomplish as much as it does, given its size, without the support of volunteers. We also enable corporate volunteering on both our sites during the course of the year, which adds to our capacity.

The volunteers work on the farm, in the woods, at special events, in the office and as fundraisers. Latterly a dedicated team has been renovating the Treehouses. These efforts are valued by the Trust enormously, not only providing resources and skills to which we would not otherwise have access but also embedding the Trust further into the community.



Staff, volunteers and Friends of the Trust gather round the fire to hear Yarrow Townsend's work as Writer-in-Residence funded by Artful Scribe and the New Forest National Park

What does the future hold?

2024 saw the creation of a new strategic plan to establish the Countryside Education Trust's priorities. Several Trustees served their full term this year, and our longstanding chair, Lord Montagu, moved to become President of the Trust. We appointed an experienced interim Chair in Dr. Victoria Edwards, who shepherded the Trust through the year before moving aside for a new Chair, Mr. Phil Johnson. He arrived with the benefit of a history of working as the longstanding Finance Director at Beaulieu Enterprises Ltd, and consequently overseeing the production of the Countryside Education Trust's Accounts for many years before heading up the Charity's Finance, Risk and Governance Committee since 2023. His appointment lends stability to the Trust in a period of change.

Principal Sources of Income

Although based on Beaulieu Estate's land and with a generous mix of direct and indirect support from the Estate, the Countryside Education Trust is an independent charity.

2024 continued the trend of seeking more diverse funding sources. We received £198,000 from The National Lottery project, Youth for Climate and Nature, continued with our partners from across the region, bringing the Trust to the centre of exciting work with young people interested in the environmental sector for three years concluding in 2026. We were successful, again alongside the in gaining £36,000 of funding from Championing Coastal Coordination, an Environment Agency initiative. Given that the coastline from Lymington to Lepe is not likely to be defended by the public purse, it is important for local communities to understand the impact of rising sea levels here.

The Ernest Cook Trust Outdoor Week of Learning continued, funding a research project and places for young people who would not otherwise have the opportunity to spend time in the countryside; this is a really important initiative which has now been extended to 2027 and provides benefits well beyond the funding in terms of links with other centre, intellectual engagement and research. We were also grateful to the support of the Fort Foundation with costs associated with the Fort Climate Centre. The Beaulieu Beaufort Foundation kindly paid for wood for our Treehouse renovations, unlocking many hours of volunteering. Various family trusts who wish to remain anonymous also supported our work, and we are very grateful to them too.

We have a team of volunteers who help with fundraising events, and once again the Chef's Night was a great success; one of the objectives of 2025 is that we should explore new possibilities for fundraising events.

Weddings at the Treehouse were more modest than in previous years, but more in keeping with the values of the Trust, with couples appreciating the setting, and we also hosted a series of wellbeing events in the woods.

Renting the residential centre to non-school groups is a valuable source of income and also created opportunities for people to connect to the countryside, as did the holiday cottage, through animal feeding. Event income was low key, as we were not sufficiently staffed for larger public events, but the pop-up shop did well. We certainly need to diversify income streams, which will be part of the new strategy review 2025-2028.

Sadly, we had to return one large grant of £25,000 as we were unable to spend the funds.

Risk management

Risks are reviewed by Trustees on a regular basis. The major risks during 2024 revolved around a volatile world, in which environmental education for funders and for potential visitors was not a priority.

Reserves Policy

The Trust holds total funds of £900,357 (2023: £1,021,987) at the year end, of which £426,456 (2023: £546,277) are restricted. Free reserves are arrived at by adjusting for the fixed assets required to continue to operate the Trust of £473,901 (2023: £475,710). Free reserves therefore amounted to a deficit of £1,809 (2023: deficit of £101,156). Trustees aspire to hold three months of operating costs in reserves but this is challenging at the current time and we will seek to aim for this during 2025. After making enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to operate in the future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is governed by a Trust Deed and is an Unincorporated Association. The Montagu Family is entitled to chair or be represented on the governing board as founders. No other body has the ability to be automatically represented. Trustees are recruited through advertising and recommendation. As part of the recruitment process, they receive a briefing from the CEO, a tour of both sites and are interviewed by two or three Trustees, before being appointed by the Chair on behalf of the board.

As well as the main board, a new Finance, Governance and Risk Committee was created during 2023, which will support the board and the governance of the charity.

Services are contracted out where it is cost effective, including for IT, Finance, HR and website support. Weddings used to be run by an outside contractor, but we have utilised a freelancer to deliver weddings since 2023.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity, and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity 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 judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable group will continue in operation.

The Countryside Education Trust

**Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the trustees on 22/10/25 and signed on their behalf by:



Phil Johnson
Chair

The Countryside Education Trust

Independent examiner's report To the trustees of Countryside Education Trust

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



Casidhe Baleri ACA CTA
For and on behalf of Saffery LLP

Date: 28 October 2025

Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth Dorset BH2 5QY

The Countryside Education Trust

Statement of financial activities For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	54,400	107,034	161,434	326,811
Charitable activities	5	-	163,419	163,419	155,150
Other trading activities	3,4	-	59,178	59,178	63,171
Other income		-	1,383	1,383	2,369
Total income		54,400	331,014	385,414	547,501
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds:					
Voluntary income	6	-	26,426	26,426	23,452
Fundraising trading	6	-	39,986	39,986	26,542
Charitable activities	6	174,221	266,411	440,632	444,333
Total expenditure		174,221	332,823	507,044	494,327
Net (expenditure)/income before transfers		(119,821)	(1,809)	(121,630)	53,174
Transfers between funds	15	-	-	-	-
Net movement of funds		(119,821)	(1,809)	(121,630)	53,174
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds at 1 January 2024		546,277	475,710	1,021,987	968,813
Total funds at 31 December 2024		426,456	473,901	900,357	1,021,987

All activities relate to continuing operations.

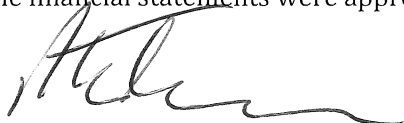
The notes on pages 16 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

The Countryside Education Trust

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2024

	Note	£	2024 £	£	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		754,665		766,740
Current assets					
Stock	11	13,784		13,995	
Debtors	12	181,772		279,276	
Cash at bank and in hand		65,147		122,973	
			260,703		416,244
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(96,056)		(135,997)	
Net current assets			164,647		280,247
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14		(18,955)		(25,000)
Net assets			900,357		1,021,987
Represented by:					
Restricted funds	15		426,456		546,277
Unrestricted funds	15		473,901		475,710
Total funds			900,357		1,021,987

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 28/10/25 and signed on their behalf by:



Phil Johnson
Chair

The notes on pages 16 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

The Countryside Education Trust

Statement of cash flows For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Net cash (absorbed in)/provided by operating activities	17	(27,774)	(8,507)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(20,885)	(40,010)
Net cash used in investing activities		(20,885)	(40,010)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Loan repayments		(9,167)	(10,000)
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		(9,167)	(10,000)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(57,826)	(58,517)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		122,973	181,490
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		65,147	122,973

The notes on pages 16 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The Countryside Education Trust is an unincorporated charity. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019 and Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and Charities Act 2011.

Countryside Education Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the charity is a going concern. The Trustees have considered the current uncertainties and do not believe they will impact the ability of the charity to continue its activities for the foreseeable future.

1.3 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

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

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Income (continued)

Gifts in kind donated for distribution are included at valuation and recognised as income when they are distributed to the projects. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. Donated facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings.

The cost of generating funds include the cost incurred in generating voluntary income and fundraising trading costs. These costs are regarded as necessary to generate funds that are needed to finance charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to enable the charity to meet its charitable aims and objectives. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include audit fees, legal advice for trustees and costs linked to the strategic management of the trust.

Support costs are those costs which enable the fund generating and charitable activities to be undertaken. These costs include finance, human resources, communication and professional fees. Where expenditure incurred relates to more than one cost category it is apportioned on a time or usage basis, over and above a de minimis figure.

1.6 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

1.7 Stocks

Stocks for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Stocks used as part of a charitable activity are valued at fair value. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Buildings	2-5% straight line
Machinery and equipment	5% and 20% straight line
Motor vehicles	12.5%-25% straight line

Tangible fixed assets costing less than £500 are not capitalised and are written off in the year of purchase. All assets are examined annually for potential impairment and any material deductions in value are written down at the year end.

1.9 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

1.10 Debtors

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

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.12 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 amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Concessionary loans include those payable to third parties which are interest free or below market interest rates and are received to advance charitable purposes. All loans are measured at cost, less impairment as permitted by section 34 of FRS 102.

1.13 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity to the fund in respect of the year.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2024

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Individual donors	-	105,681	105,681	58,812	24,497	83,309
Friends of CET	-	1,353	1,353	-	1,278	1,278
Grants	54,400	-	54,400	242,224	-	242,224
Total	54,400	107,034	161,434	301,036	25,775	326,811
donations and legacies						

3 Activities to generate funds

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Fundraising activities	-	6,896	6,896	-	6,785	6,785
	-	6,896	6,896	-	6,785	6,785

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

4 Trading activities

	Restricted funds 2024	Unrestricted funds 2024	Total funds 2024	Restricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Charity trading income						
Farm income	-	16,189	16,189	-	14,143	14,143
Wedding income	-	17,700	17,700	-	19,493	19,493
Holiday let income	-	18,393	18,393	-	22,750	22,750
	-	52,282	52,282	-	56,386	56,386
Charity trading expenses						
Farm purchases	-	11,250	11,250	-	12,461	12,461
Wedding purchases	-	-	-	-	527	527
Holiday let purchases	-	28,736	28,736	-	13,554	13,554
Net income/ (expenditure) from trading activities	-	12,296	12,296	-	29,844	29,844

5 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2024	Unrestricted funds 2024	Total funds 2024	Restricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Primary purpose activity:						
Residential fees	-	145,983	145,983	-	137,541	137,541
Non-residential fees and income	-	17,436	17,436	-	17,609	17,609
Total	-	163,419	163,419	-	155,150	155,150

The Countryside Education Trust

**Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

6 Total expenditure

Current Year	Staff costs (Note 9)	Other direct costs	Support costs (Note 7)	Governance costs	Total 2024
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising	-	-	26,426	-	26,426
Fundraising trading	-	39,986	-	-	39,986
	-	39,986	26,426	-	66,412
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Primary purpose trade	217,222	123,998	93,120	6,292	440,632
Governance	-	-	6,292	(6,292)	-
	217,222	163,984	125,838	-	507,044
Support staff costs	57,742		(57,742)		
	274,964		68,096		

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

6 Total expenditure (continued)

<i>Prior Year</i>	Staff costs (Note 9)	Other direct costs	Support costs (Note 7)	Governance costs	Total 2023
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising	-	-	23,452	-	23,452
Fundraising trading	-	26,542	-	-	26,542
	-	26,542	23,452	-	49,994
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Primary purpose trade	173,485	180,067	82,639	8,142	444,333
Governance	-	2,558	5,584	(8,142)	-
	173,485	209,167	111,675	-	494,327
Support staff costs	46,305		(46,305)		
	219,790		65,370		

7 Support costs

	Costs of generating voluntary income £	Primary purpose trading £	Governance £	Total 2024 £
Office costs	14,300	50,391	3,405	68,096
Staff costs	12,126	42,729	2,887	57,742
	26,426	93,120	6,292	125,838

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

7 Support costs (continued)

Prior year	Costs of generating voluntary income	Primary purpose trading	Governance	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£
Office costs	13,728	48,373	3,269	65,370
Staff costs	9,724	34,266	2,315	46,305
	<u>23,452</u>	<u>82,639</u>	<u>5,584</u>	<u>111,675</u>

8 Net incoming resources

This is stated after charging:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	32,960	33,365
Independent examiner's fee	3,000	2,550
Operating lease rentals	<u>10,680</u>	<u>5,956</u>

9 Staff employment costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	251,818	201,697
Social security costs	16,296	12,227
Other pension costs	6,850	5,866
	<u>274,964</u>	<u>219,790</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

2024	2023
Number	Number
14	12

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Key management personnel received remuneration and benefits totalling £34,469 (2023: £28,064) and pension contributions of £1,379 (2023: £1,123).

The Countryside Education Trust

**Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2024**

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Buildings	Machinery and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2024	1,127,650	178,348	61,832	1,367,830
Additions	20,885	-	-	20,885
Disposals	13,235	-	-	13,235
At 31 December 2024	<u>1,161,770</u>	<u>178,348</u>	<u>61,832</u>	<u>1,401,950</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2024	396,956	147,372	56,762	601,090
Charge for the year	27,974	3,991	995	32,960
Eliminated on Disposal	13,235	-	-	13,235
At 31 December 2024	<u>438,165</u>	<u>151,363</u>	<u>57,757</u>	<u>647,285</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2024	<u>723,606</u>	<u>26,984</u>	<u>4,075</u>	<u>754,665</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>730,694</u>	<u>30,976</u>	<u>5,070</u>	<u>766,740</u>

11 Stock

	2024	2023
	£	£
Stock	<u>13,784</u>	<u>13,995</u>

12 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	29,750	20,032
Other debtors	152,022	259,244
	<u>181,772</u>	<u>279,276</u>

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Loan	6,878	10,000
Trade creditors	14,072	4,789
Other taxation and social security	3,601	6,726
Other creditors and accruals	30,266	51,536
Deferred income	41,239	62,946
	<u>96,056</u>	<u>135,997</u>

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Bank loans	<u>18,955</u>	<u>25,000</u>

The Bounce Back loan was drawn down in July 2021. It has a term of 72 months. Capital repayments will commence 13 months following the drawdown of the loan. A capital repayment holiday has been granted for the period 8 December 2024 until 8 May 2024 with repayments made during this period being interest only. A guarantee has been provided by the UK Government under BBLs.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

15 Statement of funds

Statement of funds – current year

	At 1 January 2024 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers in/out £	At 31 December 2024 £
Designated funds – fixed assets	441,482	-	(12,985)	-	428,497
General funds					
General funds	34,228	331,014	(319,838)	-	45,404
Total unrestricted funds	475,710	331,014	(332,823)	-	473,901
Restricted funds					
Minibus Fund	1,597	-	(262)	-	1,335
Sensory Trail Project Fund	22,539	-	-	-	22,539
Bird Trail Fund	1,879	-	(470)	-	1,409
Fort Climate Centre	230,637	-	(11,019)	-	219,618
Residential Bathrooms Project	15,000	-	(1,280)	-	13,720
Treehouse Repairs Fund	9,000	4,000	-	-	13,000
YouCAN Project Fund	193,717	-	(59,025)	-	134,692
The OWL Collaboration	37,225	36,400	(59,175)	-	14,450
Green & Blue Horizons	1,186	-	(296)	-	890
Green Cascade Volunteer Programme	455	-	-	-	455
IT Equipment Fund	560	-	(314)	-	246
3C's Project Fund	32,482	8,000	(37,124)	-	3,358
Arts Council New Forest Song	-	6,000	(4,885)	-	1,115
Farming in Protected Landscapes	-	-	(371)	-	(371)
	546,277	54,400	(174,221)	-	426,456
Total funds	1,021,987	385,414	(507,044)	-	900,357

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

15 Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers in/out £	At 31 December 2023 £
Designated funds – fixed assets	456,061	-	(14,579)	-	441,482
General funds					
General funds	120,805	246,465	(376,846)	43,804	34,228
Total unrestricted funds	576,866	246,465	(391,425)	43,804	475,710
Restricted funds					
Biomass Project Fund	16,250	-	-	(16,250)	-
Home Farm Biomass	25,000	(25,000)	-	-	-
Minibus Fund	1,859	-	(262)	-	1,597
Sensory Trail Project Fund	22,374	165	-	-	22,539
Education Officer Salary Fund	36,034	-	(36,034)	-	-
Bird Trail Fund	2,349	-	(470)	-	1,879
Fort Climate Centre	209,436	49,086	(26,059)	(1,826)	230,637
Residential Bathrooms Project	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Environmental Education Fund	-	8,000	(8,000)	-	-
Treehouse Tools	20	-	(20)	-	-
Treehouse Repairs Fund	-	9,000	-	-	9,000
YouCAN Project Fund	-	198,000	(4,283)	-	193,717
The OWL Collaboration	62,625	-	-	(25,400)	37,225
Green & Blue Horizons	-	25,225	(23,711)	(328)	1,186
Green Cascade Volunteer Programme	1,000	-	(545)	-	455
IT Equipment Fund	-	560	-	-	560
3C's Project Fund	-	36,000	(3,518)	-	32,482
	391,947	301,036	(102,902)	(43,804)	546,277
Total funds	968,813	547,501	(494,327)	-	1,021,987

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

15 Statement of funds (continued)

Summary of funds – current year

	At 1 January 2024	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfer s in/out	At 31 December 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	441,482	-	(12,985)	-	428,497
General funds	34,228	331,014	(319,838)	-	45,404
	<u>475,710</u>	<u>331,014</u>	<u>(332,823)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>473,901</u>
Restricted funds	<u>546,277</u>	<u>54,400</u>	<u>(174,221)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>426,456</u>
	<u>1,021,987</u>	<u>385,414</u>	<u>(507,044)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>900,357</u>

Summary of funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfer s in/out	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	456,061	-	(14,579)	-	441,482
General funds	120,805	246,465	(376,846)	43,804	34,228
	<u>576,866</u>	<u>246,465</u>	<u>(391,425)</u>	<u>43,804</u>	<u>475,710</u>
Restricted funds	<u>391,947</u>	<u>301,036</u>	<u>(102,902)</u>	<u>(43,804)</u>	<u>546,277</u>
	<u>968,813</u>	<u>547,501</u>	<u>(494,327)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,021,987</u>

Designated funds

The fixed asset designated fund has been set up to reflect those assets held by the charity that were acquired previously with restricted funds, principally the refurbishment and development of the New Forest Study Centre, and improvements at the Out of Town Centre.

Restricted revenue funds descriptions

The Minibus fund is to help towards the purchase of a new minibus and signage.

The Sensory Trail Project Fund is to contribute towards the Sensory Trail Project.

The Bird Trail Fund is to contribute towards the building of a bird trail and hide for bird watching, together with associated display boards and cameras.

The Fort Climate Centre Fund is for building and equipping the new Fort Climate Centre Building.

Residential Bathrooms Project helping us to futureproof ourselves by kickstarting a new project to change our residential centre bathrooms so that they are suitable for a wider range of groups.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

15 Statement of funds (continued)

Treehouse Repairs Fund relates to donations towards major Treehouse Repairs Project

YouCAN Project Fund is funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for the Youth for Climate and Nature Scheme.

The OWL Collaboration fund is a four-year project aimed at disadvantaged young people enabling them to experience high quality residential Outdoor Weeks of Learning (OWLs.) Transfers reflect the funds being used to fund such OWLs.

