

Company Registration No. 01339783 (England and Wales)

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
CHARITY ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees (who are also directors)	J L Adams	(resigned 19 October 2024)
	J Blackman	
	F Castro	(appointed 10 September 2024)
	J P Harrington	
	P A Moxey	
	C Pantling	
	R Perry-Gosling	
	D Pitwood	
	J Richardson	
	G Scott Spicer	
	L Vacher	
Company number	01339783	
Registered Charity number	275076	
Registered office	The Warren Lodge Loughton Essex IG10 4RN	
Website	https://efht.org.uk/	
Chief Executive Officer	P Lewis	
Accountants	Hern Pocknells Limited Chartered Accountants Suites 1 & 2, Nash House Hackman's Lane, Purleigh Chelmsford Essex CM3 6RP	
Bankers	CAF Bank Limited West Malling Kent ME19 4TA	

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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EPHING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

The Trustees present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2025. The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of company law and who served during the year and up to the date of this report are shown in the Administrative Details section.

The Trustees have prepared this Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law including the Charities Act 2006, United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, our Articles of Association and with the accounting principles set out in the notes to these financial statements.

Since the Company qualifies as small under section 382 of the Companies Act 2006, the Strategic Report required of medium and large companies under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors' Report) Regulations 2013 has been omitted.

A. OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

For the benefit of the public in general (and in particular, but without limitation, the communities in and around Epping Forest):

- (a) To preserve and promote the natural, historical and cultural heritage of Epping Forest and to promote environmental conservation, protection and improvement in Epping Forest; and
- (b) to advance education by promoting greater knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Epping Forest.

Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance, published by the Commission, in determining the activities undertaken by the charity. The trustees are satisfied that the aims and objectives of the charity, and the activities reported on below to achieve the aims, meet these principles.

B. ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Summary review of activities

This has been the final year of our Strategic Plan 2022-25, with the planned investment from our dedicated reserves ensuring huge progress in delivering our overarching priority for the year of building our community around Epping Forest. It has also seen us develop our new Strategic plan 2025-2030, which we launched in May 2025.

We were also delighted to appoint our former Chair, Judith Adams, as our Honorary Life President, and for our Vice Chair, James Harrington to step into the Chair role, supported by Rosie Perry-Gosling as Vice Chair.

We report our activities against our Strategic Objectives:

1. We will educate and inspire people about Epping Forest

With support from Essex County Council Locality Fund we developed 7 new information boards for the Visitor Centre at High Beach and updated a variety of our information materials. We also hosted a well-received exhibition of photos about the longhorn cattle.

Our 27 dedicated volunteers contributed over 1,900 hours of volunteer time to welcome over 11,400 (9,400 in 2023/24) visitors to the Forest over the course of the year, representing a 21% increase on the previous year, and providing each one of them with helpful information for their visit.

**EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Summary review of activities (continued)

1. We will educate and inspire people about Epping Forest (continued)

In July we celebrated the 10th anniversary of running the Visitor Centre at High Beach on behalf of the City of London Corporation. Over the 10 years our volunteers have welcomed over 145,000 visitors to the Forest.

Our 13 fantastic walk leader and walk marshal volunteers continued to lead our highly-valued Forest-wide free monthly guided walks programme, contributing 408 hours of volunteer time (up from 268 in 2023/24) to deliver 17 walks (14 in 2023/24) and enabling 470 people (up from 341 in 2023/24) to learn more about the Forest while getting some much-welcomed outdoor exercise.

We are very grateful to local artists Sharon Drew, Hugh Hamshaw Thomas and Alison Chaplin for partnering with us on an art walk as part of the Urban Tree Festival; Maymana from FungiFutures bringing their particular expertise and knowledge to share with walk participants on a fungi walk and RSPB North East London for partnering on a birding walk in Highams Part supported by the Highams Park Planning Group.

One participant fed back "It was a treat to be out in the Forest with a diverse and friendly group, and with the benefit of the most interesting commentary from volunteers and staff of the trust. Thank you!"

Our monthly e-mail newsletter grew to reach over 3,400, up from 2,900 in 2023/24, and in total our social media reach through Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, LinkedIn and Eventbrite reached over 6,700 people up from 4,500 the year before.

We distributed 3 editions of our Trust in the Forest magazine to our 1,000 plus members around the Forest.

With support from the City of London Central Grants programme we were also delighted to build significantly on our pilot Community Engagement Programme with 32 wonderful, different partner organisations collaborating with us to engage 1,089 people (up from 9 organisations and 362 people in 2023/24) from diverse communities with the Forest, most of whom had never visited the Forest before. We presented on our successes and the learnings from the pilot Community Engagement programme to the Epping Forest and Commons Committee in September. Noreen Niazi and Amy Liu from the team were also asked to present at Locality's national conference about our community engagement activity.

