



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

| | | | | | | | |
|------|-------------------|-------|------|----|-----------------|-------|------|
| | Period start date | | | | Period end date | | |
| From | 1st | April | 2024 | To | 31st | March | 2025 |

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

Charity's principal address

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

| | Trustee name | Office (if any) | Dates acted if not for whole year | Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any) |
|----|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1 | East Sussex County Council | | | |
| 2 | | | | |
| 3 | | | | |
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| 13 | | | | |
| 14 | | | | |
| 15 | | | | |
| 16 | | | | |
| 17 | | | | |
| 18 | | | | |

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

| Name | Dates acted if not for whole year |
|------|-----------------------------------|
| | |
| | |
| | |

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

| Type of adviser | Name | Address |
|---------------------------------------|------------|---|
| Advice on finance, land & rent issues | Ros Parker | Chief Operating Officer, East Sussex County Council, County Hall. St Anne's Crescent, Lewes BN7 1UE |
| | | |
| | | |

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

| |
|--|
| |
|--|

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

| | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Type of governing document (e.g. trust deed, constitution) | Trust Deed |
| How the charity is constituted (e.g. trust, association, company) | Trust |
| Trustee selection methods (e.g. appointed by, elected by) | Elected by East Sussex County Council |

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Under the East Sussex County Council's constitution, the Chief Operating Officer has delegated authority to exercise day to day management of the Ashdown Forest Trust and to agree the Annual Report and Accounts, following consultation with the Lead Members for Community Economy & Environment.

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To promote the conservation of Ashdown Forest as a quiet and natural area of outstanding beauty as an amenity and a place of resort for members of the public.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

Grants to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest to further their activities in managing the forest.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

In 2024-25 the trust gave grants of £65,100.00 to the Conservators of Ashdown Forest in order that they could use this grant to carry out the trust's objectives.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

To maintain the level of reserves as far as possible by ensuring annual expenditure does not exceed income.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

The charity's main source of income is rent from the Royal Ashdown Forest Golf Club.

Section F


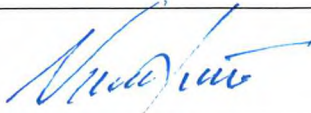
Other optional information

Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

| | | |
|--------------|---|---|
| Signature(s) |  |  |
| Full name(s) | Ros Parker | Cllr Nick Bennett |
| Position | Chief Operating Officer | Trustee |
| Date | 27/8/25 | 27-8/25 |

ASHDOWN FOREST TRUST
EXPENDITURE 2022-23

| DATE | DETAILS | ANNUAL GRANT | ONE OFF PAYMENTS | FEEs | TOTAL | CURRENT ACCOUNT | Special Interest Bearing Account | |
|------------|---|-----------------|---------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|---|--|
| | | £ | | £ | £ | £ | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 1-Apr-24 | 2022/23 creditors reversed: | | | | | | | |
| | Audit fees for 2022/23 | | | -540.00 | -540.00 | -540.00 | | Accounts now examined |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 26/07/2024 | Payment to Conservators of Ashdown Forest | 32,550.00 | | | 32,550.00 | 32,550.00 | | chq 000207 sent 8/7/24 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 24/02/2025 | Payment to Conservators of Ashdown Forest | 32,550.00 | | | 32,550.00 | 32,550.00 | | Chq 000209 sent 25/02/2025 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 23-Jan-25 | Independent examination fees for 23/24 accounts | | | 540.00 | 540.00 | 540.00 | | Chq 000208 sent 23/1/25 Astute Business Co |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 3/31/2025 | Accruals for creditors: | | | | | | | |
| | Audit fees for 2024/25 | | | 540.00 | 540.00 | | | Cost of audit fees for 2024/25 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | 65,100.00 | 0.00 | 540.00 | 65,640.00 | 65,100.00 | 0.00 | |