Green and Blue Horizons Project is a National Heritage Lottery funded scheme for public engagement.

The Green Cascade Volunteer Programme aims to pass skills onto volunteers.

Championing Coastal Communities (3C's) is a project funded by the Environment Agency connecting communities with climate changes which will impact the land between Lymington and Calshot.

The New Forest Song, funded by the Arts Council, is a project enabling local schools to co-create music capturing the children's feelings about and understanding the New Forest.

The Farming in Protected Landscapes Grant provides equipment and machinery to enable better land management practices.

Other restricted funds are for various projects as outlined in the names of the funds above.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds – current year

	Restricted funds 2024	Designated funds 2024	Unrestricted funds 2024	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	249,795	428,497	76,373	754,665
Current assets	176,661	-	84,042	260,703
Creditors due within one year	-	-	(99,178)	(99,178)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(15,833)	(15,833)
	<u>426,456</u>	<u>428,497</u>	<u>45,404</u>	<u>900,357</u>

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

16 Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds – prior year

	Restricted funds 2023	Designated funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023
	£		£	£
Fixed assets	242,238	441,482	83,020	766,740
Current assets	304,039	-	112,205	416,244
Creditors due within one year	-	-	(135,997)	(135,997)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(25,000)	(25,000)
	<u>546,277</u>	<u>441,482</u>	<u>34,228</u>	<u>1,021,987</u>

17 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the year	(121,630)	53,174
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	32,960	35,365
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	38,039
Decrease in stocks	211	52
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	97,504	(201,125)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	(36,819)	65,988
Net cash (absorbed by)/provided by operating activities	<u>(27,774)</u>	<u>(8,507)</u>

18 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand	<u>65,147</u>	<u>122,973</u>

19 Pension commitments

The charity participates in a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £6,850 (2023: £5,866). Contributions totalling £2,360 (2023: £3,261) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2024

20 Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2024 the total of the Charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating lease payments was:

	Land and buildings		Other	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Amounts payable:				
Within 1 year	5,667	5,667	1,679	1,679
Between 1 and 5 years	19,204	19,204	4,198	5,878
After more than 5 years	205,231	210,032	-	-
Total	<u>230,102</u>	<u>234,903</u>	<u>5,877</u>	<u>7,557</u>

21 Trustees

No Trustee or closely connected person received emoluments from the charity and no expenses were reimbursed to Trustees during the year.

During the year the charity provided Trustee indemnity insurance to cover all its trustees at a cost of £1,624 (2023: £1,624).

22 Related party transactions

During the year the charity entered the following transactions with connected parties.

Beaulieu Enterprises Limited ('BEL') a company in which one of the directors was also Trustee of the charity.

Recharged services provided by BEL amounted to £34,969 (2023: £28,787).

At the year end the balance owed by the charity to BEL amounted to £487 (2023: £6,503).

Lord Montagu - A Trustee of the charity

During the year the trust leased all leasehold properties from the private estate of Lord Montagu. The rentals payable on these properties for the year were £13,157 (2023: £13,157).

The charity also paid £872 (2023: £3,873) for other services provided by the private estate of the Lord Montagu. At the year end the balance owed by the charity to Lord Montagu amounted to £1,801 (2023: £nil).

23 Control

The charity is controlled by its Trustees acting in accordance with the terms of the governing trust deed.



A frosty morning at the Fort Climate Centre

Countryside Education Trust (Charity No. 269546)
Home Farm, Palace Lane, Beaulieu SO42 7YG
www.cet.org.uk

THE COUNTRYSIDE EDUCATION TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 269546

Accounts



theroyalfamily ✓



The Duchess of Edinburgh, formerly known as The Countess of Wessex, opened The Fort Climate Centre, which will provide education about the environment for schools and the general public, and act as a hub for local green groups.

The Countryside Education Trust Annual Report and Accounts 2023



Charity Number 269546

The Countryside Education Trust

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The Countryside Education Trust

Legal and administrative information For the year ended 31 December 2023

Trustees	Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, President (resigned as Chair 4 July 2024) A Moore-Gwyn (resigned 4 July 2024) D Olden (resigned 18 July 2023) R Channell (resigned 4 July 2024) N Burt D Printer, Deputy Chair (resigned 12 April 2023) M Wade K Burwood P Johnson (appointed 27 April 2023), Chair of FGR, Vice-Chair G Hardacre (appointed 13 July 2023) C Lee (appointed 14 December 2023) O Turgoose (appointed 14 December 2023) S Newey (appointed 14 December 2023) V Edwards (appointed 26 January 2024) (appointed as Chair 4 July 2024) P Foster (appointed 4 April 2024 and resigned 12 September 2024)
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The Countryside Education Trust is a tenant of Lord Montagu and the Beaulieu Estate.

Charity Commission registration number	269546
Registered office	John Montagu Building Beaulieu Hampshire SO42 7ZN
Independent Examiners	Saffery LLP Accountants Midland House 2 Poole Road Bournemouth BH2 5QY
Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc 4 th Floor, Block A Apex Plaza Forbury Road Reading RG1 1AX

The Countryside Education Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

Objectives of the Countryside Education Trust

The Countryside Education Trust (269546) was founded in 1975. Its objectives and activities are to:

- Provide or promote the provision of facilities so that the public and young people in particular, can gain access to the countryside, especially the Beaulieu Estate and the New Forest: and that they can both enjoy and be educated about the countryside;
- Protect, preserve and care for the beauty and character of the countryside and to stimulate the general public to do the same
- Conserve the New Forest for the benefit of the public, including the restoration and preservation of buildings of national, historic or scientific interest.

Our Mission

The Countryside Education Trust enables meaningful and enjoyable access to the countryside for all, particularly those who are the most disadvantaged, through excellent teaching and access to well-cared for special places. We connect people with the countryside.

Public Benefit

The Trustees believe that the charity operates under the following sections of the Charities' Act 2011 and has a long tradition of ensuring maximum access to its services:

- The advancement of education
- The advancement of environmental protection or improvement
- The advancement of citizenship or community development
- The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

Public benefit is evident in the wide variety of ages and backgrounds of people who access our services. We continually strive to make access fair and affordable.

We take seriously our commitment to ensuring that both sites are looked after to high ecological, environmental and animal welfare standards.



President's Highlights 2023



HRH the Countess of Wessex with Lord Montagu, members of the Fort Family and children from Beaulieu School at the opening of the Fort Climate Centre.

The absolute highlight of 2023 was the official opening of the Fort Climate Centre by HRH the Countess of Wessex on a damp and windy March day. Little could dampen the enthusiasm generated by the visit amongst local school children, our interns, volunteers and friends of the Trust. The Countess' own interest in farming and young people perfectly aligns with the CET and our young farmers gave our visitor a highly informed introduction to the animals. We were honoured to host the Countess, the Trust's first royal visit, but hopefully not its last!

The opening of the Fort Climate Centre was the culmination of a project long envisaged by Ted Fort, OBE who funded the building. Providing a new space for climate conversations, the building has quickly become integral to the Trust's work and its place in the New Forest. Countryside education and conservation has always been central to the Countryside Education Trust ('CET'); the climate focus is a natural extension to those themes, centring on the imperatives of caring for the land and communicating the necessity of so doing to protect nature and people in the face of climate challenges.

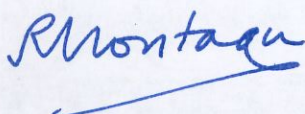
Much of this year's work has been part of wider partnerships with other charitable organisations and the New Forest National Park, initially through the Green and Blue Horizons Project, funded by the Heritage Lottery. Partnership brings benefits beyond the financial, especially for small organisations, and we have been very grateful to be involved. Our funded work with 7 interns, the ability to develop new graduates and the new professional course looking at climate change and land management were great opportunities and new areas for the CET to test. We are honing them for use with different audiences. In the same vein, we have also attracted two exciting grants, one from the National Lottery, for the first time, again as part of a collaboration with other charities (Youth for Climate and Nature (YouCAN)); and

The Countryside Education Trust

**Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

one from the Environment Agency, with the New Forest National Park, looking at coastal change (Championing Coastal Coordination).

Finally, thanks to our friends, funders, and volunteers for all your support during 2023. The Countess of Wessex met our oldest volunteer, Marg, who had just celebrated her 90th birthday, and our youngest, Noah, who was 9 years old. While we work with young people from all over the South of England, we are a community organisation, rooted in the New Forest and its environs, and our Royal day demonstrated this perfectly.



Lord Montagu of Beaulieu
President & Trustee

Context for 2023

There is no doubt that 2023 was a challenging year. An ongoing war in Europe, startlingly rising inflation, teachers in dispute with the government and the lasting effects of the pandemic meant that the year was not the recovery year for which we had hoped. Whilst rising costs of fuel, food and animal feed took a direct toll on the charity's finances, the ability of many of our potential visitors to pay for 'extra' activities such as school trips, courses or holidays decreased.

Of course, we were not alone in facing a challenging year. In 2023, 4.2 million children were living in poverty and there was a persistent absenteeism rate of over 20%. 2.6 million teachers' days were lost to sickness and there were strikes through the year, so planning school trips was not top of the agenda for any Headteacher. Increasing levels of anxiety in our young people is also having a notable impact. Children and young people worry about rising prices (76%) and the environment (72%), and only 36% feel positive about the future of the world. We have noticed that parents are also more anxious about their children staying away from home (many of our visitors have not even stayed at friends or grandparents before coming to us, because of Covid). Transport costs have also impacted on people's ability to reach Home Farm.

Notwithstanding all of this, we know that what we have to offer can be part of the solution; by teaching climate and nature, we can empower people to be better able to deal with climate anxiety and to help with nature recovery; residential trips build resilience and forge better bonds with teachers and peers; practical conservation work develops skills and self-belief; volunteering grows teams; and caring for animals or the environment creates a sense of connectedness for people of all ages.

'Being in nature makes me happy'

88% of children and young people, 2023

Education

Our residential programme, though smaller than pre-pandemic, nevertheless saw 27 groups over the course of the year. We have largely moved to a three day a week model, which seems broadly popular with schools and parents, though some funded visits are for a full week. With our smaller team, this means that we can offer other activities on the farm on Thursdays and Fridays, once the residential school has left.

Day visits remain popular, and are focussed on the woodland mostly, where children and young people can enjoy habitat work, bushcraft, orienteering and pond dipping.

Our most requested visit by far remains the stream study; we are fortunate to be able to trace the Hartford Stream from its spring down through our woods to the Beaulieu River, taking in all the geography curriculum requirements along the way but also adding history to the mix by talking about the Roman coin found by a crossing, the monastic uses of the wood, and the building of cobb cottages.

We are developing our offering for visits to the farm, which work especially well for younger children. We hope to be able to renovate our greenhouses during 2024 and potentially put down a new path as part of the envisaged sensory trail and this will support a wider educational programme.



Anna and Steve training La La and Po to carry picnics

Community

Our Owls clubs (0-12) continue to be oversubscribed, and we are attracting more of the upper end of this age range to Eagle Owls. Philosophically, we believe that enabling parents to be comfortable and confident in the outdoors will multiply opportunities for those children to be outside going forward, which is why we start with babies coming along with their parents.

We provide valuable work experience opportunities for young people in Year 9 and also from local colleges, particularly Sparsholt, a local agricultural college. In 2023 we engaged in outreach to two local schools to publicise our work and to offer this opportunity.

As a result of our developing expertise with sheep, we held our first Sheep Show in the summer of 2023, with the help of an expert judge from the Shetland Sheep society. It was good practice for our young handlers, our after-school club team who are mainly from non-farming backgrounds but who train to be able to handle sheep at various shows. We showed with success at the New Forest Show, Sherborne and Romsey, winning multiple awards.

The Countryside Education Trust

**Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31 December 2023**



The after school club with HRH the Countess of Wessex

We held two other events, a Seedy Sunday seed swap, to encourage local growers, and a Food Fayre, to encourage local food sourcing, both allied to our wider climate aims. We produced excellent juice from our Heritage orchard, this time a very well received apple and pear mix which we sold at our pop-up shop which showcases seasonal foods grown or harvested here.

We were once again proud to be runners up in the New Forest Business Partnership's Brilliance in Business Awards for the community and not for profit category.

Volunteers provide hundreds of hours of support for our work, from organising fundraising events to regular gardening or conservation work, looking after our animals or checking our remote livestock and undertaking renovations in the woods. This year, two separate teams of volunteers raised over £17,000 for the CET with a Chef's Night and a Party in the Woods.

We are enormously thankful to all our volunteers, who make a huge difference to what the small staff team can accomplish.



Volunteers making a new work bench in Hartford Wood

Conservation

As part of our philosophy of nature friendly farming, and with support from the Green and Blue Horizons project, we planted nearly 250m of hedgerow with our volunteers. While labour intensive, hedging has a number of benefits over other fencing, helping to reduce soil erosion, creating habitats for a wide variety of species and avoiding soil compaction.

Coppicing is an important element of our winter work schedule as we manage the understory of Hartford Wood, a semi ancient woodland. The coppice is on a 10-year rotation; we train both volunteers and interns in this ancient skill, and use the various products around our sites, as well as selling bean poles and pea sticks to the general public or via a local business.

Work around improving water efficiency and using rainwater effectively continued on the farm with volunteer support.

Farming



Pigs pannaging

We are commoners on the New Forest, and this means running ponies; we brought in our oldest mare last year after she gave birth to a rather beautiful foal, and she will stay in now, at 27. We also pannage our pigs, an ancient tradition where pigs are turned out to eat 'mast' – acorns, which are poisonous to horses. We believe that this participation embeds the Trust in the New Forest community and honours its special heritage. We have started to incorporate teaching about commoning for residential groups, and outreach activities.

We helped the Beaulieu Estate in the restoration of fields at Beufre Farm which have been largely used as horse pasture over the past few years. Again, with the help of volunteers we pulled mounds of ragwort before grazing our Shetland sheep, a hardy native breed which is well suited to conservation grazing. The breed works well for our education programme, as the sheep are small, inquisitive and friendly creatures, who, on the whole, are good mothers and often produce twins on our land, which is pretty poor grassland. We bred 36 lambs which all have names starting with 'g' this year to keep track of their birth year!

As well as sheep, we have cows, goats, pigs, turkeys, ducks, chickens, two elderly tortoises, rabbits and guinea pigs – something for everyone, no matter their confidence level.



Young handlers at the New Forest Show

Climate

The Fort Climate Centre has been used regularly for our own teaching, and the permanent display in the centre, A Beginner's Guide to Climate Change, has been well received by all.

One of the objectives for the new building is that it acts as a hub for local groups and businesses for discussions around the environment and climate change; during 2023 we hosted the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, the New Forest National Park, New Forest Business Partnership, the New Forest Marque, the Natural England Regional Team, the Ordnance Survey and Southampton University.

The new Solent Farm Cluster, 17 farmers, tenants and land agents looking to achieve landscape scale climate and environment change through collaboration, is based in the Fort Climate Centre. Although at an early stage this has the potential to deliver real environmental changes and we are proud to be on the Steering Group.

The Chief Executive of the New Forest National Park has developed a Green Leaders programme targeting people with the potential to become leaders in the environmental sector and she asked to host this at the Fort Climate Centre to present a vision of challenges ahead. Our Deputy Chief Executive joined the course to great effect.



Young climate and environment course participants getting to grips with shetlands

We have two monitoring stations (Skyview systems), one at Home Farm and one in the woods, providing valuable climate data to the University of Reading, both funded by the Fort Foundation.

What does the future hold?

2024 will see the creation of a new strategic plan to establish the Countryside Education Trust's priorities. We have recruited new Trustees and will be appointing a new chair to help with this process which will be in place for 2025 as the CET heads towards its 50th birthday!

Principal Sources of Income

Although based on Beaulieu Estate's land and with a generous mix of direct and indirect support from the Estate, the Countryside Education Trust is an independent charity.

2023 saw a more varied mix of funding than heretofore. For the first time we were part of a successful bid for funding from the National Lottery. The three-year project centres on Youth for Climate and Nature and will provide £198000 of funding mainly focussing on staff, interns, youth courses and young volunteers. The project extends beyond the boundaries of the New Forest including partners in Bournemouth, Salisbury and Southampton, coordinated by the New Forest National Park.

The Countryside Education Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 December 2023

We also bid for £36,000 of funding from Championing Coastal Coordination, an Environment Agency initiative. Given that the coastline from Lymington to Lepe is not likely to be defended by the public purse, it is important for local communities to understand the impact of rising sea levels here. We worked with the New Forest National Park on this project too.

The Ernest Cook Trust Outdoor Week of Learning continued, funding a research project and places for young people who would not otherwise have the opportunity to spend time in the countryside; this is a really important initiative which has now been extended to 2027 and provides benefits well beyond the funding in terms of links with other centre, intellectual engagement and research. We were also grateful to the support of the Fort Foundation with costs associated with the Fort Climate Centre. The Beaulieu Beaufort Foundation kindly paid for wood for our Treehouse renovations, unlocking many hours of volunteering. Various family trusts who wish to remain anonymous also supported our work, and we are very grateful to them too.

We had two exceptional fundraising events; Chef's Night, run by a longtime volunteer and her dedicated team, raised £5,500; and Party in the Woods, which brought new people to the Trust, run by another volunteer, raised nearly £12,000. We are hugely grateful for this support.

Weddings at the Treehouse were more modest than in previous years, but more in keeping with the values of the Trust, with couples appreciating the setting, and we also hosted a series of wellbeing events in the woods. Renting the residential centre to non-school groups was a valuable source of income, and also created opportunities for people to connect to the countryside, as did the holiday cottage, through animal feeding. Event income was low key, as we were not sufficiently staffed for larger public events, and the pop-up shop did well. We certainly need to diversify income streams, which will be part of the new strategy review 2025-2028.

Sadly, we had to return one large grant of £25,000 as we were unable to spend the funds.

Risk management

Risks are reviewed by Trustees on a regular basis. The major risks during 2023 revolved around a volatile world, in which environmental education for funders and for potential visitors was not a priority.

Reserves Policy

The Trust holds total funds of £1,021,987 (2022: £968,813) at the year end, of which £546,277 (2022: £391,947) are restricted. Free reserves are arrived at by adjusting for the fixed assets required to continue to operate the Trust of £470,231 (2022: £545,237). Free reserves therefore amounted to a surplus of £5,479 (2022: £31,629). Trustees aspire to hold three months of operating costs in reserves but this is challenging at the current time and we will seek to aim this during 2025. After making enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to operate in the future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is governed by a Trust Deed and is an Unincorporated Association. The Montagu Family is entitled to chair or be represented on the governing board as founders. No other body has the ability to be automatically represented. Trustees are recruited through advertising and recommendation. As part of the recruitment process, they receive a briefing from the CEO, a tour of both sites and are interviewed by two or three Trustees, before being appointed by the Chair on behalf of the board.