Our fantastic walk leader and walk marshal volunteers gave over 54 hours of volunteer time to deliver the walk with 200 participants with Muslim Hikers.

Participant feedback on our community engagement programme has been particularly touching. For example: Lewis Garland, from Fences and Frontiers
"Partnering with Epping Forest Heritage Trust has helped us to explore beautiful parts of Epping Forest, and engage with the forest creatively."

In 2024, we ran two activities with EFHT. The first, part of the Urban Tree Festival, took us through woodlands, past Iron Age earthworks and Tudor hunting lodges, and to gravel pit lakes filled with moorhens and Mandarin ducks.

The second activity involved a walk around Wanstead Flats for artistic inspiration, followed by an afternoon of collage (and impromptu Persian dance) at Rabbit Road Press.

Our participants come from diverse backgrounds, and connecting with nature is vital for their mental health, especially for those living in limbo in asylum hotels. We're impressed by EFHT's efforts towards democratising access to green spaces and can't wait to collaborate again!"

'Immersed in the beauty of Epping Forest, we learn more about its trees and wildlife while connecting with like-minded souls! Thanks so much to the team at EFHT for our guided walk' Nazia, Sustainably Muslim.

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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Summary review of activities (continued)

1. We will educate and inspire people about Epping Forest (continued)

Leilei from VaChina in relation to a bespoke conservation activity

“Our collaborative activity with the Epping Forest Heritage Trust (EFHT) provided an exceptional opportunity for our Chinese women and LGBTQ+ community members to connect with nature and participate in the conservation process, which is often exclusive to white and local communities. Not only did we gain specific conservation knowledge and skills, but we also learned about the history of Epping Forest. We deeply appreciate the work of EFHT and their efforts to make nature more accessible to marginalised groups.”

In September, our volunteers led over 150 people in total on the 14-mile Epping Forest Big Walk (previously the Centenary Walk) from Manor Park in the south of the Forest to Epping in the north of the Forest. We were delighted to have political support all along the route, with newly elected Leyton and Wanstead MP Calvin Bailey welcoming participants to the start and walking with us, and newly elected MP for Epping, Neil Hudson, joining us to walk from High Beach and offering words of congratulations to participants when they reached Bell Common.

We are also grateful to The City of London Corporation for the support from their keepers, and to Ben Murphy, Chair of the Epping Forest and Commons Committee, Jacqueline Egglestone, Superintendent of Epping Forest and Gordon Turpin, from Highams Park Planning Group, for their insightful speeches on

Volunteer walk leaders, marshals and refreshment volunteers contributed over 100 hours of their time to make the Big Walk a success.

With funding support from the Essex County Council Locality Fund, the Charles S French Trust and Tesco Stronger Starts, and with support from the City of London Corporation, we launched our new walking app for the Forest, which has since been downloaded by over 5,000 people, helping them to explore and understand more about the Forest.

We delivered a range of talks to local community organisations over the year including to the Loughton History Society, Royal Wharf Primary School and Loughton Methodist Church.

We were also delighted to partner with the Essex Cultural Diversity Project and artist Talia Randall to develop and publish the Voices of Epping Forest Podcast, bringing to the fore often unheard voices of people visiting the Forest.

2. We will conserve and grow the Forest

We continued the expansion of our conservation activities over the last year thanks to funding from the City Bridge Foundation, as well as through bespoke community and corporate conservation sessions. This meant we were able to deliver more conservation sessions across the whole of the Forest, with a mixture of open sessions for members of the public, targeted sessions for women, non-binary and trans people and bespoke sessions designed to meet the needs of our corporate and community partners – all improving the biodiversity of the Forest.

In total, over the last year, 301 individual volunteers between them delivered 4,865 hours of conservation activity (up from 3,043 hours of conservation activity in 2023/24 – a 62% increase in our conservation

The sessions funded by City Bridge Foundation involved 125 different individuals (67 in 2023/24) who between them delivered over 1300 hours of conservation activity (350 hours in 2023/24).

These sessions enabled us to reach new audiences in the south of the Forest with over 20% of participants coming from Waltham Forest, the majority of participants being women and over a quarter being from Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic Communities. Half of the participants were under 35.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Summary review of activities (continued)

2. We will conserve and grow the Forest (continued)

Feedback from these sessions has been incredibly positive, with a Net Promoter Score of 92 and individual comments including:

"This was a really accessible, friendly session and a great way to do coppicing for the first time. I came along to learn about conservation and get some fresh air, and both were accomplished! Robyn [one of our Conservation Officers] is really knowledgeable and helpful, and this provides a great way to feel connected to the natural world, especially while living in London." Ellie

"A really well organised session with a great and diverse group of women. We worked very hard and I came out of it with a great sense of well-being, feeling that I had achieved something worthwhile." Women's* session participant

As part of our approach to engaging more people from more diverse communities in conservation we also partnered with 6 organisations for bespoke walk conservation sessions involving 61 people who between them delivered 159 hours of conservation activity.