Ashdown Forest Trust

| As at | 31-Mar-04 | 31-Mar-05 | 31-Mar-06 | 31-Mar-07 | 31-Mar-08 | 31-Mar-09 | 31-Mar-10 | 31-Mar-11 |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p |
| Debtors | | | | | | | | |
| Bank charges - reimbursement due from East Sussex County Council for copies of bank statements | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Rent due at year end | 10,750.00 | 36,500.00 | 21,260.00 | 25,750.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| Total debtors | 10,750.00 | 36,500.00 | 21,260.00 | 25,750.00 | 10.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Creditors as at year end 31 March 200x

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p |
| ESCC Estates Consultancy Charges Qtr 2 & 3 | 899.24 | | | | | | | |
| ESCC Estates Consultancy Charges Qtr 4 | 297.08 | | | | | | | |
| ESCC Estates Consultancy Charges | | 399.50 | 687.37 | | | | | |
| Audit Commission fees 2001/02 audit | 470.00 | 470.00 | | | | | | |
| Audit Commission fees 2002/03 audit | 470.00 | 470.00 | | | | | | |
| Audit Commission fees 2003/04 audit | 470.00 | 470.00 | | | | | | |
| Audit Commission fees 2004/05 audit | | 470.00 | | | | | | |
| Audit Commission fees 2005/06 audit | | | 480.00 | | | | | |
| Audit Commission fees 2006/07 audit | | | | 500.00 | | | | |
| Audit Commission fees 2005/06 balance | | | | | 166.25 | | | |
| Audit Commission fees 2006/07 balance | | | | | 263.75 | | | |
| PKF audit fees 2007/08 audit (estimate) | | | | | 800.00 | | | |
| PKF audit fees 2008/09 audit (estimate) | | | | | | -862.50 | | |
| PKF audit fees 2009/10 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | -881.25 | |
| PKF audit fees 2010/11 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | -1,080.00 |
| PKF audit fees 2011/12 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| PKF audit fees 2012/13 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| PKF (BDO) audit fees 2012/13 audit (paid April 2014) | | | | | | | | |
| KPMG audit fees 2013/14 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Andrew Wells Accountancy audit fees 2014/15 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Andrew Wells Accountancy audit fees 2015/16 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Andrew Wells Accountancy audit fees 2016/17 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Andrew Wells Accountancy audit fees 2017/18 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Andrew Wells Accountancy audit fees 2018/19 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Andrew Wells Accountancy audit fees 2019/20 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Andrew Wells Accountancy audit fees 2020/21 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Andrew Wells Accountancy audit fees 2021/22 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Andrew Wells Accountancy audit fees 2022/23 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Andrew Wells Accountancy audit fees 2023/24 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Andrew Wells Accountancy audit fees 2024/25 audit (estimate) | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Fees | | | 5,639.22 | 441.06 | | | | |
| Legal Fees - 4th quarter 2006/07 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Fees - 4th quarter 2007/08 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Fees - 4th quarter 2008/09 | | | | | 293.75 | -679.91 | | |
| Legal Fees - February/March 2010 | | | | | | | -196.80 | |
| Legal Fees - March 2011 | | | | | | | | -482.41 |
| Legal Fees - March 2012 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Fees - March 2013 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Fees - Q1 and Q2 13/14 Adjustment | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Fees - Q3 and Q4 2014 | | | | | | | | |
| Conservators of Ashdown Forest | | 38,500.00 | 13,375.00 | 13,375.00 | 16,275.00 | -16,275.00 | 0.00 | |
| Legal Fees- Q2, Q3 & Q4 2014/15 none due | | | | | | | | |
| Legal Fees 2015/16 | | | | | | | | |
| Credit due for invoice 8002013946 which should not have been charged to Ashdown Forest Trust | | | | | | | | |
| Credit due for invoice 8002014537 which should not have been charged to Ashdown Forest Trust | | | | | | | | |
| Legal fees Q4 2016/17 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal fees 2017/18 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal fees Q4 2018-19 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal fees 2019-20 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal fees 2020-21 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal fees 2021-22 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal fees 2022-23 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal fees 2023-24 | | | | | | | | |
| Legal fees 2024-25 | | | | | | | | |
| | 2,606.32 | 40,779.50 | 20,181.59 | 14,316.06 | 17,798.75 | -17,817.41 | -1,078.05 | -1,562.41 |