As well as the main board, a new Finance, Governance and Risk Committee was created during 2023, which will support the board and the governance of the charity.

Services are contracted out where it is cost effective, including for IT, Finance, HR and website support. Weddings used to be run by an outside contractor, but we have utilised a freelancer to deliver weddings during 2023.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity, and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity 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 judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable group will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

25 October 2024

This report was approved by the trustees on and signed on their behalf by:



Dr Victoria Edwards
Chair

The Countryside Education Trust

Independent examiner's report To the trustees of Countryside Education Trust

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

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

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



Casidhe Baleri ACA CTA
For and on behalf of Saffery LLP

Accountants
Date: 25 October 2024

Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth Dorset BH2 5QY

The Countryside Education Trust

Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 As restated £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	301,036	25,775	326,811	377,607
Charitable activities	5	-	155,150	155,150	155,361
Other trading activities	3,4	-	63,171	63,171	68,648
Other income		-	2,369	2,369	9,345
Total income		301,036	246,465	547,501	610,961
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds:					
Voluntary income	6	-	23,452	23,452	20,958
Fundraising trading	6	-	26,542	26,542	22,894
Charitable activities	6	102,902	341,431	444,333	373,316
Total expenditure		102,902	391,425	494,327	417,168
Net (expenditure)/income before transfers		198,134	(144,960)	53,174	193,793
Transfers between funds	15	(43,804)	43,804	-	-
Net movement of funds		154,330	(101,156)	53,174	193,793
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds at 1 January 2023		391,947	576,866	968,813	775,020
Total funds at 31 December 2023		546,277	475,710	1,021,987	968,813

All activities relate to continuing operations.

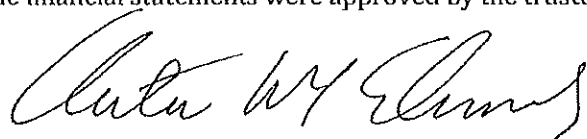
The notes on pages 18 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

The Countryside Education Trust

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2023

	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		766,740		800,134
Current assets					
Stock	11	13,995		14,047	
Debtors	12	279,276		78,151	
Cash at bank and in hand		122,973		181,490	
		416,244		273,688	
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(135,997)		(70,005)	
Net current assets			280,247		203,683
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14		(25,000)		(35,004)
Net assets			1,021,987		968,813
Represented by:					
Restricted funds	15		546,277		391,947
Unrestricted funds	15		475,710		576,866
Total funds			1,021,987		968,813

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 25 October 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Dr Victoria Edwards
Chair

The notes on pages 18 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

The Countryside Education Trust

Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Net cash (absorbed in)/provided by operating activities	17	(8,507)	247,355
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(40,010)	(216,703)
Net cash used in investing activities		(40,010)	(216,703)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Loan repayments		(10,000)	(8,000)
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		(10,000)	8,000
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(58,517)	22,652
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		181,490	158,838
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		122,973	181,490

The notes on pages 18 to 33 form part of these financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The Countryside Education Trust is an unincorporated charity. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019 and Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and Charities Act 2011.

Countryside Education Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the charity is a going concern. The Trustees have considered the current uncertainties and do not believe they will impact the ability of the charity to continue its activities for the foreseeable future.

1.3 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

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

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Income (continued)

Gifts in kind donated for distribution are included at valuation and recognised as income when they are distributed to the projects. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. Donated facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings.

The cost of generating funds include the cost incurred in generating voluntary income and fundraising trading costs. These costs are regarded as necessary to generate funds that are needed to finance charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to enable the charity to meet its charitable aims and objectives. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include audit fees, legal advice for trustees and costs linked to the strategic management of the trust.

Support costs are those costs which enable the fund generating and charitable activities to be undertaken. These costs include finance, human resources, communication and professional fees. Where expenditure incurred relates to more than one cost category it is apportioned on a time or usage basis, over and above a de minimis figure.

1.6 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

1.7 Stocks

Stocks for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Stocks used as part of a charitable activity are valued at fair value. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Buildings	2-5% straight line
Machinery and equipment	5% and 20% straight line
Motor vehicles	12.5%-25% straight line

Tangible fixed assets costing less than £500 are not capitalised and are written off in the year of purchase. All assets are examined annually for potential impairment and any material deductions in value are written down at the year end.

1.9 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

1.10 Debtors

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

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.12 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 amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Concessionary loans include those payable to third parties which are interest free or below market interest rates and are received to advance charitable purposes. All loans are measured at cost, less impairment as permitted by section 34 of FRS 102.

1.13 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity to the fund in respect of the year.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

1.14 Prior year restatement

The prior year has been restated to reflect a more accurate allocation of income between charitable activities and trading activities. This affects the SOFA and notes 4 and 5 of the accounts.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Individual donors	58,812	24,497	83,309	221,970	36,878	258,848
Friends of CET	-	1,278	1,278	-	1,371	1,371
Grants	242,224	-	242,224	115,079	2,309	117,388
Total	301,036	25,775	326,811	337,049	40,558	377,607
donations and legacies						

3 Activities to generate funds

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Fundraising activities	-	6,785	6,785	-	1,589	1,589
	-	6,785	6,785	-	1,589	1,589

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

4 Trading activities

	Restricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023	Restricted funds 2022	Unrestricted funds 2022 As restated	Total funds 2022 As restated
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Charity trading income						
Farm income	-	14,143	14,143	-	11,917	11,917
Wedding income	-	19,493	19,493	-	33,898	33,898
Holiday let income	-	22,750	22,750	-	21,244	21,244
	-	56,386	56,386	-	67,059	67,059
Charity trading expenses						
Farm purchases	-	12,461	12,461	-	9,401	9,401
Wedding purchases	-	527	527	-	230	230
Holiday let purchases	-	13,554	13,554	-	13,262	13,262
Net income/ (expenditure) from trading activities	-	29,844	29,844	-	44,166	44,166

5 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023	Restricted funds 2022	Unrestricted funds 2022 As restated	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Primary purpose activity:						
Residential fees	-	137,541	137,541	-	130,892	130,892
Non-residential fees and income	-	17,609	17,609	-	24,469	24,469
Total	-	155,150	155,150	-	155,361	155,361

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

6 Total expenditure

Current Year	Staff costs (Note 9)	Other direct costs	Support costs (Note 7)	Governance costs	Total 2023
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising	-	-	23,452	-	23,452
Fundraising trading	-	26,542	-	-	26,542
	-	26,542	23,452	-	49,994
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Primary purpose trade	173,485	180,067	82,639	8,142	444,333
Governance	-	2,558	5,584	(8,142)	-
	173,485	209,167	111,675	-	494,327
Support staff costs	46,305		(46,305)		
	219,790		65,370		

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

6 Total expenditure (continued)

<i>Prior Year</i>	Staff costs (Note 9)	Other direct costs	Support costs (Note 7)	Governance costs	Total 2022
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising	-	-	20,958	-	20,958
Fundraising trading	-	22,894	-	-	22,894
	-	22,894	20,958	-	43,852
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Primary purpose trade	158,917	133,155	73,854	7,390	373,316
Governance	-	2,400	4,990	(7,390)	-
	158,917	158,449	99,802	-	417,168
Support staff costs	43,892		(43,892)		
	202,809		55,910		

7 Support costs

	Costs of generating voluntary income £	Primary purpose trading £	Governance £	Total 2023 £
Office costs	13,728	48,373	3,269	65,370
Staff costs	9,724	34,266	2,315	46,305
	23,452	82,639	5,584	111,675

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

7 Support costs (continued)

Prior year	Costs of generating voluntary income	Primary purpose trading	Governance	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£
Office costs	11,741	41,374	2,795	55,910
Staff costs	9,217	32,480	2,195	43,892
	<u>20,958</u>	<u>73,854</u>	<u>4,990</u>	<u>99,802</u>

8 Net incoming resources

This is stated after charging:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	35,365	33,000
Independent examiner's fee	2,550	1,800
Operating lease rentals	<u>5,956</u>	<u>5,667</u>

9 Staff employment costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	201,697	185,254
Social security costs	12,227	12,043
Other pension costs	5,866	5,512
	<u>219,790</u>	<u>202,809</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

2023	2022
Number	Number
12	11

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Key management personnel received remuneration and benefits totalling £28,064 (2022: £25,873) and pension contributions of £1,123 (2022: £1,035).

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Buildings	Machinery and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2023	1,096,107	231,344	58,890	1,386,341
Additions	31,543	5,525	2,942	40,010
Disposals	-	(58,521)	-	(58,521)
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,127,650</u>	<u>178,348</u>	<u>61,832</u>	<u>1,367,830</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2023	367,217	162,977	56,013	586,207
Charge for the year	29,739	4,877	749	35,365
Eliminated on Disposal	-	(20,482)	-	(20,482)
At 31 December 2023	<u>396,956</u>	<u>147,372</u>	<u>56,762</u>	<u>601,090</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2023	<u>730,694</u>	<u>30,976</u>	<u>5,070</u>	<u>766,740</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>728,890</u>	<u>68,367</u>	<u>2,877</u>	<u>800,134</u>

11 Stock

	2023	2022
	£	£
Stock	<u>13,995</u>	<u>14,047</u>

12 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	20,032	29,569
Other debtors	259,244	48,582
	<u>279,276</u>	<u>78,151</u>

The Countryside Education Trust

**Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023**

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Loan	10,000	9,996
Trade creditors	4,789	11,669
Other taxation and social security	6,726	8,163
Other creditors and accruals	51,536	20,592
Deferred income	62,946	19,585
	<u>135,997</u>	<u>70,005</u>

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Bank loans	<u>25,000</u>	<u>35,004</u>

The Bounce Back loan was drawn down in July 2021. It has a term of 72 months. Capital repayments will commence 13 months following the drawdown of the loan. A guarantee has been provided by the UK Government under BBLS.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

15 Statement of funds

Statement of funds – current year

	At 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers in/out £	At 31 December 2023 £
Designated funds – fixed assets	456,061	-	(14,579)	-	441,482
General funds					
General funds	120,805	246,465	(376,846)	43,804	34,228
Total unrestricted funds	576,866	246,465	(391,425)	43,804	475,710
Restricted funds					
Biomass Project Fund	16,250	-	-	(16,250)	-
Home Farm Biomass	25,000	(25,000)	-	-	-
Minibus Fund	1,859	-	(262)	-	1,597
Sensory Trail Project Fund	22,374	165	-	-	22,539
Education Officer Salary Fund	36,034	-	(36,034)	-	-
Bird Trail Fund	2,349	-	(470)	-	1,879
Fort Climate Centre	209,436	49,086	(26,059)	(1,826)	230,637
Residential Bathrooms Project	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
Environmental Education Fund	-	8,000	(8,000)	-	-
Treehouse Tools	20	-	(20)	-	-
Treehouse Repairs Fund	-	9,000	-	-	9,000
YouCAN Project Fund	-	198,000	(4,283)	-	193,717
The OWL Collaboration	62,625	-	-	(25,400)	37,225
Green & Blue Horizons	-	25,225	(23,711)	(328)	1,186
Green Cascade Volunteer Programme	1,000	-	(545)	-	455
IT Equipment Fund	-	560	-	-	560
3C's Project Fund	-	36,000	(3,518)	-	32,482
	391,947	301,036	(102,902)	(43,804)	546,277
Total funds	968,813	547,501	(494,327)	-	1,021,987

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

15 Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers in/out £	At 31 December 2022 £
Designated funds – fixed assets	471,527	-	(15,466)	-	456,061
General funds					
General funds	130,514	273,912	(283,621)	-	120,805
Total unrestricted funds	602,041	273,912	(299,087)	-	576,866
Restricted funds					
Biomass Project Fund	17,500	-	(1,250)	-	16,250
Home Farm Biomass	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Minibus Fund	2,100	-	(241)	-	1,859
Sensory Trail Project Fund	22,374	-	-	-	22,374
Education and Farmers Salary Fund	8,750	-	(8,750)	-	-
Education Officer Salary Fund	15,000	40,680	(19,646)	-	36,034
Bird Trail Fund	2,819	-	(470)	-	2,349
Fort Climate Centre	-	211,969	(3,957)	-	208,012
Climate Change Centre	2,374	-	(950)	-	1,424
Residential Bathrooms Project	5,000	10,000	-	-	15,000
Environmental Education Intern	2,500	-	(2,500)	-	-
Treehouse Tools	20	-	-	-	20
Outreach	15,542	-	(15,542)	-	-
Refurbishment of Residential Centre	12,000	-	(12,000)	-	-
The OWL Collaboration	42,000	35,000	(14,375)	-	62,625
Green & Blue Horizons	-	38,400	(38,400)	-	-
Green Cascade Volunteer Programme	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
	172,979	337,049	(118,081)	-	391,947
Total funds	775,020	610,961	(417,168)	-	968,813

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

15 Statement of funds (continued)

Summary of funds – current year

	At 1 January 2023	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfer s in/out	At 31 December 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	456,061	-	(14,579)	-	441,482
General funds	120,805	246,465	(376,846)	43,804	34,228
	576,866	246,465	(391,425)	43,804	475,710
Restricted funds	391,947	301,036	(102,902)	(43,804)	546,277
	968,813	547,501	(494,327)	-	1,021,987

Summary of funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfer s in/out	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	471,527	-	(15,466)	-	456,061
General funds	130,514	273,912	(283,621)	-	120,805
	602,041	273,912	(299,087)	-	576,866
Restricted funds	172,979	337,049	(118,081)	-	391,947
	775,020	610,961	(417,168)	-	968,813

Designated funds

The fixed asset designated fund has been set up to reflect those assets held by the charity that were acquired previously with restricted funds, principally the refurbishment and development of the New Forest Study Centre, and improvements at the Out of Town Centre.

Restricted revenue funds descriptions

The Biomass Project and Home Farm Biomass funds were to contribute to and support the funding of a new Biomass boiler. Unfortunately the biomass is no longer operable and has been written off as a result, thus explaining the transfer.

The Minibus fund is to help towards the purchase of a new minibus and signage.

The Sensory Trail Project Fund is to contribute towards the Sensory Trail Project.

Education and Farmers Salary Fund is to assist with the salaries of farmer and education manager.

The Bird Trail Fund is to contribute towards the building of a bird trail and hide for bird watching, together with associated display boards and cameras.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

15 Statement of funds (continued)

The Fort Climate Centre Fund is for building and equipping the new Fort Climate Centre Building.

The Climate Change Centre Funds contributed towards the cost of purchasing weather stations situated at the Treehouse and the Residential Centre.

Residential Bathrooms Project helping us to futureproof ourselves by kickstarting a new project to change our residential centre bathrooms so that they are suitable for a wider range of groups.

The Environmental Intern Fund is to support five individuals on the Environmental Education Internship programme.

The Outreach fund is to support a local community farming project.

Treehouse Repairs Fund relates to donations towards major Treehouse Repairs Project

YouCAN Project Fund is funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for the Youth for Climate and Nature Scheme.

The OWL Collaboration fund is a four-year project aimed at disadvantaged young people enabling them to experience high quality residential Outdoor Weeks of Learning (OWLs.) Transfers reflect the funds being used to fund such OWLs.

Green and Blue Horizons Project is a National Lottery funded scheme for public engagement and outreach.

3C's Project Fund is a programme of work that is being led by the Environment Agency with support from Natural England, the Marine Management Organisation and the Association of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities.

Other restricted funds are for various projects as outlined in the names of the funds above.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds – current year

	Restricted funds 2023	Designated funds 2023	Unrestricted funds 2023	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	242,238	441,482	83,020	766,740
Current assets	304,039	-	112,205	416,244
Creditors due within one year	-	-	(135,997)	(135,997)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(25,000)	(25,000)
	<u>546,277</u>	<u>441,482</u>	<u>34,228</u>	<u>1,021,987</u>

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2023

16 Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds – prior year

	Restricted funds 2022	Designated funds 2022	Unrestricted funds 2022	Total funds 2022
	£		£	£
Fixed assets	254,897	456,061	89,176	800,134
Current assets	137,050	-	136,638	273,688
Creditors due within one year	-	-	(70,005)	(70,005)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(35,004)	(35,004)
	<u>391,947</u>	<u>456,061</u>	<u>120,805</u>	<u>968,813</u>

17 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income for the year	53,174	193,793
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	35,365	33,000
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	38,039	-
Decrease in stocks	52	3,427
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	(201,125)	21,645
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	65,988	(4,510)
Net cash (absorbed by)/provided by operating activities	<u>(8,507)</u>	<u>226,793</u>

18 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand	<u>122,973</u>	<u>181,940</u>

19 Pension commitments

The charity participates in a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £5,866 (2022: £5,512). Contributions totalling £3,261 (2022:£2,138) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2023

20 Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2023 the total of the Charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating lease payments was:

	Land and buildings		Other	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Amounts payable:				
Within 1 year	5,667	5,667	1,679	783
Between 1 and 5 years	19,204	19,204	5,878	196
After more than 5 years	210,032	214,833	-	-
Total	<u>234,903</u>	<u>239,704</u>	<u>7,557</u>	<u>979</u>

21 Trustees

No Trustee or closely connected person received emoluments from the charity and no expenses were reimbursed to Trustees during the year.

During the year the charity provided Trustee indemnity insurance to cover all its trustees at a cost of £1,624 (2022: £1,500).

22 Related party transactions

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with connected parties.

Beaulieu Enterprises Limited ('BEL') a company in which one of the directors was also Trustee of the charity.

Recharged services provided by BEL amounted to £28,787 (2022: £24,832).

At the year end the balance owed by the charity to BEL amounted to £6,503 (2022: £3,906).

Lord Montagu - A Trustee of the charity

During the year the trust leased all leasehold properties from the private estate of Lord Montagu. The rentals payable on these properties for the year were £13,157 (2022: £8,887).

The charity also paid £3,873 (2022: £4,313) for other services provided by the private estate of the Lord Montagu. At the year end the balance owed by the charity to Lord Montagu amounted to £nil (2022: £nil).

23 Control

The charity is controlled by its Trustees acting in accordance with the terms of the governing trust deed.



A frosty morning at the Fort Climate Centre

Countryside Education Trust (Charity No. 269546)
Home Farm, Palace Lane, Beaulieu SO42 7YG
www.cet.org.uk

THE COUNTRYSIDE EDUCATION TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 269546

Accounts



The Countryside Education Trust Annual Report and Accounts 2022



Charity Number 269546

The Countryside Education Trust

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The Countryside Education Trust

Legal and administrative information For the year ended 31 December 2022

Trustees	Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, Chair A Moore-Gwyn D Olden (resigned 18 July 2023) R Channell N Burt D Printer, Deputy Chair (resigned 12 April 2023) M Wade K Burwood (appointed 1 July 2022) P Johnson (appointed 27 April 2023) G Hardacre (appointed 13 July 2023)
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The Countryside Education Trust is a tenant of Lord Montagu and the Beaulieu Estate.