We also continued to grow our Green Team on Thursdays, who last year included 40 different individuals over the course of the year (up from 33 in 2023/24) and completed 37 conservation sessions delivering 1,408 hours of volunteer time, up from 1,173 hours the year before.

The Green Team also worked with the City of London's Environmental Resilience Team to build 4 Leaky Dams in Hawk Wood, helping to capture more water in the Forest and reduce flooding.

Our team of people with learning disabilities, the Happy Loppers, undertook 36 sessions involving 18 people including their support workers delivering 1,641 hours of volunteer time, up from 1,520 hours in 2023/24.

The groups worked on 8 separate sites across the Forest including Chingford Plain, Barn Hoppit, Bury Wood, Epping Thicks and Loughton Brook, removing dense stands of holly to open up the Forest floor to increase ground level flora and open "halos of light" around ancient pollarded trees.

Kerry, a Happy Lopper, said "I like the Forest - it is peaceful. I like clearing the holly, feeding the cattle and letting the sunlight through".

We made good progress on delivering against the Halo project, with a total 57 Ancient pollards released from shade by end of March 2025, (34 in 2023-24).

The City of London Corporation Conservation Team have reported that our work along Loughton Brook is supporting their work to increase invertebrate populations on the adjoining Baldwins Hill site.

All our conservation sessions seek to make habitat improvements to improve species diversity in the Forest as well as creating habitat piles to provide refuge areas for reptiles and amphibians.

3. We will protect and preserve the Forest

The last year was challenging with a significant increase in planning activity as Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) and Waltham Forest Borough Council (WFBC) developed and implemented their Local Plans. Alongside the large scale "masterplan" developments in the north of the Forest, there was also an increase in smaller scale planning applications.

In addition, the new Government introduced a number of changes to the planning system which affect the Forest, in particular the creation of a new category of land called "grey belt" designed to facilitate housing development in the Green Belt. The Trust commented on the proposals and we remain very concerned over their potential impact on the Forest which we will continue to monitor.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Summary review of activities (continued)

3. We will protect and preserve the Forest (continued)

The Government also introduced changes which are likely to require both Local Authorities to provide additional housing on top of that required in their existing Local Plans which may also have an impact on the Forest. Again, we will continue to monitor this.

The work was led by a dedicated team of 3 volunteers, supported by our Chief Executive Peter Lewis and Trustee Tricia Moxey.

The Trust has responded to a wide range of planning applications. We have:

- Provided briefing notes to the EFDC Planning Committees which considered specific applications including the South Epping Strategic Masterplan and two sites in the Green Belt, the Netherhouse Farm and West Essex Golf Club solar Farm, Planning permission for which was refused, and Days Farm, Planning permission for which was approved.
- Commented on the suitability of sites selected by WFBC to be used as Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspaces (SANGs) to mitigate the impact on the Forest of the large new housing developments in the Borough.
- Responded to EFDC's South Epping Masterplan and the Epping Town Plan consultations, proposing changes which will help to better protect the Forest based on its designation as a Special Area of Conservation and SSSI.
- In addition, the new Government introduced a number of changes to the planning system which affect the Forest, in particular the creation of a new category of land called "grey belt" designed to facilitate housing development in the Green Belt and proposed changes to how damage caused by developments is assessed and mitigated. The Trust commented on the "grey belt" proposals and we remain very concerned over the potential impact of these changes on the Forest which we will continue to monitor.
- Responded to 29 individual planning applications between April 2024 and March 2025 (up from 12 in 2023/24), and a further 12 up to 28th August contributing, as at the date of this report, to the refusal of 14 applications (of which five went to Appeal three of which were Dismissed with two outstanding), while we await the outcome of a further 16 applications.

These individual applications include:

- Proposals for large-scale housing developments at Latton Priory, North Weald Bassett, Thornwood and Sewardstone.
- A number of "Permitted Developments" involving the conversion of agricultural buildings to housing;
- Requests for pre-application advice on proposed solar farms and battery storage areas.
- A number of rebuilds adjacent to the Forest with increased building size and car parking spaces, potentially increasing visitor footfall and vehicle pollution or affecting the visual amenity, which we believe could have a detrimental impact on the Forest.

During the period of this report a further nine applications, on which we commented in the previous reporting year (2023-2024), were decided with five approved and four refused with one of the latter going to Appeal which was Upheld. Decisions are also pending on another four applications on which we commented in 2023-2024 including conversions of stables to housing and a solar farm adjacent to the Forest.

We have also maintained a watching brief on pollution levels in the north of the Forest where an exchange of letters suggests pollution levels are reducing, but also makes clear that Epping Forest District Council still needs to do more to satisfy Natural England that pollution levels will continue to reduce taking into account future house building plans in EFDC.