Cash at bank

| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p |
| Current account | 370.43 | 21,439.20 | 22,005.05 | 14,695.96 | 35,511.05 | 26,083.16 | 2,653.82 | 899.21 |
| Special Interest Bearing Account | 171,632.10 | 174,689.59 | 45.31 | 184,596.21 | 195,087.11 | 202,259.54 | 203,272.73 | 204,291.00 |
| | 172,002.53 | 196,128.79 | 22,050.36 | 199,292.17 | 230,598.16 | 228,342.70 | 205,926.55 | 205,190.21 |

Other investments

| | | | | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p |
| ESCC | | | 176,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

Movement in Reserves

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p | £ p |
| Balance B/fwd 1 April | 1,359,666.00 | 1,380,146.00 | 1,391,849.08 | 1,399,118.56 | 1,410,725.56 | 1,412,808.86 | 1,409,662.24 | 1,403,966.70 |
| Surplus (- deficit) for year | 20,480.00 | 11,703.08 | 7,269.48 | 11,607.00 | 2,083.30 | -3,146.62 | -5,695.54 | -339.45 |
| Balance C/fwd 31 March | 1,380,146.00 | 1,391,849.08 | 1,399,118.56 | 1,410,725.56 | 1,412,808.86 | 1,409,662.24 | 1,403,966.70 | 1,403,627.25 |

ASHDOWN FOREST TRUST

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2025

| 2023/24 | Income | 2024/25 |
|---------|---|---------|
| £ | | £ |
| 0 | Fees | |
| -70,000 | Rent of Golf Course | -70,000 |
| -2836 | Bank Interest | -4,702 |
| -72836 | | -74,702 |
| | Less Expenditure | |
| 0 | Other | |
| 65,100 | Conservators of Ashdown Forest - Grants | 65,100 |
| 540 | Fees | 540 |
| -7196 | (Surplus)/Deficit | -9,062 |
| | | |

ASHDOWN FOREST TRUST

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2024

| 2022/23 | Income | 2023/24 |
|---------|---|---------|
| £ | | £ |
| | Fees | 0 |
| -70,000 | Rent of Golf Course | -70,000 |
| -659 | Bank Interest | -2836 |
| -70,659 | | -72836 |
| | Less Expenditure | |
| | Other | 0 |
| 65,100 | Conservators of Ashdown Forest - Grants | 65,100 |
| 540 | Fees | 540 |
| -5,019 | (Surplus)/Deficit | -7196 |
| | | |

Balance Sheet at 31 March 2025

| 2023/24 | | 2024/25 |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| £ | | £ |
| 1,200,000 | Fixed Assets: Land and Buildings | 1,200,000 |
| | Current Assets: | |
| 179,924 | Cash at Bank | 188,986 |
| | Current Liabilities: | |
| -540 | Sundry creditors | -540 |
| 1,379,384 | | 1,388,446 |
| | Representing: | |
| | Reserves: | |
| 1,200,100 | Endowment Fund | 1,200,100 |
| 179,284 | General Reserve | 188,346 |
| 1,379,384 | | 1,388,446 |
| | | |

Balance Sheet at 31 March 2024

| 2022/23 | | 2023/24 |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| £ | | £ |
| 1,200,000 | Fixed Assets: Land and Buildings | 1,200,000 |
| | Current Assets: | |
| 172,728 | Cash at Bank | 179,924 |
| | Current Liabilities: | |
| -540 | Sundry creditors | -540 |
| 1,367,169 | | 1,379,384 |
| | Representing: | |
| | Reserves: | |
| 1,200,100 | Endowment Fund | 1,200,100 |
| 167,068 | General Reserve | 179,284 |
| 1,367,168 | | 1,379,384 |
| | | |