Charity Commission registration number	269546
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Registered office	John Montagu Building Beaulieu Hampshire SO42 7ZN
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Independent Examiners	Saffery LLP Chartered Accountants Midland House 2 Poole Road Bournemouth BH2 5QY
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Bankers	Barclays Bank Plc 4 th Floor, Block A Apex Plaza Forbury Road Reading RG1 1AX
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Chairman's Highlights

2022 was a year of opportunity. The building of the Fort Climate Centre mirrored the rebuilding of our charity post pandemic; a beautiful new space, it has already become a focus for new partnerships within the New Forest and beyond. We are hoping it will be a space for learning but also for conversations around the challenges of climate change, a place for people to come together and to develop mitigations and solutions. Returning schools have found new modules available about the New Forest, climate change and food choices all of which have been thoroughly well received. We also started working with young people from 18 upwards giving them an insight into the science of climate change, sustainable woodland management, and regenerative farming. Our volunteers returned with huge enthusiasm to help across both sites, with a wider variety of tasks; we now welcome young volunteers from 16-18 and we are also starting to run family volunteering sessions on a regular basis. Of course, none of this could have been accomplished without generous funding from donors old and new; and the dedication and expertise of our staff team.

Thank you to everyone who has played a part in helping the organisation to secure its future.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu

Objectives of the Countryside Education Trust

The Countryside Education Trust (269546) was founded in 1975. Its objectives and activities are to:

- Provide or promote the provision of facilities so that the public and young people in particular, can gain access to the countryside, especially the Beaulieu Estate and the New Forest: and that they can both enjoy and be educated about the countryside;
- Protect, preserve and care for the beauty and character of the countryside and to stimulate the general public to do the same
- Conserve the New Forest for the benefit of the public, including the restoration and preservation of buildings of national, historic or scientific interest.

Our Mission

The Countryside Education Trust enables meaningful and enjoyable access to the countryside for all, particularly those who are the most disadvantaged, through excellent teaching and access to well-cared for special places. We connect people with the countryside.

Public Benefit

The Trustees believe that the charity operates under the following sections of the Charities' Act 2011 and has a long tradition of ensuring maximum access to its services:

- The advancement of education
- The advancement of environmental protection or improvement
- The advancement of citizenship or community development
- The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

Public benefit is evident in the wide variety of ages and backgrounds of people who access our services. We continually strive to make access fair and affordable.

We take seriously our commitment to ensuring that both sites are looked after to high ecological, environmental and animal welfare standards.

2022 Activities

No sooner did we start to return to our usual activities than the cost-of-living crisis hit, initially as a result of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, which sent fuel and food prices rocketing. Financial uncertainty dogged the year, with soaring inflation and rising mortgage rates adding to the nation's woes. Teachers' strikes, swiftly escalating levels of school absenteeism and parental anxiety around children being away from home, which developed as a result of covid, added further uncertainty to the viability of school visits.

While residential school engagement remained down, our funding from the Ernest Cook Trust for the OWLs collaboration enabled schools suffering from particular disadvantage to visit for a week for free. The OWLs Collaboration is a network of 9 outdoor learning centres working together to research and evaluate the impact of residential visits on children's lives. As well as funding school places, the Ernest Cook Trust also provides travel grants to schools, as travel costs present a huge barrier to residential visits; for the team here, the project provides an opportunity to share knowledge and develop skills with peers, an unusual opportunity for a small charity. We worked with two relatively local Southampton schools and developed new modules for this cohort around connecting with 'their' National Park, looking at local food and what might grow here in the future, and why choices are important.

To help schools not supported through the OWLs Collaboration, we decided to subsidise school places through our wider fundraising where possible, which proved popular. The post pandemic decision to mainly offer three-day residential also paid off as schools were able more easily to release staff for this amount of time than for a week, and parents seemed more able to support their children through a shorter residential financially and emotionally. For the Trust, using a contractor for evening meals has ensured great quality of food alongside more financial flexibility than having an inhouse catering team.



Face to face with cows on a day visit

Day visits have remained popular, especially the unusual opportunity to study a stream, which rises on the local heath and meanders down through Hartford Wood and on to the Beaulieu River. Significant data about this stream and its associated ponds has been gained from CET survey work with the Freshwater Habitats Trust; it is one of the best ponds in the New Forest in terms of water quality and biodiversity.

Following the shrinkage in our team necessitated by the pandemic, another partnership project proved vitally important to the Trust. Being a participant in the Green and Blue Horizons Nature Recovery project, funded by the Heritage Lottery, was a huge win for the Trust. We worked with other local partners including the National Park, the Freshwater Habitats Trust, the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, and the Commoners' Defence Association over 18 months. As well as the benefits of collective action around engaging the wider community in nature recovery, in financial terms the costs for one of our most senior people were defrayed and we were able to hold onto another experienced member of the team. This created a level of much needed stability for our organization from which we could start to rebuild.

The Heritage Lottery Nature Recovery funding also paid for interns. We are proud of our training reputation and our track record in helping people into jobs into this field. One intern joined for the whole 18-month project working as a Climate and Environment Assistant, and we added two additional short term part-time internships in the autumn, one focusing on Sustainable Farming and one on Outreach. All three of these individuals moved on into roles in the environmental field.

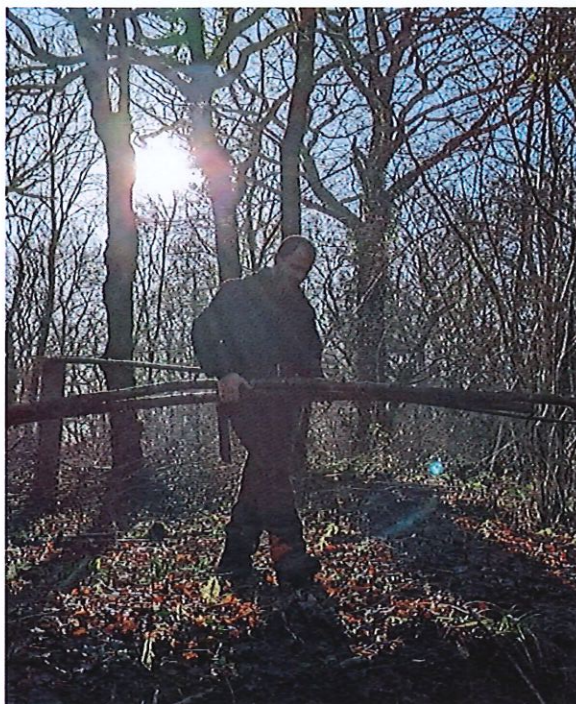


Young volunteers haymaking.

The Countryside Education Trust is one of the few places integrating farm, conservation and climate education in the UK currently. The 'soft launch' of the Fort Climate Centre, kindly donated by the Fort Foundation, happened in July. We began our climate work with young people on the hottest day of the year, necessitating the cancellation of a visit to a solar farm! The course, aimed at 16–25-year-olds, spread over 5 days, was free to participants. Offering transport, as well as allying with our objectives, really transformed people's ability to attend. The week covered the basics of climate change, regenerative farming, land management, sustainable woodlands and managing for climate change, the importance of healthy water courses and how to engage the wider public.

In the autumn we trialed a different approach of a three-day course spread over three weeks, to allow for reflection in between sessions. Most people opted for the whole series, which again was free to self-funding individuals and included transport from the train. Organisations, including partner organisations for the Green and Blue Horizons project, sent interns or apprentices along. 22 people attended, ranging from 18 – 50, all new to the environmental field, either as graduates, students, or career changers. We had excellent feedback including 100% of the participants feeling that the course met expectations, 100% thinking that venue was highly suitable and 100% loving the locally sourced lunch!

We were winners of the 'New Forest National Park Awards - Sustainability Champion 2022' and received the award at the New Forest Show. The Countryside Education Trust was noted for being an exemplar of sustainable operations and promoting sustainability through education courses. The Fort Climate Centre was also noted as being 'built to ensure that the highest environmental standard for insulation, lighting and waste management are all considered and mitigated'. It was noted positively that the Countryside Education Trust is a working productive farm and is involved with sustainable farming, sensitive woodland management, and restoration projects on its land.



Coppicing on a winter's day in Hartford Wood

These comments were really welcome, as both our sites are managed by our team for conservation, one of the Trust's charitable objectives. For the New Forest Awakening Festival, we made a short film about coppicing, demonstrating the techniques we use to manage the understorey of Hartford Wood. We sell coppice products including bean poles, pea sticks and charcoal directly through our pop-up shop and via a local garden centre; we also use the produce for laying our hedges or for dead hedges in the woods to create wildlife corridors. This year, thanks to the Green and Blue Horizons project, we planted around 300m of new hedgerow with the help of our volunteers, as well as gapping up old hedgerows on the farm.

Volunteers remain an important and welcome resource! We threw our oldest volunteer a 90th birthday party in December, while our youngest volunteer turned 9. We are experimenting with family volunteering and volunteering for young people between 16-18, but we have a dedicated core of volunteers who sign up for different tasks on a weekly basis to whom we are very grateful.

Our young handlers are volunteers of a different type. We created an after-school club to encourage children from non-farming backgrounds to have a go at working on a farm. We teach these largely 9- and 10-year-olds to work with our Shetland sheep, which they then show at country shows, such as the New Forest Show, during the summer holidays. The young people learn lots about responsibility and resilience from this kind of activity as well as adding rosettes to our collection!



The CET's Owl Clubs are fully recovered, and we run them for children from 0-12 – Owlets, Little Owls, Big Owls and Eagle Owls. The engagement of the parents and carers in the seasonally oriented activities is nearly as important as that of the children; we believe that this work builds appetite and confidence in adults for the outdoors.

2022 was a challenging year for the Countryside Education Trust, but one in which we developed new ways of connecting people to the countryside and worked collaboratively with a wide range of partners to effectively deliver our charitable objectives.

The Future

The Green and Blue Horizons project will draw to a close at the end of March 2023. The benefits of this project have been instructive, and we will look for more partnership funding and opportunities going forward. The Fort Climate Centre will open officially in the spring, and this will enable us to explore new avenues; as once we were pioneers of residential environmental education, we look forward to being at the forefront of community engagement around climate change.

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

The new strategic plan was postponed due to the extremely high levels of uncertainty. The intention now is that we will move ahead with this process once we have recruited new trustees and a new chair which is planned for 2023/2024.

Principal Sources of Income

2022 funding has been more varied than 2021, with less reliance on the state post furlough, and more on generating new opportunities. Weddings and non-school residential income have been useful sources of income, alongside some stalwart family Trust funders, the Heritage Lottery and the Ernest Cook Trust. We also benefitted from having a secondee from John Lewis for six months to work for the Chief Executive, which was of huge benefit to our small team. We are registered with the Charity Fundraising Regulator but have had no need to report any incidents during 2022.

Risk management

Volatility in the markets, a surge in inflation and a war were hard to plan for, coming on the heels of a global pandemic. The cost-of-living crisis is an ongoing challenge to families. Pressure on teachers, alongside a pay dispute, has decreased their appetite and capacity for bringing children away. These are all risks that we monitor as part of a rolling risk assessment process.

Reserves Policy

The Trust holds total funds of £968,813 (2021: £775,020) at the year end, of which £391,947 (2021: £172,979) are restricted. Free reserves are arrived at by adjusting for the fixed assets required to continue to operate the Trust of £545,237 (2021: £593,738). Free reserves therefore amounted to a surplus of £31,629 (2021: £8,303). Trustees aspire to three months of reserves but recognise the unusual situation of charities and the pressures they are under in current times. They appreciate 2022 has been a very difficult time for the charity financially but they believe in time they can get back to their reserves policy. After making enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to operate in the future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is governed by a Trust Deed and is an Unincorporated Association. The Montagu Family is entitled to chair or be represented on the governing board as founders. No other body has the ability to be automatically represented. Trustees are recruited through advertising and recommendation. As part of the recruitment process, they receive a briefing from the CEO, a tour of both sites and are interviewed by two or three Trustees, before being appointed by the Chair on behalf of the board. Trustee meetings were online for the bulk of 2021.

Services are contracted out where it is cost effective, including for IT, Finance, HR and website support. Public event fundraising and weddings were mostly unable to take place: these rely on external contractors normally.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees 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).

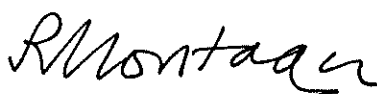
The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity, and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing 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 judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable group will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the trustees on ^{05/10/2023} and signed on their behalf by:



Lord Montagu of Beaulieu

The Countryside Education Trust

Independent examiner's report To the trustees of Countryside Education Trust

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Countryside Education Trust

Independent examiner's report
To the trustees of Countryside Education Trust

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



.....
Casidhe Baleri ACA CTA
For and on behalf of Saffery LLP

Chartered Accountants Midland House
 2 Poole Road
 Bournemouth Dorset
 BH2 5QY

Date: 11 October 2023

The Countryside Education Trust

Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	337,049	40,558	377,607	122,296
Charitable activities	5	-	176,605	176,605	87,791
Other trading activities	3,4	-	47,404	47,404	38,801
Other income	2	-	9,345	9,345	109,275
Total income		337,049	273,912	610,961	358,163
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds:					
Voluntary income	6	-	20,958	20,958	14,151
Fundraising trading	6	7,731	15,163	22,894	4,401
Charitable activities	6	110,350	262,966	373,316	305,020
Total expenditure		118,081	299,087	417,168	323,572
Net income before transfers		218,968	(25,175)	193,793	34,591
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement of funds		218,968	(25,175)	193,793	34,591
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds at 1 January 2022		172,979	602,041	775,020	740,429
Total funds at 31 December 2022		391,947	576,866	968,813	775,020

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 15 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

The Countryside Education Trust

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2022

	Note	£	2022 £	£	2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		800,134		616,431
Current assets					
Stock	11	14,047		17,474	
Debtors	12	78,151		99,796	
Cash at bank and in hand		181,490		158,838	
			273,688	276,108	
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(70,005)		(72,519)	
Net current assets			203,683		203,589
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14		(35,004)		(45,000)
Net assets			968,813		755,020
Represented by:					
Restricted funds	15		391,947		172,979
Unrestricted funds	15		576,866		602,041
Total funds			968,813		775,020

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 05/10/2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu

The notes on pages 15 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

The Countryside Education Trust

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Net cash provided by/(absorbed in) operating activities	17	247,355	(47,369)
<hr/>			
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(216,703)	(9,872)
Net cash used in investing activities		(216,703)	(9,872)
<hr/>			
Cash flows from financing activities			
Loan repayments		(8,000)	-
Loan advances		-	53,000
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		(8,000)	53,000
<hr/>			
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		22,652	(4,241)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		158,838	163,079
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		181,490	158,838

The notes on pages 15 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The Countryside Education Trust is an unincorporated charity. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019 and Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and Charities Act 2011.

Countryside Education Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the charity is a going concern. The Trustees have considered the current uncertainties and do not believe they will impact the ability of the charity to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. They have looked at the likely timing of being able to open the centre again and believe that this along with their cash reserves means they will be able to meet their obligations going forward.

1.3 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Income (continued)

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Gifts in kind donated for distribution are included at valuation and recognised as income when they are distributed to the projects. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. Donated facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings.

The cost of generating funds include the cost incurred in generating voluntary income and fundraising trading costs. These costs are regarded as necessary to generate funds that are needed to finance charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to enable the charity to meet its charitable aims and objectives. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include audit fees, legal advice for trustees and costs linked to the strategic management of the trust.

Support costs are those costs which enable the fund generating and charitable activities to be undertaken. These costs include finance, human resources, communication and professional fees. Where expenditure incurred relates to more than one cost category it is apportioned on a time or usage basis, over and above a de minimis figure.

1.6 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 Stocks

Stocks for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Stocks used as part of a charitable activity are valued at fair value. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Buildings	2-5% straight line
Machinery and equipment	20% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% straight line

Tangible fixed assets costing less than £500 are not capitalised and are written off in the year of purchase. All assets are examined annually for potential impairment and any material deductions in value are written down at the year end.

1.9 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

1.10 Debtors

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

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.12 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 amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Concessionary loans include those payable to third parties which are interest free or below market interest rates and are received to advance charitable purposes. All loans are measured at cost, less impairment as permitted by section 34 of FRS 102.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2022

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.13 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Individual donors	221,970	36,878	258,848	1,807	7,630	9,437
Friends of CET	-	1,371	1,371	-	1,222	1,222
Grants	115,079	2,309	117,388	111,637	-	111,637
Total donations and legacies	<u>337,049</u>	<u>40,558</u>	<u>377,607</u>	<u>113,444</u>	<u>8,852</u>	<u>122,296</u>

During the year, the charity received other income of £nil (2021: £107,075) which related to monies received under the furlough scheme during the Covid-19 pandemic. £nil (2021: £2,200) relates to insurance income.

3 Activities to generate funds

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Fundraising committee activities	-	1,589	1,589	-	1,312	1,312
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,589</u>	<u>1,589</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,312</u>	<u>1,312</u>

4 Trading activities

	Restricted funds 2022	Unrestricted funds 2022	Total funds 2022	Restricted funds 2021	Unrestricted funds 2021	Total funds 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Charity trading income						
Farm income	-	11,917	11,917	-	9,418	9,418
Wedding income	-	33,898	33,898	-	28,701	28,701
	<u>-</u>	<u>45,815</u>	<u>45,815</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>38,119</u>	<u>38,119</u>
Charity trading expenses						
Farm purchases	-	9,401	9,401	4,981	-	4,981
Wedding purchases	-	230	230	-	382	382
Holiday let purchases	-	13,262	13,262	-	(962)	(962)
Net income/ (expenditure) from trading activities	<u>-</u>	<u>22,922</u>	<u>22,922</u>	<u>(4,981)</u>	<u>38,699</u>	<u>33,718</u>

5 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2022	Unrestricted funds 2022	Total funds 2022	Restricted funds 2021	Unrestricted funds 2021	Total funds 2021
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Primary purpose activity:						
Residential fees	-	130,892	130,892	-	60,978	60,978
Non-residential fees and income	-	45,713	45,713	-	26,813	26,813
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>176,605</u>	<u>176,605</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>87,791</u>	<u>87,791</u>

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

6 Total expenditure

Current Year	Staff costs (Note 9)	Other direct costs	Support costs (Note 7)	Governance costs	Total 2022
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising	-	-	20,958	-	20,958
Fundraising trading	-	22,894	-	-	22,894
	-	22,894	20,958	-	43,852
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Primary purpose trade	158,917	133,155	73,854	7,390	373,316
Governance	-	2,400	4,990	(7,390)	-
	158,917	158,449	99,802	-	417,168
Support staff costs	43,892		(43,892)		
	202,809		55,910		

6 Total expenditure (continued)

<i>Prior Year</i>	Staff costs (Note 9)	Other direct costs	Support costs (Note 7)	Governance costs	Total 2021
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising	-	-	14,151	-	14,151
Fundraising trading	-	4,401	-	-	4,401
	-	4,401	14,151	-	18,552
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Primary purpose trade	153,568	95,217	49,866	6,369	305,020
Governance	-	3,000	3,369	(6,369)	-
	153,568	102,235	67,386	-	323,572
Support staff costs	30,224		(30,224)		
	183,792		37,162		

7 Support costs

	Costs of generating voluntary income £	Primary purpose trading £	Governance £	Total 2022 £
Office costs	11,741	41,374	2,795	55,910
Staff costs	9,217	32,480	2,195	43,892
	20,958	73,854	4,990	99,802

7 Support costs (continued)

Prior year	Costs of generating voluntary income	Primary purpose trading	Governance	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Office costs	7,804	27,501	1,857	37,162
Staff costs	6,347	22,366	1,511	30,224
	<u>14,151</u>	<u>49,867</u>	<u>3,368</u>	<u>67,386</u>

8 Net incoming resources

This is stated after charging:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	33,000	30,386
Independent examiner's fee	1,800	1,800
Operating lease rentals	<u>5,667</u>	<u>5,667</u>

9 Staff employment costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Wages and salaries	188,639	170,368
Social security costs	12,043	11,568
Other pension costs	<u>2,127</u>	<u>1,856</u>
	<u>202,809</u>	<u>183,792</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

2022	2021
Number	Number
11	10

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Key management personnel received remuneration and benefits totalling £25,873 (2021: £33,842) and pension contributions of £1,035 (2021: £2,707).