In liaison with Epping Forest Transport Action Group, and with the support of two volunteers, we have continued to encourage Essex Highways to improve their road safety plans for the A104 Epping New Road for the benefit of Forest visitors by reducing the speed limit to 30mph, and introducing dedicated crossing points between the east and west of the Forest.

**EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

Summary review of activities (continued)

3. We will protect and preserve the Forest (continued)

We also engaged with Waltham Forest Borough Council to try and improve their plans for a revised cycling path layout around Hollow Ponds, based on concerns expressed by a number of our members about accessibility and dangers to walkers and wheelchair users.

It was also a busy election year, with a General Election, London Mayoral and Assembly elections and a full election of all councillors in Epping Forest District Council. We secured cross party support from 37 candidates in the EFDC Council election, 17 London assembly candidates and 3 London Mayoral candidates. We also secured the support of key local MPs in the General election, including returning MPs Sir Stephen Timms, Stella Creasy and Sir Iain Duncan Smith as well as new MPs Neil Hudson and Calvin Bailey.

This political support is vital for the future protection of the Forest, and also supports our outreach into local communities.

4. We will develop our governance and operations

We staged a successful AGM in October at Lopping Hall in Loughton, with over 60 members in attendance, and with a presentation from the Head of Conservation at the City of London Corporation, followed by a panel discussion, about the future conservation plans for the Forest. As a part of the AGM our members voted to agree that our former Chair, Judith Adams, should become our Honorary Life President. We were delighted that she was later granted Freedom of the City of London in recognition of her years of service to the Forest.

We recruited a new Trustee, Francis Castro, London Nature Recovery Policy and Programme Manager at the Greater London Authority, who was subsequently elected at the AGM.

Over the course of the year we developed a new 5-year strategy for the Trust, which we launched on 23rd May 2025, setting out our ambition to do more for the Forest, especially in relation to advocacy and campaigning on its behalf.

We also launched our Business Partner scheme, and secured our first 5 business partners, JJNet, The Outflow, Photomart, Attwaters and Colourflow, each demonstrating their commitment to the Forest through their support to us.

We would like to thank all our staff, volunteers, partners, donors, supporters and funders for their role in delivering our work.

C. LOOKING FORWARD TO 2025/26

Our focus in 2025/26 will be on beginning to deliver our new Strategy 2025-30, with the theme of **“Standing up and Standing out.”**

Specifically we aim to:

- Secure longer-term funding for our community engagement activities, and continue to build meaningful links with communities around the Forest, including with local community organisations and local businesses
- Boost our walking app through publishing at least one new walk, and continuing to grow the scale and
- Continue to grow our conservation work, especially through delivering more bespoke corporate team activities
- Increase our resources and impact in our policy and campaigning activities to help protect the Forest from further harm
- Develop a whole new range of relationships with trusts and foundations who support our work.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1. Headline plans

In 2025-26 our key deliverables will be:

A. Educating and inspiring people about the Forest

1. Secure NLHF funding for a long-term community engagement programme that welcomes new people to the Forest.
2. Increase the number of people participating in our monthly guided walk programme and other specialist walks
3. Optimise the impact of the Visitor Centre at High Beach while maintaining current model of operation.

B. Conserve and grow

4. Grow our hands-on conservation activities, with a focus on optimising numbers on our existing programmes and growing our bespoke sessions for corporate partners.

C. Protect

5. Complete a review of our campaigning activities and agree our new approach and priorities
6. Prepare effectively for the London borough elections, and potential elections in Essex, in May 2026
7. Respond impactfully to all planning policy proposals which would have a significant negative impact on the Forest.

D. Organisational Priorities

8. Grow the number and generosity of our members and supporters, investing time and resources in their recruitment and stewardship
9. Secure at least £100k of new trust and foundation income, with at least £80k of that being allocatable to core costs
10. Agree a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of London.

D. VOLUNTEERS, GRANTS & DONATIONS

Our work to protect and conserve the Forest relies on the generosity of our members, supporters, legacy donors, in memoriam donors, funding partners and other stakeholders, along with the dedication and commitment of our volunteers.

We are hugely grateful to all those individuals and organisations that love and care about the Forest and who support our work.

In particular we want to express our thanks to our 376 individual volunteers (up from 160 in 2023/24), who have between them helped people enjoy the Forest through their advice at the Visitor Centre at High Beach, have delivered our hands-on conservation activities in the Forest, have led and marshalled our growing guided walks programme and have spearheaded our work to respond to, and brief our members on, important planning proposals around the Forest.

We would also like to thank the City of London Corporation for its ongoing investment in the Visitor Centre at High Beach, as well as providing offices and tool storage for the Trust in Warren Lodge and on the Warren site. They have also been generous in their Keeper support on the Big Walk and with our walk with Muslim

Thanks also to Councillor Stephen Murray, our ambassador, for his ongoing support.