ASHDOWN FOREST TRUST

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

| | Notes | Unrestricted Income Fund | Endowment Fund | Total 31 March 2025 |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed Assets | | | | |
| Forest Land | | | 1,200,000 | 1,200,000 |
| Current Assets | | | | |
| Balances at Bank: | | | | |
| Special Interest Bearing Account | | 158,093 | | 158,093 |
| Current Account | | 30,893 | | 30,893 |
| Investments | | -100 | 100 | 0 |
| | | 188,886 | 100 | 188,986 |
| Current Liabilities | | | | |
| Creditors falling due within one year | | -540 | | (540) |
| | | -540 | 0 | (540) |
| Net current assets | | 188,346 | 100 | 188,446 |
| Net assets | | 188,346 | 1,200,100 | 1,388,446 |
| represented by | | | | |
| FUNDS | | | | |
| General Reserves: | | 188,346 | | 188,346 |
| Endowment Fund: | | | 1,200,100 | 1,200,100 |
| | | 188,346 | 1,200,100 | 1,388,446 |
| | | | | |

| Total 31 March 2024 |
|------------------------|
| £ |
| 1,200,000 |
| 153,391 |
| 26,533 |
| 0 |
| 179,924 |
| (540) |
| (540) |
| 179,384 |
| 1,379,384 |
| 179,284 |
| 1,200,100 |
| 1,379,384 |
| |

ASHDOWN FOREST TRUST

Statement of Financial Activities: Year to 31 March 2025

| | Notes | Unrestricted Income Fund | Endowment Fund | Total Funds 2024/25 | 2023/24 |
|---|-------|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Income and Expenditure | | | | | |
| Incoming resources: | | | | | |
| Rent of Golf Course | | 70,000 | - | 70,000 | 70,000 |
| Bank Interest | | 4,702 | - | 4,702 | 2,836 |
| Wayleave & Transfer | | 0 | - | 0 | 0 |
| Total incoming resources | | 74,702 | - | 74,702 | 72,836 |
| Resources expended: | | | | | |
| Direct Charitable Expenditure: | | | | | |
| Conservators of Ashdown Forest- Annual grant | | 65,100 | - | 65,100 | 65,100 |
| One off payment | | 0 | - | 0 | 0 |
| | | 65,100 | 0 | 65,100 | 65,100 |
| Other Expenditure: | | | | | |
| Legal fees | | - | - | 0 | 0 |
| Audit fees | | 540 | - | 540 | 540 |
| | | 0 | - | 0 | 0 |
| Total resources expended | | 65,640 | - | 65,640 | 65,640 |
| Net movement in funds | | 9,062 | - | 9,062 | 7,196 |
| Fund balances brought forward | | 179,284 | 1,200,100 | 1,379,384 | 1,372,188 |
| Fund balances carried forward | | 188,346 | 1,200,100 | 1,388,446 | 1,379,384 |



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/ members of

Charity Name

ASHDOWN FOREST TRUST

31st March 2025

On accounts for the year ended

800437

Charity no (if any)

1-22

Set out on pages

Responsibilities and basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/03/2025.

As the charity's trustees, 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.

Independent examiner's statement

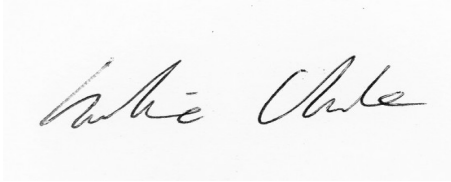
I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did 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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:



28/11/2025

Date:

Caroline Clarke

Name:

ACA

Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):

66 High Street

Address:

Lewes

BN7 1XG

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.