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Buildings £	Machinery and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 January 2022	884,136	229,862	55,640	1,169,638
Additions	211,971	1,482	3,250	216,703
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>1,096,107</u>	<u>231,344</u>	<u>58,890</u>	<u>1,386,341</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2022	344,520	153,047	55,640	553,207
Charge for the year	22,697	9,930	373	33,000
Eliminated on Disposal	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	<u>367,217</u>	<u>162,977</u>	<u>56,013</u>	<u>586,207</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2022	<u>728,890</u>	<u>68,367</u>	<u>2,877</u>	<u>800,134</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>539,616</u>	<u>76,815</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>616,431</u>

11 Stock

	2022 £	2021 £
Stock	<u>14,047</u>	<u>17,474</u>

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

12 Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade debtors	29,569	45,339
Other debtors	48,582	54,457
	<u>78,151</u>	<u>99,796</u>

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Loan	9,996	8,000
Trade creditors	11,669	16,801
Other taxation and social security	8,163	3,057
Other creditors and accruals	20,592	15,192
Deferred income	19,585	29,469
	<u>70,005</u>	<u>72,519</u>

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Bank loans	<u>35,004</u>	<u>45,000</u>

The Bounce Back loan was drawn down in July 2021. It has a term of 72 months. Capital repayments will commence 13 months following the drawdown of the loan. A guarantee has been provided by the UK Government under BBLS.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

15 Statement of funds

Statement of funds – current year

	At 1 January 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds – fixed assets	471,527	-	(15,466)	-	456,061
General funds					
General funds	130,514	273,912	(283,621)	-	120,805
Total unrestricted funds	602,041	273,912	(299,087)	-	576,866
Restricted funds					
Biomass Project Fund	17,500	-	(1,250)	-	16,250
Home Farm Biomass	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
Minibus Fund	2,100	-	(241)	-	1,859
Sensory Trail Project Fund	22,374	-	-	-	22,374
Education and Farmers Salary Fund	8,750	-	(8,750)	-	-
Salaries	15,000	40,680	(19,646)	-	36,034
Bird Trail Fund	2,819	-	(470)	-	2,349
Fort Climate Centre	-	211,969	(3,957)	-	208,012
Climate Change Centre	2,374	-	(950)	-	1,424
Residential Bathrooms Project	5,000	10,000	-	-	15,000
Environmental Education Intern	2,500	-	(2,500)	-	-
Treehouse Tools	20	-	-	-	20
Outreach	15,542	-	(15,542)	-	-
Refurbishment of Residential Centre	12,000	-	(12,000)	-	-
The OWL Collaboration	42,000	35,000	(14,375)	-	62,625
Green & Blue Horizons	-	38,400	(38,400)	-	-
Green Cascade Volunteer Programme	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
	172,979	337,049	(118,081)	-	391,947
Total funds	775,020	610,961	(417,168)	-	968,813

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2022

15 Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds – fixed assets	486,962	-	(15,435)	-	471,527
General funds					
General funds	121,757	244,719	(263,962)	28,000	130,514
Total unrestricted funds	608,719	244,719	(279,397)	28,000	602,041
Restricted funds					
Biomass Project Fund	18,750	-	(1,250)	-	17,500
Home Farm Biomass	-	25,000	-	-	25,000
Historic Trails	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Minibus Fund	2,100	-	-	-	2,100
Visitor Economy Kickstart Grant	-	2,491	(2,491)	-	-
Livestock Fund	5,194	-	(5,194)	-	-
Sensory Trail Project Fund	23,948	-	(1,574)	-	22,374
Education and Farmers Salary Fund	-	15,000	(6,250)	-	8,750
Salaries	-	20,000	(5,000)	-	15,000
Bird Trail Fund	6,061	-	(3,242)	-	2,819
Climate Change Centre	-	1,807	(1,807)	-	-
Climate Change Centre	3,323	-	(949)	-	2,374
Residential Bathrooms Project	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Farm & Community Assistant	1,667	-	(1,667)	-	-
Education Officer	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Environmental Education Intern	2,500	-	-	-	2,500
Treehouse Tools	82	-	(62)	-	20
Outreach	16,085	-	(543)	-	15,542
Refurbishment of Residential Centre	12,000	-	-	-	12,000
The OWL Collaboration	35,000	35,000	-	(28,000)	42,000
Green and Blue Horizons Project	-	8,146	(8,146)	-	-
	131,710	113,444	(44,175)	(28,000)	172,979
Total funds	740,429	358,163	(323,572)	-	775,020

15 Statement of funds (continued)

Summary of funds – current year

	At 1 January 2022	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	471,527	-	(15,466)	-	456,061
General funds	130,514	273,912	(283,621)	-	120,805
	602,041	273,912	(299,087)	-	576,866
Restricted funds	172,979	337,049	(118,081)	-	391,947
	775,020	610,961	(417,168)	-	968,813

Summary of funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	486,962	-	(15,435)	-	471,527
General funds	121,757	244,719	(263,962)	28,000	130,514
	608,719	244,719	(279,397)	28,000	602,041
Restricted funds	131,710	113,444	(44,175)	(28,000)	172,979
	740,429	358,163	(323,572)	-	775,020

Designated funds

The fixed asset designated fund has been set up to reflect those assets held by the charity that were acquired previously with restricted funds, principally the refurbishment and development of the New Forest Study Centre, and improvements at the Out of Town Centre.

Restricted revenue funds descriptions

The Biomass Project fund is to contribute towards the funding of a Biomass boiler.

Home farm biomass is to support a new biomass at Home Farm.

Historic Trails is a project funding by the National Park for storytelling in special places.

The Minibus fund is to help towards the purchase of a new minibus and signage.

Visitor Economy Kickstart Grant is Solent LEP funding for HR support.

15 Statement of funds (continued)

The Livestock fund is to contribute towards the purchase of livestock.

The Sensory Trail Project Fund is to contribute towards the Sensory Trail Project.

Education and Farmers Salary Fund is to assist with the salaries of farmer and education manager.

The Bird Trail Fund is to contribute towards the building of a bird trail and hide for bird watching, together with associated display boards and cameras.

The Fort Climate Centre Fund is for building and equipping the new Fort Climate Centre Building.

The Climate Change Centre Funds contributed towards the cost of purchasing weather stations situated at the Treehouse and the Residential Centre.

The Farm & Community Assistant Fund is to help towards the salary of a part-time Farm & Community Assistant for 18 months.

The Education Officer fund is to assist with the salary of the education officer.

The Environmental Intern Fund is to support five individuals on the Environmental Education Internship programme.

The Outreach fund is to support a local community farming project.

The Refurbishment of Residential Centre fund is to support upcoming maintenance work to the residential centre.

The OWL Collaboration fund is a four-year project aimed at disadvantaged young people enabling them to experience high quality residential Outdoor Weeks of Learning (OWLs.)

Green and Blue Horizons Project is a National Heritage Lottery funded scheme for public engagement and outreach.

Other restricted funds are for various projects as outlined in the names of the funds above.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds – current year

	Restricted funds 2022	Designated funds 2022	Unrestricted funds 2022	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	254,897	456,061	89,176	800,134
Current assets	137,050	-	136,638	273,688
Creditors due within one year	-	-	(70,005)	(70,005)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(35,004)	(35,004)
	<u>391,947</u>	<u>456,061</u>	<u>120,805</u>	<u>968,813</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds – prior year

	Restricted funds 2021	Designated funds 2021	Unrestricted funds 2021	Total funds 2021
	£		£	£
Fixed assets	22,693	471,527	122,211	616,431
Current assets	150,286	-	125,822	276,108
Creditors due within one year	-	-	(72,519)	(72,519)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(45,000)	(45,000)
	<u>172,979</u>	<u>471,527</u>	<u>602,041</u>	<u>775,020</u>

17 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	193,793	34,591
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	33,000	30,386
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	1
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	3,427	(672)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	21,645	(29,529)
Decrease in creditors	(4,510)	(82,146)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>247,355</u>	<u>(47,369)</u>

18 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash in hand	<u>181,940</u>	<u>158,838</u>

19 Pension commitments

The charity participates in a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £2,127 (2021: £1,856). Contributions totalling £2,127 (2021: £111) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

20 Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2022 the total of the Charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating lease payments was:

	Land and buildings		Other	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Amounts payable:				
Within 1 year	5,667	5,667	783	783
Between 1 and 5 years	19,204	19,204	196	978
After more than 5 years	214,833	219,634	-	-
Total	239,704	244,505	979	1,761

21 Trustees

No Trustee or closely connected person received emoluments from the charity and no expenses were reimbursed to Trustees during the year.

During the year the charity provided Trustee indemnity insurance to cover all its trustees at a cost of £1,624 (2021: £1,500).

22 Related party transactions

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with connected parties.

Beaulieu Enterprises Limited ('BEL') a company in which one of the directors was also Trustee of the charity.

Recharged services provided by BEL amounted to £24,832 (2021: £12,075).

At the year end the balance owed by the charity to BEL amounted to £374 (2021: £13,022).

Lord Montagu - A Trustee of the charity

During the year the trust leased all leasehold properties from the private estate of Lord Montagu. The rentals payable on these properties for the year were £8,887 (2021: £1,084).

The charity also paid £4,313 (2021: £4,770) for other services provided by the private estate of the Lord Montagu. At the year end the balance owed by the charity to Lord Montagu amounted to £nil (2021: £1,448).

23 Control

The charity is controlled by its Trustees acting in accordance with the terms of the governing trust deed.



Countryside Education Trust (Charity No. 269546)
Home Farm, Palace Lane, Beaulieu SO42 7YG
www.cet.org.uk

THE COUNTRYSIDE EDUCATION TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 269546

Accounts



Countryside Education Trust (Charity No.269546)

**Trustees' report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2021**



Connecting People with the Countryside

The Countryside Education Trust

**Legal and administrative information
For the year ended 31 December 2021**

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The Countryside Education Trust

Legal and administrative information For the year ended 31 December 2021

Trustees

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, Chair
A Moore-Gwyn
D Olden
R Channell
N Burt
V Humber (resigned 11 October 2021)
D Printer, Deputy Chair
M Wade
K Burwood (appointed 8 July 2022)

The Countryside Education Trust is a tenant of Lord Montagu and the Beaulieu Estate.

Charity Commission registration number 269546

Registered office

John Montagu Building
Beaulieu
Hampshire
SO42 7ZN

Independent Examiners

Saffery Champness LLP
Chartered Accountants
Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth
BH2 5QY

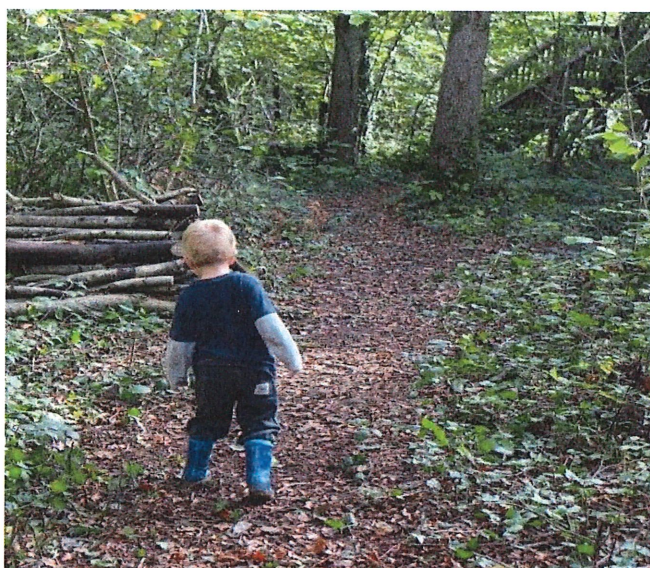
Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc
4th Floor, Block A
Apex Plaza
Forbury Road
Reading
RG1 1AX

Objectives of the Countryside Education Trust

The Countryside Education Trust (269546) was founded in 1975. Its objectives and activities are to:

- Provide or promote the provision of facilities so that the public and young people in particular, can gain access to the countryside, especially the Beaulieu Estate and the New Forest: and that they can both enjoy and be educated about the countryside;
- Protect, preserve and care for the beauty and character of the countryside and to stimulate the general public to do the same
- Conserve the New Forest for the benefit of the public, including the restoration and preservation of buildings of national, historic or scientific interest.



A lone explorer

Our Mission

The Countryside Education Trust enables meaningful and enjoyable access to the countryside for all, particularly those who are the most disadvantaged, through excellent teaching and access to well-cared for special places. We connect people with the countryside.

Mainly, we connect people with the countryside because it is good for everyone! Research conclusions from a wealth of studies emphatically illustrate that exposure to nature is good for all age groups and people from all backgrounds.

There are many barriers to ensuring equality of access, which has always been one of our fundamental principles. We know, for example, that those who live in the most deprived areas are the least able to benefit from engagement with the natural environment. Children living in the most deprived areas are less likely to spend time outside once a week (61%) than those in the most affluent areas (81%). 2.69 million people in the UK do not live within 10 minutes' walk of a green space and 11 million people in England live in areas with less than 9 square metres of public green space per person; 42% of people from ethnic minorities live in the most green-space deprived areas. Many families without a history of engagement feel that the countryside is not for them, that they do not have any right to participate; and sometimes there is a fear of the unknown, with

disproportionate worries about risks in the outdoors. Finances and time are constraints, where often equipment and travel costs need to be counted on top of any activities.

Whilst the pandemic has highlighted the real human desire for spaces rich in natural capital, research has also revealed the benefits of spending times. A study of nearly 20,000 UK adults discovered that people who had spent at least 2 hours in nature (broadly defined) the previous week reported significantly greater health and wellbeing than those who had not. A survey of 30,000 children showed that adolescents with a connection to nature had 25% fewer mental health problems. A visit to the countryside inspired kindness and empathy in younger children at a much greater rate than a visit to an aviation museum. Improved pro-environmental behaviours, better physical health, faster cognitive development, improved feelings of wellbeing, enhanced understanding of risk and greater social connections all arise from time outdoors; the list goes on.

At the same time, we teach people that such benefits require reciprocal responsibility; caring for and conserving nature and encouraging others to do the same is central to our work. We need to balance the desire to ensure equal access to the countryside with a need to ensure that the countryside is not damaged in the process. And while we engage with all age groups, we wholeheartedly agree with Sir David Attenborough that:

'If children don't grow up knowing about nature, they won't understand it. And if they don't understand it, they won't protect it'.



School children animal feeding

Public Benefit

The Trustees believe that the charity operates under the following sections of the Charities' Act 2011 and has a long tradition of ensuring maximum access to its services:

- The advancement of education
- The advancement of environmental protection or improvement
- The advancement of citizenship or community development
- The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

Public benefit is evident in the wide variety of ages and backgrounds of people who access our services. We continually strive to make access fair and affordable.

We take seriously our commitment to ensuring that both sites are looked after to high ecological, environmental and animal welfare standards.



Volunteers ragwort pulling

Activities

The Countryside Education Trust's offices are at Home Farm. Here we have a smallholding, orchard and garden surrounding our residential centre. Our second site, in Hartford Wood, comprises 40 acres of managed private woodland, with treehouse classrooms, an ancient meadow and a cob cottage. Though small, these sites provide a range of habitats and learning opportunities, complemented by our wider situation based on the Beaulieu Estate, within the New Forest and close to the coast.

We run residential visits for schools, charities, community organisations and family groups. We also run day visits for schools, groups and organisations based within an hour or so of our sites. We cover a range of activities from farming related work to teambuilding to conservation principles. All school sessions are taught in line with the requirements of the National Curriculum. More locally still, we hold playgroups for children up to the age of 11 (our Owls Clubs) and an after-school club. Our wider community events have also been curtailed by the pandemic, but we focus them to take advantage of the special characteristics of our sites and the seasons. Finally, we teach a wide range of rural skills courses for all ages from birdwatching to coppicing.



A flush of woodland flowers after coppicing

Achievements and Performance 2021

2021 remained a year of challenges, with uncertain rules around re-opening, public fear, ongoing financial constraints. However, we managed some successes.

The Return to Residentials

We managed to be flexible around day visits, running them when they were possible, but residentials take an enormous amount of planning, resourcing and risk management for schools, and the government's late decision over Easter 2021 that they could start up again was too late for the summer term.

In September, therefore, we finally opened the doors of the residential centre to schools once again. It was a special joy to welcome our first school for nearly 18 months and an emotional moment as the coach drove up full of cheering children. It has been wonderful to hear children on the farm or in the woods, staying in the residential centre, or just visiting for the day.

We discharged the bulk of our postponed visits in the run up to Christmas, as most of our schools chose to postpone their visits (a little longer than originally planned) rather than cancel. We remain hugely grateful for that vote of confidence: it meant a lot at a time when other centres were closing that our customers believed in us.

While this element of our work is up and running again, we have realised the risk of overdependency and the additional costs of trying to run a fully catered centre all year round. As a result, we are operating in a significantly different way, with greater use of external suppliers to ensure flexibility. We are also seeking other opportunities to ensure that the space is used as much as possible notwithstanding ongoing uncertainty about covid and a looming cost of living crisis.