We were delighted to receive funding from a range of partners including the City Bridge Foundation, The City of London Central Grants Programme, Essex County Council, Loughton Town Council, The Garfield Weston Foundation, the D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust, The Postcode Places Trust, the Baily Thomas Charitable Trust, The Cobb Charity, The Swire Charitable Trust, Awards for All, The Niniveh Charitable Trust, the Big Give, Haslers Foundation, Tesco Stronger Starts and Sharegift to help us deliver our strategic priorities, and we are grateful to them all for their support.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

D. VOLUNTEERS, GRANTS & DONATIONS (continued)

In addition, the Trust is very grateful to have been able to work with a group of fantastic partners and collaborators over the past year including Black Girls Hike, Muslim Hikers, the Wren Conservation Group, Epping Forest Transport Action Group, CPRE London, The Hive, The Urban Tree Festival, Essex Cultural Diversity Project, VaChina - SOAS group, Epping Forest Pride, Royal Wharf Primary School, Redbridge Rainbow Group, Fences and Frontiers, The Moja Collective, Home Girls Unite, The Trinity Centre group Behnu-Ki-Millan, The Big Help Out, Kings College London, The Tower Project, Muslim Women Connect, Leytonstone School, Chats Palace, Carers4Carers, The Centenary Way Artist Project, the East African Collective, Loughton Methodist Church, Stories and Supper, Islamic Relief, Loughton Historical Society, Wanderers of Colour, ALFA Active, Skills Within and the Davies Lane Walk Group (Wanstead).

FINANCIAL REVIEW

a. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Company has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

b. Reserves policy

The Trust's unrestricted free reserves as at 31st March 2025 were £188,406 (last year £136,745). The increase in unrestricted free reserves is due to the release of the designated fund which has been successfully invested to grow the impact and sustainability of the Trust over the last 3 years.

The total deficit from 2024/2025 of £44,322 includes restricted funds of £16,508 (last year, £952). The operating deficit was fully covered by the funds designated to deliver the Strategic Plan 2022-2025.

In order to ensure the ongoing security of the Trust, and to ensure that the Trust has adequate resources to continue for the foreseeable future, the Trustees' aim is for income consistently to equal or exceed expenditure, with free reserves of between 6 and 9 months' operating expenditure to cover the risks of operating in a volatile funding environment.

c. Material investments policy

The Board has power to invest funds not immediately required for operational purposes in such investments, securities or properties as it thinks fit subject to any restrictions within the Articles of Association.

d. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Directors have reviewed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, and systems have been established to mitigate those risks. The risk register was last reviewed in March 2025.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The Trust was incorporated on 21st November 1977 as a company limited by a guarantee and is governed by its Articles of Association. It was registered as a charity on 8th February 1978. It changed its name from Epping Forest Centenary Trust to Epping Forest Heritage Trust with effect from 12th April 2018 and its Articles of Association took effect on 17th April 2018. On that date the former charity, The Friends of Epping Forest (Charity No. 299970), transferred its assets to Epping Forest Heritage Trust and thereby amalgamated with it. Its Articles of Association set out the objects and powers of the Trust and the way it is governed.

The Trust is governed by a Board of Trustees, with a minimum membership of three.

At the end of March 2025, there were 10 trustees.

A recruitment process was held in the summer of 2024 and Francis Castro joined the Board.

Judith Adams stepped down as Chair and a Trustee of the Trust in October 2024, when James Harrington became Chair. Rosie Perry-Gosling became Vice Chair.

All trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

Any person who is willing to act as a trustee, and who would not be disqualified from acting under the provisions of Article 26, may be elected to be a trustee by members by ordinary resolution for a period of three years, renewable up to a maximum term of 9 years.

The Board of Trustees may appoint any person willing to be a Trustee for the period up to the following Annual General Meeting.

In the year to 31st March 2025, the Board met formally four times, with an additional planning session in December. The Finance Committee (a sub-committee of the Board) met three times. In addition, trustees provided significant ongoing support to the organisation throughout the year.

The full membership of the Trustee Board, who are also directors under the terms of the Companies Act, are set out above. The members of the Trustee Board have no beneficial interest in the group or charity.

The Trustee Board delegates responsibility for the day-to-day activities of the organisation to the Chief Executive, Peter Lewis who reports to the Board at Trustee meetings, and who produces reports on the activities undertaken in managing the charity including management accounts that explain the financial position of the charity.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors for the purpose of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the trustees must prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
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REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

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

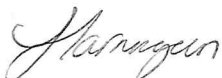
The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company 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 corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 8th September 2025 and signed on their

On behalf of the board



James Harrington
Chair of Trustees

**EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

TO THE TRUSTEES OF EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST

I report to the trustees (who are also directors for the purpose of company law) on my examination of the financial statements of Epping Forest Heritage Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2025 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charitable company you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charitable company's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('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 2011 Act.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the financial statements. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair' view and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

**EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)**

TO THE TRUSTEES OF EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST

Independent examiner's statement

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

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the financial statements 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).