The Outdoor Weeks of Learning – the OWLs Collaboration

We were chosen to be part of the inaugural collaboration for this project developed by the Ernest Cook Trust. It aims to provide evidence-based research on the value of outdoor, and in particular, farm-based education, for children. Schools characterised as having disadvantaged pupils for a wide range of reasons visit for free and we are funded to work with the young people who otherwise may never have the opportunity to visit the countryside. We hosted our first 60 children just before Christmas.

We are very honoured to have been selected, and look forward to the scheme's development. This is very much where the Countryside Education Trust started in 1975, with an ambition to bring children out of cities. Our aim is to take parents with us on the journey, so that the value of this kind of opportunity becomes apparent to everyone involved, and we have funding for 4 years.



Pond dipping

Blue and Green Horizons Project

As part of a wider collaboration we managed to attract £68,500 of funding from the National Heritage Lottery Fund to support our climate work for 18 months. This not only helped to protect existing team members, albeit with a different remit, it also added a new Climate and Environment Assistant to the team. Partnerships were part of our plans in 2020 and In the Green and Blue Horizons Project, we are working with the Living Waters Habitat Trust, the Commoners' Defence Association, the New Forest National Park, and the Wildlife Trust.

Fort Climate Centre

The Fort Foundation's support for our new Fort Climate Centre continues, and it will be ready in 2022 to receive all sorts of groups to learn about climate change and its mitigations locally and globally.

After School Club

A new addition during the pandemic was an after-school club. Children from Beaulieu School came along to help out on the farm, learn about gardening and generally have a fun end to their school day. Having learned sheep handling, some of the children have even ended up as prize winners at the Gillingham and Shaftesbury and Frome shows. As a way of extending our programme of introducing children from non-farming families to the joys of an agricultural show, which we began in 2019, this has been an excellent initiative.



Evie (Evenstar) our bonus foal

Commoning

As commoners we have the capacity to run livestock on the New Forest. We pannaged pigs (put them onto the forest to eat surplus acorns which are poisonous to other animals, the right of mast) and had the surprise of a foal from a very elderly mare. Commoning keeps us in touch with the wider community in the New Forest, and provides our visitors with an insight into this unusual ancient form of farming.



Harvesting leeks for the Farmers' Market

Volunteers

We are well supported by volunteers and in 2021 our volunteers outdid themselves. A serious working party stripped the roof of our smaller treehouse so that roofers could install a new roof, saving thousands of pounds which we certainly didn't have. Others helped with gardening, fencing, haymaking, installing non-slip routes at the Treehouses, sheep handling, apple picking, replacing a pond-dipping platform and working in the office. Some volunteers come every week, others once a year, but all are valued. Occasional weekend sessions, and the ability for young adults and children to volunteer accompanied by parents or guardians means that we can appeal to a wider range of supporters.

The Future

We are planning for the future, knowing that although we are a much smaller team, we are able to deliver a wide variety of programmes. Our new emphasis on climate will complement ongoing changes in our education programme, our conservation plans and our farming.

We know that schools are very keen to return, and we are keen to have them; but we are also aware that there are other ways of meeting our mission, and will be making changes to ensure that we appeal to, and are equipped to serve, a wider market, with a view to providing a more stable platform to safeguard against future shocks.

A new strategic plan will be drawn up in 2022, and this will also enable us to put in more measures so that we can assess the work we do in a more objective way. Measurement of outcomes is also becoming increasingly important to funders.

Principal Sources of Income

2021 saw an ongoing reliance on public funding, which eventually wound down with the end of furlough financing, although we did receive further hospitality grant support from the New Forest District Council. Schools returned from the autumn, but we were largely honouring delayed bookings. Our rare breeds are

generally sold as livestock, and farm and garden produce offsets some of the costs of these elements of our work; we sell that and volunteer made produce at the local farmers' market and at a pop up shop at Home Farm. From the summer onwards, we were able to hold delayed weddings, which represent an important part of our funding. We have also had good success latterly in renting out the residential centre and our self-catering cottage, which has been a very helpful source of income.

Fundraising has been, and will continue to be, vital. While we have had particularly good success with major gifts, we also need to develop our community fundraising, in the future. Our most unusual donation this year was the loan of a bull, resulting in our first homemade Dexter calf.

Financially, the future remains uncertain, with the spiralling cost of living moving school trips out of the reach of more parents. We will try to keep our prices down and continue to seek funding for subsidised or free places.

Risks are monitored, but as we have seen are not easy to predict. High on our list is the pressure the cost of living will put on families' ability to pay for residential, and the increased costs of food, animal food and fuel required for running our operations. For a small charity we have a lot of overheads from our properties and the maintenance requirements of over 60 acres of land.

Reserves Policy

The Trust holds total funds of £775,020 (2020: £740,429) at the year end, of which £172,979 (2020: £131,710) are restricted. Free reserves are arrived at by adjusting for the fixed assets required to continue to operate the Trust of £593,738 (2020: £606,469). Free reserves therefore amounted to a surplus of £8,303 (2020: £2,250). Trustees aspire to three months of reserves but recognise the unusual situation of charities and the pressures they are under in current times. They appreciate 2021 has been a very difficult time for the charity financially but they believe in time they can get back to their reserves policy. After making enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to operate in the future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is governed by a Trust Deed and is an Unincorporated Association. The Montagu Family is entitled to chair or be represented on the governing board as founders. No other body has the ability to be automatically represented. Trustees are recruited through advertising and recommendation. As part of the recruitment process they receive a briefing from the CEO, a tour of both sites and are interviewed by two or three Trustees, before being appointed by the Chair on behalf of the board. Trustee meetings were online for the bulk of 2021.

Services are contracted out where it is cost effective, including for IT, Finance, HR and website support. Public event fundraising and weddings were mostly unable to take place: these rely on external contractors normally.

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees 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).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales 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 charity, and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity 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 judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable group will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the trustees on^{26/08/2022} and signed on their behalf by:



Lord Montagu of Beaulieu

The Countryside Education Trust

Independent examiner's report To the trustees of Countryside Education Trust

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Countryside Education Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Countryside Education Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Respective Responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities.

The Countryside Education Trust

**Independent examiner's report
To the trustees of Countryside Education Trust**

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



**Nicholas Fernyhough FCA DChA
For and on behalf of Saffery Champness LLP
Chartered Accountants**

Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH2 5QY

Date: 8 September 2022

The Countryside Education Trust

Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Total funds 2020 £
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	113,444	8,852	122,296	232,549
Charitable activities	5	-	87,791	87,791	59,862
Other trading activities	3,4	-	38,801	38,801	14,774
Other income	2	-	109,275	109,275	112,175
Total income		113,444	244,719	358,163	419,360
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds:					
Voluntary income	6	-	14,151	14,151	17,258
Fundraising trading	6	4,981	(580)	4,401	13,925
Charitable activities	6	39,194	265,826	305,020	376,950
Total expenditure		44,175	279,397	323,572	408,133
Net income before transfers		69,269	(34,678)	34,591	11,227
Transfers between funds		(28,000)	28,000	-	-
Net movement of funds		41,269	(6,678)	34,591	11,227
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds at 1 January 2021		131,710	608,719	740,429	729,202
Total funds at 31 December 2021		172,979	602,041	775,020	740,429

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 15 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

The Countryside Education Trust

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2021

	Note	£	2021 £	£	2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		616,431		636,946
Current assets					
Stock	11	17,474		16,802	
Debtors	12	99,796		70,267	
Cash at bank and in hand		158,838		163,079	
		276,108		250,148	
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(72,519)		(146,665)	
Net current assets			203,589		103,483
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	14		(45,000)		-
Net assets			775,020		740,429
Represented by:					
Restricted funds	15		172,979		131,710
Unrestricted funds	15		602,041		608,719
Total funds			775,020		740,429

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 26/03/2022 and signed on their behalf by:

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu

The notes on pages 15 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

The Countryside Education Trust

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Net cash (absorbed by)/provided by operating activities	17	(47,369)	66,251
<hr/>			
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(9,872)	-
<hr/>			
Net cash used in investing activities		(9,872)	-
<hr/>			
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayments of borrowings			(3,000)
Loan advances		53,000	-
<hr/>			
Net cash used in financing activities		53,000	(3,000)
<hr/>			
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(4,241)	63,251
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		163,079	99,828
<hr/>			
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		158,838	163,079
<hr/> <hr/>			

The notes on pages 15 to 31 form part of these financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The Countryside Education Trust is an unincorporated charity. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019 and Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and Charities Act 2011.

Countryside Education Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the charity is a going concern. The Trustees have considered the current uncertainties and do not believe they will impact the ability of the charity to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. They have looked at the likely timing of being able to open the centre again and believe that this along with their cash reserves means they will be able to meet their obligations going forward.

1.3 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Income (continued)

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Gifts in kind donated for distribution are included at valuation and recognised as income when they are distributed to the projects. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. Donated facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings.

The cost of generating funds include the cost incurred in generating voluntary income and fundraising trading costs. These costs are regarded as necessary to generate funds that are needed to finance charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to enable the charity to meet its charitable aims and objectives. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include audit fees, legal advice for trustees and costs linked to the strategic management of the trust.

Support costs are those costs which enable the fund generating and charitable activities to be undertaken. These costs include finance, human resources, communication and professional fees. Where expenditure incurred relates to more than one cost category it is apportioned on a time or usage basis, over and above a de minimis figure.

1.6 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 Stocks

Stocks for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Stocks used as part of a charitable activity are valued at fair value. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Buildings	2-5% straight line
Machinery and equipment	20% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% straight line

Tangible fixed assets costing less than £500 are not capitalised and are written off in the year of purchase. All assets are examined annually for potential impairment and any material deductions in value are written down at the year end.

1.9 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

1.10 Debtors

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

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.12 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 amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Concessionary loans include those payable to third parties which are interest free or below market interest rates and are received to advance charitable purposes. All loans are measured at cost, less impairment as permitted by section 34 of FRS 102.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.13 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Individual donors	1,807	7,630	9,437	15,942	42,300	58,242
Friends of CET	-	1,222	1,222	-	1,839	1,839
Grants	111,637	-	111,637	87,000	69,136	156,136
Gifts in kind	-	-	-	-	16,332	16,332
Total donations and legacies	113,444	8,852	122,296	102,942	129,607	232,549

During the year, the charity received other income of £107,075 (2020: £112,175) which related to monies received under the furlough scheme during the Covid-19 pandemic. £2,200 (2020: £nil) relates to insurance income.

3 Activities to generate funds

	Restricted funds 2021 £	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Fundraising committee activities	-	1,312	1,312	-	3,997	3,997
RHI income	-	-	-	-	(485)	(485)
	-	1,312	1,312	-	3,512	3,512

4 Trading activities

	Restricted funds 2021	Unrestricted funds 2021	Total funds 2021	Restricted funds 2020	Unrestricted funds 2020	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Charity trading income						
Farm income	-	9,418	9,418	-	11,262	11,262
Wedding income	-	28,701	28,701	-	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>37,489</u>	<u>37,489</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,262</u>	<u>11,262</u>
Charity trading expenses						
Holiday let purchases	-	(962)	(962)	-	7,449	7,449
Wedding purchases	-	382	382	-	-	-
Farm purchases	4,981	-	4,981	370	6,106	6,476
	<u>4,981</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,981</u>	<u>370</u>	<u>6,106</u>	<u>6,476</u>
Net income/ (expenditure) from trading activities	<u>(4,981)</u>	<u>9,998</u>	<u>5,017</u>	<u>(370)</u>	<u>(2,293)</u>	<u>(2,663)</u>

5 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2021	Unrestricted funds 2021	Total funds 2021	Restricted funds 2020	Unrestricted funds 2020	Total funds 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Primary purpose activity:						
Residential fees	-	60,978	60,978	-	38,391	38,391
Non-residential fees and income	-	26,813	26,813	-	21,471	21,471
	<u>-</u>	<u>87,791</u>	<u>87,791</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,862</u>	<u>59,862</u>
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>87,791</u>	<u>87,791</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>59,862</u>	<u>59,862</u>

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

6 Total expenditure

Current Year	Staff costs (Note 9)	Other direct costs	Support costs (Note 7)	Governance costs	Total 2021
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising	-	-	14,151	-	14,151
Fundraising trading	-	4,401	-	-	4,401
	-	4,401	14,151	-	18,552
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Primary purpose trade	153,568	95,217	49,866	6,369	305,020
Governance	-	3,000	3,369	(6,369)	-
	153,568	102,235	67,386	-	323,572
Support staff costs	30,224		(30,224)		
	183,792		37,162		

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

6 Total expenditure (continued)

<i>Prior Year</i>	Staff costs (Note 9)	Other direct costs	Support costs (Note 7)	Governance costs	Total 2020
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising	-	-	17,258	-	17,258
Fundraising trading	-	13,925	-	-	13,925
	-	13,925	17,258	-	31,183
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Primary purpose trade	229,025	81,501	60,815	5,609	376,950
Governance	-	1,500	4,109	(5,609)	-
	229,025	96,926	82,182	-	408,133
Support staff costs	33,858		(33,858)		
	262,883		48,324		

7 Support costs

	Costs of generating voluntary income £	Primary purpose trading £	Governance 2021 £	Total 2021 £
Office costs	7,804	27,501	1,857	37,162
Staff costs	6,347	22,366	1,511	30,224
	14,151	49,867	3,368	67,386

7 Support costs (continued)

Prior year	Costs of generating voluntary income	Primary purpose trading	Governance 2020	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Office costs	10,148	35,760	1,693	47,601
Staff costs	7,110	25,055	2,416	34,581
	<u>17,258</u>	<u>60,815</u>	<u>4,109</u>	<u>82,182</u>

8 Net incoming resources

This is stated after charging:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	30,386	37,461
Independent examiner's fee	1,800	1,800
Operating lease rentals	<u>5,667</u>	<u>5,667</u>

9 Staff employment costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Wages and salaries	170,368	245,858
Social security costs	11,568	14,734
Other pension costs	1,856	2,219
	<u>183,792</u>	<u>262,883</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

2021	2020
Number	Number
10	17

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Key management personnel received remuneration and benefits totalling £33,842 (2020: £32,475) and pension contributions of £2,707 (2020: £2,598).

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Buildings	Machinery and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2021	946,717	219,990	55,640	1,222,347
Additions	-	9,872	-	9,872
Disposals	(62,581)	-	-	(62,581)
At 31 December 2021	<u>884,136</u>	<u>229,862</u>	<u>55,640</u>	<u>1,169,638</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2021	385,901	143,860	55,640	585,401
Charge for the year	21,199	9,187	-	30,386
Eliminated on Disposal	(62,580)	-	-	(62,580)
At 31 December 2021	<u>344,520</u>	<u>153,047</u>	<u>55,640</u>	<u>553,207</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2020	<u>560,816</u>	<u>76,130</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>636,946</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>539,616</u>	<u>76,815</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>616,431</u>

11 Stock

	2021	2020
	£	£
Stock	<u>17,474</u>	<u>16,802</u>

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

12 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	45,339	51,243
Other debtors	54,457	19,024
	<u>99,796</u>	<u>70,267</u>

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Loan	8,000	-
Trade creditors	16,801	24,700
Other taxation and social security	3,057	19,983
Other creditors and accruals	15,192	8,936
Deferred income	29,469	93,046
	<u>72,519</u>	<u>146,665</u>

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Bank loans	<u>45,000</u>	<u>-</u>

The Bounce Back loan was drawn down in July 2021. It has a term of 72 months. Capital repayments will commence 13 months following the draw down of the loan. A guarantee has been provided by the UK Government under BBLS.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

15 Statement of funds

Statement of funds – current year

	At 1 January 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds – fixed assets	486,962	-	(15,435)	-	471,527
General funds					
General funds	121,757	244,719	(263,962)	28,000	130,514
Total unrestricted funds	608,719	244,719	(279,397)	28,000	602,041
Restricted funds					
Biomass Project Fund	18,750	-	(1,250)	-	17,500
Home Farm Biomass	-	25,000	-	-	25,000
Historic Trails	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Minibus Fund	2,100	-	-	-	2,100
Visitor Economy Kickstart Grant	-	2,491	(2,491)	-	-
Livestock Fund	5,194	-	(5,194)	-	-
Sensory Trail Project Fund	23,948	-	(1,574)	-	22,374
Education and Farmers Salary Fund	-	15,000	(6,250)	-	8,750
Salaries	-	20,000	(5,000)	-	15,000
Bird Trail Fund	6,061	-	(3,242)	-	2,819
Climate Change Centre	-	1,807	(1,807)	-	-
Climate Change Centre	3,323	-	(949)	-	2,374
Residential Bathrooms Project	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Farm & Community Assistant	1,667	-	(1,667)	-	-
Education Officer	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Environmental Education Intern	2,500	-	-	-	2,500
Treehouse Tools	82	-	(62)	-	20
Outreach	16,085	-	(543)	-	15,542
Refurbishment of Residential Centre	12,000	-	-	-	12,000
The OWL Collaboration	35,000	35,000	-	(28,000)	42,000
Green and Blue Horizons Project	-	8,146	(8,146)	-	-
	131,710	113,444	(44,175)	(28,000)	172,979
Total funds	740,429	358,163	(323,572)	-	775,020

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2021

15 Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds – fixed assets	502,109	-	(15,147)	-	486,962
General funds					
General funds	113,629	316,418	(308,290)	-	121,757
Total unrestricted funds	615,738	316,418	(323,437)	-	608,719
Restricted funds					
Biomass Project Fund	20,000	-	(1,250)	-	18,750
City Kids Out Fund	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-
Minibus Fund	2,609	2,100	(2,609)	-	2,100
Signage of Site Fund	1,432	-	(1,432)	-	-
Livestock Fund	-	12,350	(7,156)	-	5,194
Sensory Trail Project Fund	23,948	-	-	-	23,948
Education Manager Fund	35,639	-	(35,639)	-	-
Bird Trail Fund	9,060	-	(2,999)	-	6,061
Volunteer Interns Fund	39	-	(39)	-	-
Climate Change Centre - Revenue	146	2,907	(3,053)	-	-
Climate Change Centre - Capital	4,272	-	(949)	-	3,323
Year of Green Action	300	-	(300)	-	-
Farm & Community Assistant	11,667	-	(10,000)	-	1,667
Education Officer	-	20,000	(15,000)	-	5,000
21st Birthday Celebration	250	-	(500)	250	-
Green Wood-Working Programme	250	-	-	(250)	-
Linen Purchase	370	-	(370)	-	-
Pigsty & Minibus	400	-	(400)	-	-
Environmental Education Intern	1,000	2,500	(1,000)	-	2,500
Treehouse Tools	82	-	-	-	82
Outreach	-	16,085	-	-	16,085
Refurbishment of Residential Centre	-	12,000	-	-	12,000
The OWL Collaboration	-	35,000	-	-	35,000
	113,464	102,942	(84,696)	-	131,710
Total funds	729,202	419,360	(408,133)	-	740,429

15 Statement of funds (continued)

Summary of funds – current year

	At 1 January 2021	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	486,962	-	(15,435)	-	471,527
General funds	121,757	244,719	(263,962)	28,000	130,514
	<u>608,719</u>	<u>244,719</u>	<u>(279,397)</u>	<u>28,000</u>	<u>602,041</u>
Restricted funds	131,710	113,444	(44,175)	(28,000)	172,979
	<u>740,429</u>	<u>358,163</u>	<u>(323,572)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>775,020</u>

Summary of funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	502,109	-	(15,147)	-	486,962
General funds	113,629	316,418	(308,290)	-	121,757
	<u>615,738</u>	<u>316,418</u>	<u>(323,437)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>608,719</u>
Restricted funds	113,464	102,942	(84,696)	-	131,710
	<u>729,202</u>	<u>419,360</u>	<u>(408,133)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>740,429</u>

Designated funds

The fixed asset designated fund has been set up to reflect those assets held by the charity that were acquired previously with restricted funds, principally the refurbishment and development of the New Forest Study Centre, and improvements at the Out of Town Centre.

Restricted revenue funds descriptions

The Biomass Project fund is to contribute towards the funding of a Biomass boiler.

Home farm biomass is to support a new biomass at Home Farm.

Historic Trails is a project funding by the National Park for storytelling in special places.

The City Kids Out fund is to support visits of disadvantaged children from Hampshire.

The Minibus fund is to help towards the purchase of a new minibus and signage.

Visitor Economy Kickstart Grant is Solent LEP funding for HR support.

15 Statement of funds (continued)

The Signage of Site Fund is to fund the purchase of teachers' beds and new signage for the sites.

The Livestock fund is to contribute towards the purchase of livestock.

The Sensory Trail Project Fund is to contribute towards the Sensory Trail Project.

Education and Farmers Salary Fund is to assist with the salaries of farmer and education manager.

The Bird Trail Fund is to contribute towards the building of a bird trail and hide for bird watching, together with associated display boards and cameras.

The Volunteer Interns Fund is to assist with the costs related to hiring Volunteer Interns.

The Climate Change Centre Funds contributed towards the cost of purchasing weather stations situated at the Treehouse and the Residential Centre.

The Farm & Community Assistant Fund is to help towards the salary of a part-time Farm & Community Assistant for 18 months.

The Education Officer fund is to assist with the salary of the education officer.

The Environmental Intern Fund is to support five individuals on the Environmental Education Internship programme.

The Outreach fund is to support a local community farming project.

The Refurbishment of Residential Centre fund is to support upcoming maintenance work to the residential centre.

The OWL Collaboration fund is a four year project aimed at disadvantaged young people enabling them to experience high quality residential Outdoor Weeks of Learning (OWLs.)

Green and Blue Horizons Project is a National Heritage Lottery funded scheme for public engagement and outreach.

Other restricted funds are for various projects as outlined in the names of the funds above.

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds – current year

	Restricted funds 2021	Designated funds 2021	Unrestricted funds 2021	Total funds 2021
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	22,693	-	593,738	616,431
Current assets	150,286	-	125,822	276,108
Creditors due within one year	-	-	(117,519)	(117,519)
	<u>172,979</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>602,041</u>	<u>775,020</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds – prior year

	Restricted funds 2020	Designated funds 2020	Unrestricted funds 2020	Total funds 2020
	£		£	£
Fixed assets	30,477	486,962	119,507	636,946
Current assets	101,233	-	148,915	250,148
Creditors due within one year	-	-	(146,665)	(146,665)
	<u>131,710</u>	<u>486,962</u>	<u>121,757</u>	<u>740,429</u>

17 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	34,591	11,227
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	30,386	37,461
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	1	-
Increase in stocks	(672)	(2,093)
Increase in debtors	(29,529)	(32,913)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(82,146)	52,569
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>(47,369)</u>	<u>66,251</u>

18 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash in hand	<u>158,838</u>	<u>163,079</u>

19 Pension commitments

The charity participates in a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £1,856 (2020: £2,219). Contributions totalling £111 (2020: £366) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

20 Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2021 the total of the Charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating lease payments was:

	Land and buildings		Other	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Amounts payable:				
Within 1 year	5,667	5,667	783	783
Between 1 and 5 years	19,204	19,204	978	1,761
After more than 5 years	219,634	224,434	-	-
Total	<u>244,505</u>	<u>249,305</u>	<u>1,761</u>	<u>2,544</u>

21 Trustees

No Trustee or closely connected person received emoluments from the charity and no expenses were reimbursed to Trustees during the year.

During the year the charity provided Trustee indemnity insurance to cover all its trustees at a cost of £1,500 (2020: £1,500).

22 Related party transactions

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with connected parties.

Beaulieu Enterprises Limited ('BEL') a company in which one of the directors was also Trustee of the charity.

Recharged services provided by BEL amounted to £12,075 (2020: £24,237).

At the year end the balance owed by the charity to BEL amounted to £13,022 (2020: £22,261).

Lord Montagu - A Trustee of the charity

During the year the trust leased all leasehold properties from the private estate of Lord Montagu. The rentals payable on these properties for the year were £1,084 (2020: £1,800).

The charity also paid £4,770 (2020: £nil) for other services provided by the private estate of the Lord Montagu. At the year end the balance owed by the charity to Lord Montagu amounted to £1,448 (2020: £nil).

23 Control

The charity is controlled by its Trustees acting in accordance with the terms of the governing trust deed.

THE COUNTRYSIDE EDUCATION TRUST

England & Wales - Charity number 269546

Accounts



**Trustees' report and financial statements
for the year ended 31 December 2020**



The Countryside Education Trust

**Legal and administrative information
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

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The Countryside Education Trust

Legal and administrative information For the year ended 31 December 2020

Trustees

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, Chair
A Rolf (Resigned 29th April 2021)
A Moore-Gwyn
D Olden
R Channell
N Burt
V Humber
D Printer, Deputy Chair
M Wade

The Countryside Education Trust is a tenant of Lord Montagu and the Beaulieu Estate.

**Charity Commission
registration number**

269546

Registered office

John Montagu Building
Beaulieu
Hampshire
SO42 7ZN

Independent Examiners

Saffery Champness LLP
Chartered Accountants
Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth
BH2 5QY

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc
4th Floor, Block A
Apex Plaza
Forbury Road
Reading
RG1 1AX

The Countryside Education Trust

Trustees' Report For the year ended 31 December 2020

The trustees present their report for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Constitution and principal charitable objectives

The Countryside Education Trust (269546) was founded in 1975. Its objectives and activities are to:

- Provide or promote the provision of facilities so that the public and young people in particular, can gain access to the countryside, especially the Beaulieu Estate and the New Forest: and that they can both enjoy and be educated about the countryside;
- Protect, preserve and care for the beauty and character of the countryside and to stimulate the general public to do the same
- Conserve the New Forest for the benefit of the public, including the restoration and preservation of buildings of national, historic or scientific interest.

The Countryside Education Trust enables meaningful and enjoyable access to the countryside for all, particularly those who are the most disadvantaged, through excellent teaching and access to well-cared for special places.

General Activities

The charity runs diverse activities with the theme of connecting people to the countryside. We have two sites: a farm, orchard and garden surrounding a residential centre, where our offices are based; and 40 acres of managed private woodland, with treehouse classrooms, an ancient meadow and a cob cottage.

In normal times, our main activity has been residential visits by schools, charities and community organisations. For schools, groups and organisations based within an hour or so of our sites we also run day visits, covering a range of activities from farm to plate to bush craft to stream studies. All are taught in line with the requirements of the National Curriculum. More locally still, we run playgroups for children up to the age of 10, our Owls Clubs. Community events are themed on seasons to take advantage of the special characteristics of our sites and we have a wide range of rural skills courses for all ages. More recently we have added outreach sessions, including to care homes. An intern training programme and a range of volunteer activities round off a typical year.

Highlights in 2020

To say that 2020 was a challenging year would be a massive understatement. In March, with the first lockdown, the residential environmental education sector was closed down. As at the end of 2020, there is still no guidance about re-opening. Rather strangely, we sit alongside night clubs, in limbo.

As outdoor residential centres around the country close and jobs in the sector are lost, we continue to ask for clarity from the government, sector specific financial support, and an underwriting scheme which would enable schools to book with certainty, and centres to staff appropriately.

Even when we are allowed to resume activities, there is likely to be an impact on teachers' and parents' appetite and financial capacity to bring children away. This is particularly sad, as if the pandemic has revealed anything, it is that nature is vital to people's emotional and physical wellbeing. People with the capacity to do so have flocked to the outdoors in unprecedented numbers, for the relief it has brought. Our work can be part of a response to some of the issues highlighted by the pandemic: inequality, alarmingly high rates of anxiety in young people in particular, and general ill health caused by the lack of opportunities in our most disadvantaged communities.

The Countryside Education Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Notwithstanding this generally challenging picture, we have been hugely lucky in our friends. From our community supporters, local businesses, trusts and individuals we have benefited from significant support during the last months. Although very sadly indeed we have been forced to make some redundancies and to shrink our team, in the process saying good bye to some longstanding colleagues, we have been able to stay true to our mission of connecting people with the countryside and this would not have been possible without such support.

Public Benefit

The Trustees believe that the charity operates under the following sections of the Charities' Act 2011 and has a long tradition of ensuring maximum access to its services:

- The advancement of education
- The advancement of environmental protection or improvement
- The advancement of citizenship or community development
- The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

Public benefit is evident in the wide variety of ages and backgrounds of people who access our services. We take seriously our commitment to ensuring that both sites are looked after to high ecological, environmental and animal welfare standards. The charity was born of a recognition that bringing people out of cities to engage with nature is worthwhile on many different levels and this belief continues to inform our work of connecting people to the countryside, which is one reason that we persist in making access affordable.

Achievements and Performance

Our mission is to 'Connect people to the Countryside'. In spite of the complexities of 2020, we fulfilled this with a range of initiatives and activities.

Owls Clubs

We took our Owls Clubs online straightaway, and have run virtual sessions for them with 'visits' to the farm or woods, craft activities and storytelling, much to the relief of parents and carers, who have needed to find new ways of entertaining children unable to go to school for long periods.



The Countryside Education Trust

Trustees' Report For the year ended 31 December 2020

Schools

School day visits have been possible only very occasionally, but we have encouraged them whenever guidance has eased.

Arts

As a new departure, but a way of connecting people with the countryside through the arts, we seized an opportunity to host outdoor theatre in the woods. Professional actors, led by a well-known director, 'bubbled' in the residential centre. They performed two Shakespeare plays to audience members in family bays marked out in the woods with logs to achieve social distancing. With careful health and safety, over 1400 people came safely through our gates. Woodland magic was made.

Online

Using the new technical knowledge acquired through our Owls work, we joined in Virtual Farm Sunday, run by LEAF. There are some benefits in being online, in that people who don't live close by can still participate, and we will continue to do these outreach projects, even when 'in person' events can return.



Events

In a brief respite from lockdown we squeezed in a physical Christmas event in the woods, and it was truly celebratory to hear the children hunting for Christmas decorations in the trees. It certainly lifted everyone's spirits.

The Countryside Education Trust

Trustees' Report For the year ended 31 December 2020

Pop Up Shop

Pivoting has been a word of 2020, and we have done that with our pop-up shop. A surplus of sausages destined for the residential centre was the impetus. The shop has proved popular and has helped us to build better relationships with our community, reminding people at the same time that we are responsible farmers as well as environmentalists.

Volunteering

We managed to redesign our volunteer programme to continue to involve as many people as possible in small groups outdoors, in highly targeted activities. This was valued enormously both by our volunteers and by our staff team, who accomplished more than would have been possible with such a reduced staff. Activities included everything from coppicing to cuddling small mammals to keep them friendly for visiting children in the future to traditional haymaking in our ancient meadow. Enthusiasm did not wane, and our relationships are, if anything stronger now.



Partnerships

As outlined in last year's report, partnership working is a theme for our future, and this year has seen a flourishing of relationships with organisations locally:

- The Fort Foundation's support for our new Fort Climate Centre continues, and will be ready in 2021 to receive all sorts of groups to learn about climate change and its mitigations locally and on a global scale.

The Countryside Education Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

- We continued our work with the Living Waters Project to monitor habitats and enhance water capture across our sites. This includes a new muck barn (not glamorous, but necessary), water capture from roofs for animal troughs, better slurry management, and a positive impact on wildlife, including young eels using eel tunnels in the Hartford Wood system.
- Another new project has been our involvement with the National Park in developing New Forest Stories, written and performed by our wider team, which will feature on the New Forest National Park website.
- Our dormouse project continues, and though we have not found firm evidence of dormice in our woods, the data remain useful to Natural England and is part of a wider relationship with them.
- We are one of seven residential centres selected for a new venture, the OWLS collaboration, run by the Ernest Cook Trust. This national project will facilitate outdoor learning experiences for children from disadvantaged backgrounds, who will be followed over the longer term to research the impact of their visit on their development. Schools benefit from training and transport funding, and the costs of the visits to us are borne by the Ernest Cook Trust. What better way to end such a year than to be included in this targeted initiative.

The Future

We are planning for the future with the expectation that we will emerge from the pandemic lean, efficient and invigorated in the knowledge that our work is highly relevant. We will be a much smaller team, but one able to deliver a wide variety of programmes, including a new emphasis on climate, focussed around the new Fort Climate Centre. We know that schools are very keen to return, and we are keen to have them; but we are also aware that there are other ways of meeting our mission, and will be making changes to ensure that we appeal to, and are equipped to serve, a wider market. This will involve, for example, making changes to the residential centre to improve bathrooms. We will start work on the sensory garden, and continue to work regeneratively on the farm, anticipating a new government emphasis. And as soon as we are able to do so, we will start working again with care homes, a project which had a promising start, but which has been impossible during the pandemic.

Principal Sources of Income

During 2020 we have been unable to earn much income at all, given the constraints on every aspect of our work. However, we have enjoyed corporate, trust, community and individual support with quite astonishing generosity and in all sorts of ways, which has been very moving. Government support via the furlough scheme has been particularly helpful in enabling us to retain key staff, and we have also benefitted from some grants directed at hospitality businesses thanks to the New Forest District Council. None of this will be easy to repeat; much of the philanthropic emphasis of the year has been on hands on emergency directed charities, for good reason, and this is not a category into which we fit. So, although we have been successful in fundraising during 2020, we must not be complacent.

Financial Review

Beyond fundraising normally, we charge for our services, though we try to keep our prices reasonable and to ensure that there is a spread through the year to enable schools from poorer areas to attend. We also earn money from weddings, rental income for our Treehouses, our residential centre for weekend and holiday use, and for a house on the farm. Obviously, most of this has been impossible for most of 2020.

The Countryside Education Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Risks are monitored carefully and there is no doubt that continuing austerity and concerns emerging from the pandemic, hot on the heels of Brexit, may make it harder for some schools to participate. This will be partly alleviated by our work with the OWLS project, but we are keen to do our part to ensure equal access.

Reserves Policy

The Trust holds total funds of £740,429 (2019: £729,202) at the year end, of which £131,710 (2019: £113,464) are restricted. Free reserves are arrived at by adjusting for the fixed assets required to continue to operate the Trust of £606,469 (2019: £641,074). Free reserves therefore amounted to a surplus of £2,250 (2019: deficit of £22,336). Trustees aspire to three months of reserves but recognise the unusual situation of charities and the pressures they are under in current times. They appreciate 2020 has been a very difficult time for the charity financially but they believe in time they can get back to their reserves policy.

After making enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to operate in the future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is governed by a Trust Deed and is an Unincorporated Association. The Montagu Family is entitled to chair or be represented on the governing board as founders. No other body has the ability to be automatically represented.

Trustees are recruited through advertising and recommendation. As part of the recruitment process they receive a briefing from the CEO, a tour of both sites and are interviewed by two or three Trustees, before being appointed by the Chair on behalf of the board.

All Trustee meetings have been online since February 2020, when the Trustees approved emergency plans to carry us through the year if the pandemic materialised as we thought it might. This has limited Trustees' involvement in person in other opportunities. We hope that this will be reversed during 2021.

Restructuring into departments and spreading the management load, so long desired, has been lost during 2020, and it is unlikely it will be restored in the near future: indeed, we may never return to that structure as we will be a smaller organisation for the foreseeable future.

However, a number of new ways of working have been born out of necessity. This has led to significant efficiencies, better use of staff time, improved technological understanding, and enhanced relationships with external contractors, especially the Beaulieu Enterprises Accounts Team. The remaining team has a high level of expertise, enthusiasm and appetite to try new things and to work in new ways. Above all there is huge commitment and energy from everyone, which has helped enormously over the past months, and will pay off going forwards.

Services are contracted out where it is cost effective, including for IT, Finance, HR and website support. Public event fundraising and weddings were mostly unable to take place: these rely on external contractors normally.

The Countryside Education Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 December 2020

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The trustees 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).

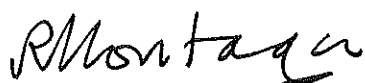
The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity, and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing 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 judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable group will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report was approved by the trustees on 15/10/2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Lord Montagu of Beaulieu

The Countryside Education Trust

Independent examiner's report To the trustees of Countryside Education Trust

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of The Countryside Education Trust

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of The Countryside Education Trust (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Respective Responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

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

Basis of independent examiner's report

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

Independent examiner's statement

Since the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW which is one of the listed bodies.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair view' which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities.