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



12 September 2025

Philip Robert Hern FCCA
for and on behalf of Hern Pocknells Limited
Chartered Accountants
Suites 1 & 2, Nash House
Hackman's Lane, Purleigh
Chelmsford
Essex

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025
INCLUDING THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:					
Donations, legacies and grants	3	107,427	106,207	213,634	86,657
Investments	4	6,024	-	6,024	9,114
		<u>113,451</u>	<u>106,207</u>	<u>219,658</u>	<u>95,771</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities	5	165,032	89,699	254,731	235,760
Total expenditure		<u>165,032</u>	<u>89,699</u>	<u>254,731</u>	<u>235,760</u>
Net expenditure before net (losses) / gains on investments		(51,581)	16,508	(35,073)	(139,989)
Net (losses) / gains on investments		(9,249)	-	(9,249)	22,472
Net expenditure for the year	15	<u>(60,830)</u>	<u>16,508</u>	<u>(44,322)</u>	<u>(117,517)</u>
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	15	249,236	952	250,188	367,705
Transfers	15	-	-	-	-
Total funds carried forward		<u>188,406</u>	<u>17,460</u>	<u>205,866</u>	<u>250,188</u>

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

		2025		2024	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Non-current assets					
Investments	12		117,422		176,671
			<u>117,422</u>		<u>176,671</u>
Current assets					
Investments	12	58,000		58,000	
Debtors due within one year	13	3,302		1,332	
Cash at bank and in hand		41,028		27,775	
		<u>102,330</u>		<u>87,107</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(13,886)		(13,590)	
Net current assets			<u>88,444</u>		<u>73,517</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>205,866</u>		<u>250,188</u>
Funds of the Charity					
Operational funds	15		188,406		136,745
Designated funds	15		-		112,491
			<u>188,406</u>		<u>249,236</u>
Unrestricted funds					
Restricted income funds	15		17,460		952
			<u>205,866</u>		<u>250,188</u>

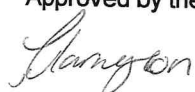
For the year ending 31 March 2025 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Approved by the Board for issue on 8 September 2025



J P Harrington
Chair of Trustees



J Richardson
Treasurer and Trustee

Company Registration No. 01339783
Charity Registration No. 275076

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST

A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

1 General information

Epping Forest Heritage Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales. The charitable company constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102 (1A) "the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland". The registered office is: The Warren Lodge, Essex, IG10 4RN. The financial statements have been prepared in pounds sterling which is the functional currency of the charitable company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

2 Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) - Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Epping Forest Heritage Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except as noted in note 2.6 Investments. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below.

2.2 Going concern

The trustees have not identified any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue as a going concern.

2.3 Incoming resources

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

The recognition of income from legacies is dependent on establishing entitlement, the probability of receipt and the ability to estimate with sufficient accuracy the amount receivable. Evidence of entitlement to a legacy exists when the Company has sufficient evidence that a gift has been left to them (through knowledge of the existence of a valid will and the death of the benefactor) and the executor is satisfied that the property in question will not be required to satisfy claims in the estate. Receipt of a legacy must be recognised when it is probable that it will be received and the fair value of the amount receivable, which will generally be the expected cash amount to be distributed to the Company, can be reliably measured.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2 Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure and depreciation

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent.

Assets costing more than £3,000 are depreciated evenly over 5 years. IT equipment costing more than £3,000 is depreciated evenly over 3 years.

Expenditure on charitable activities is incurred on directly undertaking the activities which further the Company's objectives, as well as any associated support costs.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Investment income

Investment income, including interest on funds held on deposit and dividends from a managed investment portfolio, are included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Company; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.6 Investments

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2.7 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.

2.8 Cash and cash equivalents

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.

2.9 Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably.

Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Company anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

2 Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 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 Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked for a particular project.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the Company 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.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations	29,963	6,979	36,942	37,357
Legacies and in memoriam	37,575	-	37,575	100
Grants	31,500	99,228	130,728	42,500
Fees for services	8,389	-	8,389	6,700
	<u>107,427</u>	<u>106,207</u>	<u>213,634</u>	<u>86,657</u>
Total 2024	<u>26,540</u>	<u>60,117</u>	<u>86,657</u>	

4 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from listed investments	5,618	-	5,618	8,847
Interest	406	-	406	267
	<u>6,024</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,024</u>	<u>9,114</u>
Total 2024	<u>9,114</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,114</u>	