The Countryside Education Trust

**Independent examiner's report
To the trustees of Countryside Education Trust**

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



**Nicholas Fernyhough FCA DChA
For and on behalf of Saffery Champness LLP
Chartered Accountants**

Midland House
2 Poole Road
Bournemouth
Dorset
BH2 5QY

Date: 22 December 2021

The Countryside Education Trust

**Statement of financial activities
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

		Restricted funds 2020	Unrestricted funds 2020	Total funds 2020	Total funds 2019
	Note	£	£	£	£
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	2	102,942	129,607	232,549	165,669
Charitable activities	5	-	59,862	59,862	317,358
Other trading activities	3,4	-	14,774	14,774	54,021
Other income	2	-	112,175	112,175	-
Total income		102,942	316,418	419,360	537,048
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds:					
Voluntary income	6	-	17,258	17,258	30,294
Fundraising trading	6	370	13,555	13,925	12,205
Charitable activities	6	84,326	292,624	376,950	548,471
Total expenditure		84,696	323,437	408,133	590,970
Net movement in funds		18,246	(7,019)	11,227	(53,922)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds at 1 January 2020		113,464	615,738	729,202	783,124
Total funds at 31 December 2020		131,710	608,719	740,429	729,202

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 14 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

The Countryside Education Trust

Balance sheet
As at 31 December 2020

	Note	£	2020 £	£	2019 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		636,946		674,407
Current assets					
Stock	11	16,802		14,709	
Debtors	12	70,267		37,354	
Cash at bank and in hand		163,079		99,828	
			250,148	151,891	
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	13	(146,665)		(97,096)	
Net current assets			103,483		54,795
Total assets less current liabilities			740,429		729,202
Net assets			740,429		729,202
Represented by:					
Restricted funds	14		131,710		113,464
Unrestricted funds	14		608,719		615,738
Total funds			740,429		729,202

The financial statements were approved by the trustees on 15/10/2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Lord Montagu of Beaulieu

The notes on pages 14 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

The Countryside Education Trust

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Net cash provided by/(absorbed by) operating activities	16	66,251	(54,145)
Cash flows from investing activities		-	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(10,027)
Net cash used in investing activities		-	(10,027)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayments of borrowings		(3,000)	(3,000)
Net cash used in financing activities		(3,000)	(3,000)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		63,251	(67,172)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		99,828	167,000
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		163,079	99,828

The notes on pages 14 to 29 form part of these financial statements.

1 Accounting policies

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The Countryside Education Trust is an unincorporated charity. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) effective 1 January 2019 and Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and Charities Act 2011.

Countryside Education Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the charity is a going concern. The Trustees have considered the current uncertainties and don't believe they will impact the ability of the charity to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. They have looked at the likely timing of being able to open the centre again and believe that this along with their cash reserves means they will be able to meet their obligations going forward.

1.3 Fund accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

1.4 Income

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Income (continued)

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted, the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made, or when a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the charity, or the charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Gifts in kind donated for distribution are included at valuation and recognised as income when they are distributed to the projects. Gifts donated for resale are included as income when they are sold. Donated facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified and a third party is bearing the cost. No amounts are included in the financial statements for services donated by volunteers.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis. All expenses including support costs and governance costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure headings.

The cost of generating funds include the cost incurred in generating voluntary income and fundraising trading costs. These costs are regarded as necessary to generate funds that are needed to finance charitable activities.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services to enable the charity to meet its charitable aims and objectives. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of the charity and include audit fees, legal advice for trustees and costs linked to the strategic management of the trust.

Support costs are those costs which enable the fund generating and charitable activities to be undertaken. These costs include finance, human resources, communication and professional fees. Where expenditure incurred relates to more than one cost category it is apportioned on a time or usage basis, over and above a de minimis figure.

1.6 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 Stocks

Stocks for resale are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Stocks used as part of a charitable activity are valued at fair value. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.8 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Buildings	2-5% straight line
Machinery and equipment	20% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% straight line

Tangible fixed assets costing less than £500 are not capitalised and are written off in the year of purchase. All assets are examined annually for potential impairment and any material deductions in value are written down at the year end.

1.9 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

1.10 Debtors

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

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

1 Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 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 amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

Concessionary loans include those payable to third parties which are interest free or below market interest rates and are received to advance charitable purposes. All loans are measured at cost, less impairment as permitted by section 34 of FRS 102.

1.13 Pensions

The charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity to the fund in respect of the year.

2 Income from donations and legacies

	Restricted funds 2020 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Individual donors	15,942	42,300	58,242	38,682	12,375	51,057
Friends of CET	-	1,839	1,839	-	1,643	1,643
Grants	87,000	69,136	156,136	69,800	-	69,800
Gifts in kind	-	16,332	16,332	-	43,169	43,169
Total donations and legacies	102,942	129,607	232,549	108,482	57,187	165,669

During the year, the charity received other income of £112,175 (2019: £nil) which related to monies received under the furlough scheme during the Covid-19 pandemic.

3 Activities to generate funds

	Restricted funds 2020 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Fundraising committee activities	-	3,997	3,997	-	18,308	18,308
RHI income	-	(485)	(485)	-	3,077	3,077
	-	3,512	3,512	-	21,385	21,385

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

4 Trading activities

	Restricted funds 2020	Unrestricted funds 2020	Total funds 2020	Restricted funds 2019	Unrestricted funds 2019	Total funds 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Charity trading income						
Hire income	-	-	-	-	21,356	21,356
Farm income	-	11,262	11,262	-	11,280	11,280
	<u>-</u>	<u>11,262</u>	<u>11,262</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>32,636</u>	<u>32,636</u>
Charity trading expenses						
Holiday let purchases	-	7,449	7,449	-	-	-
Farm purchases	370	6,106	6,476	200	9,859	10,059
	<u>370</u>	<u>6,106</u>	<u>6,476</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>9,859</u>	<u>10,059</u>
Net income/ (expenditure) from trading activities	<u>(370)</u>	<u>(2,293)</u>	<u>(2,293)</u>	<u>(200)</u>	<u>22,777</u>	<u>22,577</u>

5 Income from charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2020	Unrestricted funds 2020	Total funds 2020	Restricted funds 2019	Unrestricted funds 2019	Total funds 2019
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Primary purpose activity:						
Residential fees	-	38,391	38,391	-	277,515	277,515
Non-residential fees and income	-	21,471	21,471	-	39,843	39,843
	<u>-</u>	<u>59,862</u>	<u>59,862</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>317,358</u>	<u>317,358</u>
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>59,862</u>	<u>59,862</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>317,358</u>	<u>317,358</u>

The Countryside Education Trust

**Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

6 Total expenditure

Current Year	Staff costs (Note 9)	Other direct costs	Support costs (Note 7)	Governance costs	Total 2020
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising	-	-	17,258	-	17,258
Fundraising trading	-	13,925	-	-	13,925
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	13,925	17,258	-	31,183
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Primary purpose trade	229,025	81,501	60,815	5,609	376,950
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Governance	-	1,500	4,109	(5,609)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	229,025	96,926	82,182	-	408,133
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Support staff costs	33,858		(33,858)		
	<hr/>		<hr/>		
	262,883		48,324		
	<hr/>		<hr/>		

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

6 Total expenditure (continued)

Prior Year	Staff costs (Note 9)	Other direct costs	Support costs (Note 7)	Governance costs	Total 2019
Expenditure on raising funds					
Fundraising	-	-	30,294	-	30,294
Fundraising trading	-	12,205	-	-	12,205
	-	12,205	30,294	-	42,499
Expenditure on charitable activities					
Primary purpose trade	245,888	187,370	106,750	8,463	548,471
Governance	-	1,250	7,213	(8,463)	-
	245,888	200,825	144,257	-	590,970
Support staff costs	101,183		(101,183)		
	347,071		43,074		

7 Support costs

	Costs of generating voluntary income £	Primary purpose trading £	Governance 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Office costs	10,148	35,760	1,693	47,601
Staff costs	7,110	25,055	2,416	34,581
	17,258	60,815	4,109	82,182

The Countryside Education Trust

**Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

7 Support costs (continued)

<i>Prior Year</i>	Costs of generating voluntary income	Primary purpose trading	Governance 2019	Total 2019
	£	£	£	£
Office costs	9,046	31,875	5,059	45,980
Staff costs	21,248	74,875	2,154	98,277
	<u>30,294</u>	<u>106,750</u>	<u>7,213</u>	<u>144,257</u>

8 Net incoming resources

This is stated after charging:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	37,461	38,964
Independent examiner's fee	1,800	1,800
Operating lease rentals	<u>5,667</u>	<u>5,667</u>

9 Staff employment costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Wages and salaries	245,858	339,597
Social security costs	14,734	5,371
Other pension costs	<u>2,291</u>	<u>2,103</u>
	<u>262,883</u>	<u>347,071</u>

The average number of persons employed by the charity during the year was as follows:

2020	2019
Number	Number
17	20

No employee received remuneration amounting to more than £60,000 in either year.

Key management personnel received remuneration and benefits totalling £32,475 (2019: £39,900) and pension contributions of £2,598 (2019: £2,773).

The Countryside Education Trust

**Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Buildings	Machinery and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 January 2020	948,624	285,104	60,467	1,294,195
Additions	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(1,907)	(65,114)	(4,827)	(71,848)
At 31 December 2020	<u>946,717</u>	<u>219,990</u>	<u>55,640</u>	<u>1,222,347</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 January 2020	372,206	193,117	54,465	619,788
Charge for the year	15,602	15,857	6,002	37,461
Eliminated on Disposal	(1,907)	(65,114)	(4,827)	(71,848)
At 31 December 2020	<u>385,901</u>	<u>143,860</u>	<u>55,640</u>	<u>585,401</u>
Net book value				
At 31 December 2020	<u>560,816</u>	<u>76,130</u>	-	<u>636,946</u>
At 31 December 2019	<u>576,418</u>	<u>91,987</u>	6,002	<u>674,407</u>

11 Stock

	2020	2019
	£	£
Stock	<u>16,802</u>	<u>14,709</u>

The Countryside Education Trust

**Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

12 Debtors

	2020	2019
	£	£
Trade debtors	51,243	23,896
Other debtors	19,024	13,458
	<u>70,267</u>	<u>37,354</u>

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2020	2019
	£	£
Loan	-	3,000
Trade creditors	24,700	14,492
Other taxation and social security	19,983	2,847
Other creditors and accruals	8,936	22,091
Deferred income	93,046	54,666
	<u>146,665</u>	<u>97,096</u>

The Countryside Education Trust

**Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020**

14 Statement of funds

Statement of funds – current year

	At 1 January 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds – fixed assets	502,109	-	(15,147)	-	486,962
General funds					
General funds	113,629	316,418	(308,290)	-	121,757
Total unrestricted funds	615,738	316,418	(323,437)	-	608,719
Restricted funds					
Biomass Project Fund	20,000	-	(1,250)	-	18,750
City Kids Out Fund	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-
Minibus Fund	2,609	2,100	(2,609)	-	2,100
Signage of Site Fund	1,432	-	(1,432)	-	-
Livestock Fund	-	12,350	(7,156)	-	5,194
Sensory Trail Project Fund	23,948	-	-	-	23,948
Education Manager Fund	35,639	-	(35,639)	-	-
Bird Trail Fund	9,060	-	(2,999)	-	6,061
Volunteer Interns Fund	39	-	(39)	-	-
Climate Change Centre	146	2,907	(3,053)	-	-
Climate Change Centre	4,272	-	(949)	-	3,323
Year of Green Action	300	-	(300)	-	-
Farm & Community Assistant	11,667	-	(10,000)	-	1,667
Education Officer	-	20,000	(15,000)	-	5,000
21st Birthday Celebration	250	-	(500)	250	-
Green Wood-Working Programme	250	-	-	(250)	-
Linen Purchase	370	-	(370)	-	-
Pigsty & Minibus	400	-	(400)	-	-
Environmental Education Intern	1,000	2,500	(1,000)	-	2,500
Treehouse Tools	82	-	-	-	82
Outreach	-	16,085	-	-	16,085
Refurbishment of Residential Centre	-	12,000	-	-	12,000
The OWL Collaboration	-	35,000	-	-	35,000
	113,464	102,942	(84,696)	-	131,710
Total funds	729,202	419,360	(408,133)	-	740,429

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

14 Statement of funds (continued)

Statement of funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2019	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds – fixed assets	518,206	-	(16,097)	-	502,109
General funds					
General funds	145,099	428,566	(460,036)	-	113,629
Total unrestricted funds	663,305	428,566	(476,133)	-	615,738
Restricted funds					
Biomass Project Fund	21,250	-	(1,250)	-	20,000
City Kids Out Fund	2,000	-	-	-	2,000
Minibus Fund	15,439	-	(12,830)	-	2,609
Refurbishment Fund	1,432	-	-	-	1,432
Livestock Fund	35	-	(35)	-	-
Sensory Trail Project Fund	24,382	1,100	(1,534)	-	23,948
Education & Farmers Salaries Fund	44,424	49,500	(58,285)	-	35,639
Bird Trail Fund	9,530	-	(470)	-	9,060
Volunteer Interns Fund	922	-	(883)	-	39
Climate Change Centre	405	28,465	(28,724)	-	146
Year of Green Action	-	300	-	-	300
Farm & community assistant	-	15,000	(3,333)	-	11,667
Cobb Cottage Restoration	-	5,100	(5,100)	-	-
21st Birthday Celebration	-	250	-	-	250
Green Wood-Working Programme	-	250	-	-	250
Linen Purchase	-	370	-	-	370
Pigsty & Minibus	-	400	-	-	400
Home Farm Improvements	-	150	(150)	-	-
Bedding	-	200	(200)	-	-
Environmental Education Intern	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Food & Wine	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
Treehouse Tools	-	250	(168)	-	82
Weather Station	-	4,747	(475)	-	4,272
Rental Cottage Cooker	-	400	(400)	-	-
	119,819	108,482	(114,837)	-	113,464
Total funds	783,124	537,048	(590,970)	-	729,202

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2020

14 Statement of funds (continued)

Summary of funds – current year

	At 1 January 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	502,109	-	(15,147)	-	486,962
General funds	113,629	316,418	(308,290)	-	121,757
	<u>615,738</u>	<u>316,418</u>	<u>(323,437)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>608,719</u>
Restricted funds	113,464	102,942	(84,696)	-	131,710
	<u>729,202</u>	<u>419,360</u>	<u>(408,133)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>740,429</u>

Summary of funds – prior year

	At 1 January 2019	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Transfers in/out	At 31 December 2019
	£	£	£	£	£
Designated funds	518,206	-	(16,097)	-	502,109
General funds	145,099	428,566	(460,036)	-	113,629
	<u>663,305</u>	<u>428,566</u>	<u>(476,133)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>615,738</u>
Restricted funds	119,819	108,482	(114,837)	-	113,464
	<u>783,124</u>	<u>537,048</u>	<u>(590,970)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>729,202</u>

Designated funds

The fixed asset designated fund has been set up to reflect those assets held by the charity that were acquired previously with restricted funds, principally the refurbishment and development of the New Forest Study Centre, and improvements at the Out of Town Centre.

Restricted revenue funds descriptions

The Biomass Project fund is to contribute towards the funding of a Biomass boiler.

The City Kids Out fund is to support visits of disadvantaged children from Hampshire.

The Minibus fund is to help towards the purchase of a new minibus and signage.

The Signage of Site Fund is to fund the purchase of teachers' beds and new signage for the sites.

The Sensory Trail Project Fund is to contribute towards the Sensory Trail Project.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2020

14 Statement of funds (continued)

The Education Manager Fund is to assist with the salaries of farmer and education manager.

The Livestock fund is to contribute towards the purchase of livestock.

The Bird Trail Fund is to contribute towards the building of a bird trail and hide for bird watching, together with associated display boards and cameras.

The Volunteer Interns Fund is to assist with the costs related to hiring Volunteer Interns.

The Climate Change Centre Funds contributed towards the cost of purchasing weather stations situated at the Treehouse and the Residential Centre.

The Farm & Community Assistant Fund is to help towards the salary of a part-time Farm & Community Assistant for 18 months.

The Education Officer fund is to assist with the salary of the education officer.

The Cobb Cottage Restoration Fund is to contribute towards the restoration of Cobb Cottage.

The Environmental Intern Fund is to support five individuals on the Environmental Education Internship programme.

The Food & Wine Fund is a donation to contribute towards the cost of food and wine for the 'Chef's night' fundraising dinner.

The Outreach fund is to support a local community farming project.

The Refurbishment of Residential Centre fund is to support upcoming maintenance work to the residential centre.

The OWL Collaboration fund is a four year project aimed at disadvantaged young people enabling them to experience high quality residential Outdoor Weeks of Learning (OWLs.)

Other restricted funds are for various projects as outlined in the names of the funds above.

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds – current year

	Restricted funds 2020	Designated funds 2020	Unrestricted funds 2020	Total funds 2020
	£		£	£
Fixed assets	30,477	486,962	119,507	636,946
Current assets	101,233	-	148,915	250,148
Creditors due within one year	-	-	(146,665)	(146,665)
	<u>131,710</u>	<u>486,962</u>	<u>121,757</u>	<u>740,429</u>

Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 31 December 2020

15 Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds – prior year

	Restricted funds 2019	Designated funds 2019	Unrestricted funds 2019	Total funds 2019
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	33,333	502,109	138,965	674,407
Current assets	80,131	-	71,760	151,891
Creditors due within one year	-	-	(97,096)	(97,096)
	<u>113,464</u>	<u>502,109</u>	<u>113,629</u>	<u>729,202</u>

16 Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	11,227	(53,922)
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	37,461	38,964
Gifts in kind – donated assets	-	(35,362)
(Increase)/decrease/ in stocks	(2,093)	1,464
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(32,913)	32,134
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	52,569	(37,423)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>66,251</u>	<u>(54,145)</u>

17 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2020 £	2019 £
Cash in hand	<u>163,079</u>	<u>99,828</u>

18 Pension commitments

The charity participates in a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the charity in an independently administered fund. The pension cost charge represents contributions payable by the charity to the fund and amounted to £2,291 (2019: £2,103). Contributions totalling £366 (2019: £353) were payable to the fund at the balance sheet date and are included in creditors.

The Countryside Education Trust

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 December 2020

19 Operating lease commitments

At 31 December 2020 the total of the Charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating lease payments was:

	Land and buildings		Other	
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Amounts payable:				
Within 1 year	5,667	5,667	783	-
Between 1 and 5 years	19,204	19,204	1,761	-
After more than 5 years	224,434	229,235	-	-
Total	<u>249,305</u>	<u>254,106</u>	<u>2,543</u>	<u>-</u>

20 Trustees

No Trustee or closely connected person received emoluments from the charity and no expenses were reimbursed to Trustees during the year.

During the year the charity provided Trustee indemnity insurance to cover all its trustees at a cost of £1,500 (2019: £nil).

21 Related party transactions

During the year the charity entered into the following transactions with connected parties.

Beaulieu Enterprises Limited ('BEL') a company in which one of the directors was also Trustee of the charity.

Recharged services provided by BEL amounted to £24,237 (2019: £25,928).

Recharged services provided to BEL amounted to nil (2019: £446)

At the year end the balance owed by the charity to BEL amounted to £22,261 (2019: £1,419).

Lord Montagu - A Trustee of the charity

During the year the trust leased all leasehold properties from the private estate of Lord Montagu. The rentals payable on these properties for the year were £1,800 (2019: £10,552).

The charity also paid £nil (2019: £329) for other services provided by the private estate of the Lord Montagu. At the year end the balance owed by the charity to Lord Montagu amounted to £nil (2019: £1,154).

22 Control

The charity is controlled by its Trustees acting in accordance with the terms of the governing trust deed.



Restoring the Cob Cottage for its' 22nd birthday with volunteers!

For more information about our work, please contact

mail@cet.org.uk

www.cet.org.uk

#CETnewforest

01590 612401