EPHING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

5	Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities Summary by fund type	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Charitable activities	165,032	89,699	254,731	235,760
	Total 2024	175,635	60,125	235,760	
6	Analysis of expenditure by activities	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Charitable activities	179,546	75,185	254,731	235,760
	Total 2024	174,148	61,612	235,760	
Analysis of direct costs				Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Educate & Inspire			108,679	112,825
	Conserve & Grow			51,661	52,201
	Protect			19,206	9,122
				179,546	174,148
Analysis of support costs				Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Governance			11,344	7,246
	Organisational development			38,511	31,305
	Operations			25,330	23,061
				75,185	61,612
7	Net expenditure for the year			2025 £	2024 £
	Net expenditure for the year is stated after charging:				
	Independent examiner's remuneration - independent examination			3,000	2,520
	- other financial services			-	-

EPHING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

8 Taxation

The company is not subject to corporation tax on its investment income as it is a charity, which is exempt from tax.

9 Staff costs

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	161,067	145,654
Social security costs	9,114	7,123
Pension costs	4,912	4,780
	<u>175,093</u>	<u>157,557</u>

One employee receives employee benefits between £60,000 and £70,000 (2024 - no employees received over £60,000).

10 Employees

Number of employees

The average monthly number of employees during the year was:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Chief executive officer	1	1
Conservation Officer	2	2
Marketing	1	1
Education	1	1
Finance	1	1
Community Engagement	1	1
	<u>7</u>	<u>7</u>

Staffing levels on a full time equivalent basis were:

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Chief executive officer	1.0	0.8
Conservation Officer	0.8	0.9
Education	0.2	0.2
Marketing	1.0	1.0
Finance	0.4	0.4
Community Engagement	0.4	0.4
	<u>3.8</u>	<u>3.7</u>

Role of volunteers

Over the course of the year the Trust benefited from the time and expertise of over 350 volunteers in relation to running the Visitor Centre at High Beach, leading walks, including the Big Walk and undertaking hands-on conservation activities (2024 - 200). In total volunteers contributed over 8,000 hours of their time over the year (2024 - 6,500).

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2024 - £nil).

During the year ended 31 March 2025, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2024 - £nil).

12 Investments	Listed investments £
Valuation	
At 1 April	234,671
Disposals	(50,000)
Revaluations	(9,249)
At 31 March 2025	<u>175,422</u>

We hold a significant amount of our reserves in a CCLA COIF Charities Investment Fund which is a managed fund of a mixture of equities, bonds and property aimed at long term growth and reliable income distribution. It reduced from a value of £234,671 at the start of the financial year to £175,422 at the end of the financial year as result of drawings of £50,000 to invest in our new strategy and a negative revaluation of £9,249. It is accessible on one week's notice.

Because of the ability to access the funds at short notice, £58,000 of the investment has been reclassified from a fixed asset investment to a current asset investment during the year ended 31 March 2025.

The investment is measured at fair value through income or expenditure.

13 Debtors	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Other debtors	1,700	-
Prepayments	1,602	1,332
	<u>3,302</u>	<u>1,332</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2025 £	2024 £
Accruals	11,450	12,927
Other creditors	2,436	663
	<u>13,886</u>	<u>13,590</u>

EPHING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

15 Statement of funds

Statement of funds - current year

	Balance 1 April 2024	Transfers	Increased / (Decreased)	Balance 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
Operational reserves	136,745	112,491	(60,830)	188,406
Designated funds				
Investment fund	112,491	(112,491)		-
General funds - all funds	249,236	-	(60,830)	188,406
Restricted funds	952	-	16,508	17,460
	250,188	-	(44,322)	205,866

Restricted funds

	Balance 1 April 2024	Income	Expenditure	Balance 31 March 2025
	£	£	£	£
Ken Hoy - Talks	952	-	(583)	369
NLCF Awards for All	-	14,940	(6,049)	8,891
Baily Thomas Charitable Trust	-	5,000	(5,000)	-
Big Give Happy Loppers	-	10,821	(10,821)	-
Big Give Policy and Planning	-	7,396	(7,396)	-
City Bridge Foundation	-	34,250	(34,250)	-
City of London Central Grants	-	14,700	(14,700)	-
D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust	-	4,000	(4,000)	-
Essex County Council Locality Fund	-	1,200	(1,200)	-
Loughton Town Council	-	500	(500)	-
Newby Trust	-	1,000	-	1,000
The Nineveh Charitable Trust	-	2,500	-	2,500
The Swire Charitable Trusts	-	9,400	(4,700)	4,700
Tesco Community Fund	-	500	(500)	-
	952	106,207	(89,699)	17,460

We are very grateful to have received a variety of funding which has been restricted for specific charitable purposes of the year. These are as follows:

Inspire and educate

- Ken Hoy Fund. This fund was established to support talks about the Forest and we spent £200 of it to secure the expertise of a fungi expert for a guided walk and talk and £383.10 on the talk about the future conservation of the Forest ahead of our AGM in October.
- National Lottery Community Fund Awards for All. We were awarded a grant of £14,940 in November 2024 towards the running of the Visitor Centre at High Beach, our free walks programme and the Big Walk. We have spent £6,049 of that funding.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

15 Statement of funds - continued

Restricted funds - continued
Inspire and educate - continued

- In 2023 we set up a restricted fund to develop our new Walking App for Epping Forest, and were delighted to receive £500 the Tesco Community Fund towards this project.
- The City of London Corporation's Central Grants Programme contributed £14,700 and the Newby Trust £1,000 towards our community engagement work.
- Essex County Council Locality Fund awarded us £1,200 towards volunteer training and the development of refreshed information boards in the Visitor Centre at High Beach.
- The Nineveh Charitable Trust awarded us £2,500 towards our walks programme and conservation sessions for the Happy Loppers.

Conserve and grow

- The City Bridge Foundation. We were awarded a grant of £67,500 from the City Bridge Foundation over the course of two year towards new conservation activities in the south of the Forest designed to increase the diversity of our conservation volunteers as well as increase the biodiversity of the Forest. This grant started in June 2023, and we have spent £34,250 of those restricted funds in this financial year.
- Baily Thomas Charitable Trust (£5,000) and the D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust (£4,000) awarded us grants towards providing conservation sessions for our team of conservation volunteers with learning disabilities, the Happy Loppers.
- The Big Give Christmas Challenge. We received match funding of £2,500 from the Big Give through Champion Sharegift, with £1,400 from the Haslers Foundation and £6,921 from individual donors to support the provision of conservation sessions for the Happy Loppers.
- Loughton Town Council (£500) and The Swire Charitable Trusts (£9,400, of which we spent £4,700 this year) awarded us grants towards the activities of our Green Team of conservation volunteers.

Protect

- The Big Give Green Match Fund "Standing up to protect Epping Forest". We received match funding of £2,500 from the Big Give alongside individual donations of £4,896 towards our work raising awareness of the Forest and responding to planning applications.

Unrestricted Funds - Funds that are available to be spent for any purposes of the charity.

- We are also particularly grateful to the Garfield Weston Foundation who contributed £20,000 of unrestricted funds.

Investment Fund - As noted in the Trustees' Report on page 8, the designated investment fund has been released back in to operating funds.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

15 Statement of funds - continued

Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance 1 April 2023	Transfers	Increased / (Decreased)	Balance 31 March 2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
Operational reserves	136,745	117,509	(117,509)	136,745
Designated funds				
Investment fund	230,000	(117,509)	-	112,491
General funds - all funds	366,745	-	(117,509)	249,236
Restricted funds				
NLCF: Awards 4 All Walks with BGH and Muslim Hikers	-	10,000	(10,000)	-
City Bridge Conservation activities	-	27,500	(27,500)	-
Big Give - Halo 50	-	7,274	(7,274)	-
Walking App - Charles S French Charitable Trust	-	3,000	(3,000)	-
Walking App - Essex CC Locality Fund	-	2,000	(2,000)	-
Aviva Wild Isles Community Fund	-	10,343	(10,343)	-
Ken Hoy - Talks	960	-	(8)	952
	960	60,117	(60,125)	952
	367,705	60,117	(177,634)	250,188

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

				2025
	Restricted funds	Designated funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Investments	-	-	175,422	175,422
Other current assets	23,210	-	21,120	44,330
Creditors due within one year	(5,750)	-	(8,136)	(13,886)
	<u>17,460</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>188,406</u>	<u>205,866</u>

				2024
	Restricted funds	Designated funds	Unrestricted funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Investments	952	112,491	121,228	234,671
Current assets	10,149	-	18,958	29,107
Creditors due within one year	(10,149)	-	(3,441)	(13,590)
	<u>952</u>	<u>112,491</u>	<u>136,745</u>	<u>250,188</u>

17 Related party transactions

The Company has not entered into any related party transaction during the year, nor are there any outstanding balances owing between related parties and the Company at 31 March 2025.

Members of key management received remuneration (including employer's pension and employer's national insurance contributions) of £77,635 (2024 - £59,508).

18 Post balance sheet events

Since 31st March 2025 the charity has been awarded core grants from the City Bridge Foundation (£34,425), Essex Community Foundation (£4,000) and the Foyles Foundation (£4,000), as well as £3,000 from the Vandervell Foundation towards our Green team activities and £750 from the David Solomons Charitable Trust towards conservation sessions for the Happy Loppers.

The charity has also been awarded £189,614 over three years by the National Lottery Heritage Fund to deliver our Epping Forest Heritage For All project.

We have also received £41,382 from three different legacy donations and have been notified of a further legacy donation estimated to be worth £10,000.

EPPING FOREST HERITAGE TRUST
A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE
TRUSTEES' INFORMATION
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025