



Somerset Wildlife Trust

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2020-21



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WHAT WE DO



Somerset Wildlife Trust is an independent charity and our vision is of a Somerset-wide Nature Recovery Network creating more space for wildlife, benefiting everyone and playing its part in helping us reverse biodiversity loss and tackle the climate crisis.

We are working to make the changes needed for nature and people to thrive together by building a movement for nature – Team Wilder – and we will tell the story of nature’s recovery in Somerset to inform action and monitor progress – Somerset’s State of Nature.

We rely on funding from our members and many supporters, as well as income from grant-giving bodies and companies, and profits from our ecological consultancy, First Ecology. We have many volunteers giving their time to help us and Team Wilder will increase the action being taken for nature right across Somerset.

We are part of a national federation of 46 local Wildlife Trusts which are working together to ensure at least 30% of land and sea is managed positively for nature by 2030.

MESSAGE

FROM GRAEME MITCHELL, CHAIR OF COUNCIL,
AND GEORGIA STOKES, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2020-21 will be remembered as a year of lockdowns and the coronavirus pandemic. These events had a significant impact on our charity and continue to affect our work. It has certainly been a challenging year but also one when many people came to appreciate how important nature is to their own wellbeing and for society. As we start to emerge from the pandemic, the Trust ended 2020-21 stronger and with an ambitious new strategy for the next decade – Wilder Somerset 2030.

By the start of the year, we had taken the hard decision to furlough over a third of our staff, as they were unable to undertake their roles and to ensure our sustainability given an expected substantial loss of income; altogether during the year 41% of our staff were furloughed for periods. Thanks to significant support from the Heritage Emergency Fund, the government's Job Retention Scheme and the exceptional generosity of over 1,300 people to our emergency appeal, all our staff are now back at work.

Working from home has continued to be the norm for now for most staff and we have been without the help of hundreds of volunteers for over a year. Our nature reserves team have had to bring in costly contractors to do jobs normally done with the help of volunteers, and all while undertaking extensive safety work due to Ash Dieback disease.

Visitors to our reserves have increased hugely and, while it is good to see more people exploring green spaces, this has resulted in more wear and tear on paths and reserve infrastructure, and higher than planned maintenance costs. Sadly, the behaviour of some has been damaging to the wildlife present and fly-tipping meant extra work for an already busy team.

We would like to truly thank all our staff and Trustees for their commitment and adaptability over such a very challenging year, including the four people who joined our Trust Council in January as co-opted Trustees. We were overwhelmed by the number and quality of people who expressed an interest in joining Council, and were strengthened by the loyalty and generosity of our many thousands of members and supporters. Thanks to their support, our membership and overall income grew despite being unable to run planned fundraising activities for much of the year, which was an exceptional outcome.

Disruption and uncertainty have been a catalyst for innovation. Moving everything from our 2020 AGM to training and events and even interviews online has made

us embrace new technology more quickly than planned and expand our communications digitally. We will continue to transform digitally but intend to resume face-to-face events and larger volunteer work parties when we can.

The year's fundraising success was well beyond our early expectations. The receipt of a very significant unrestricted gift boosted our financial position and successful grant applications have enabled us to begin new projects including to support local teenagers to take action for the environment and their futures.

We held our first ever Youth Summit, which was a truly inspiring day, and began working with the Diocese of Bath and Wells to enable communities to make their churchyards a little wilder. Both initiatives show Team Wilder in action, one of the three pillars of our new strategy. Team Wilder will create a countywide movement for nature over the next decade to help achieve our overarching strategic goal of a Wilder Somerset by 2030. Just 10% of Somerset is currently in good natural or semi-natural condition for nature, and over the next 10 years our goal is to increase this to 30%.

We will be forming more partnerships and working with many more communities, farmers, landowners and organisations as we move ahead. Our work over six decades has slowed the rate at which species have been lost and has protected important habitats in Somerset, but now we must be more radical and urgent in our approach. We will always work to deliver positive outcomes for nature ourselves - managing our nature reserves and developing key projects that protect the natural world – but we need to involve many more people in acting locally for nature to recover.

We already work closely with conservation organisations and landowners, including the National Trust, whose focus, like ours, is to manage their land prioritising nature. Trustees therefore took the decision to end our lease of Black Rock nature reserve in March 2022 when the National Trust will resume its management. Our team is working closely with

theirs to ensure Black Rock continues to support nature’s recovery across the Mendip Hills and as part of the wider Somerset Nature Recovery Network.

The Avalon Marshes is a key landscape for Somerset’s wildlife and climate resilience. Thanks to the immediate support of the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, we now have the chance to extend our landholdings between our important Westhay Moor and Catcott nature reserves, and ‘wild’ and connect former agricultural land to the wider wetlands. Honeygar Farm was a dairy farm and its 47 hectares, plus another 40 hectares buffering it and our nearby Westhay Heath reserve, will demonstrate how nature can store carbon, improve water quality and provide other ‘nature-based solutions’, which are good for people and wildlife. We are planning a major fundraising campaign, which we will launch in 2021-22, to buy all 87 hectares before, over the next decade, developing Honeygar for visitors. Given

our strategic goals this is an unmissable and significant opportunity for the Trust, which we look forward to telling you more about.

Evidence has always informed our actions and deep knowledge of the county, its habitats and wildlife enables us to support, lead and co-ordinate nature’s recovery in Somerset. We plan to tell the story of Somerset’s State of Nature as our third strategic goal and use this to monitor progress.

We would like to thank you all for your shared commitment to Somerset and its wildlife. By working together to reverse the spiralling loss of nature and prevent catastrophic climate and ecological breakdown, we will enrich the lives of everyone who lives, works and visits our wonderful county and we will bring nature back.



Graeme Mitchell
Chair

Georgia Stokes
Chief Executive Officer

STRATEGY AND ACHIEVEMENTS

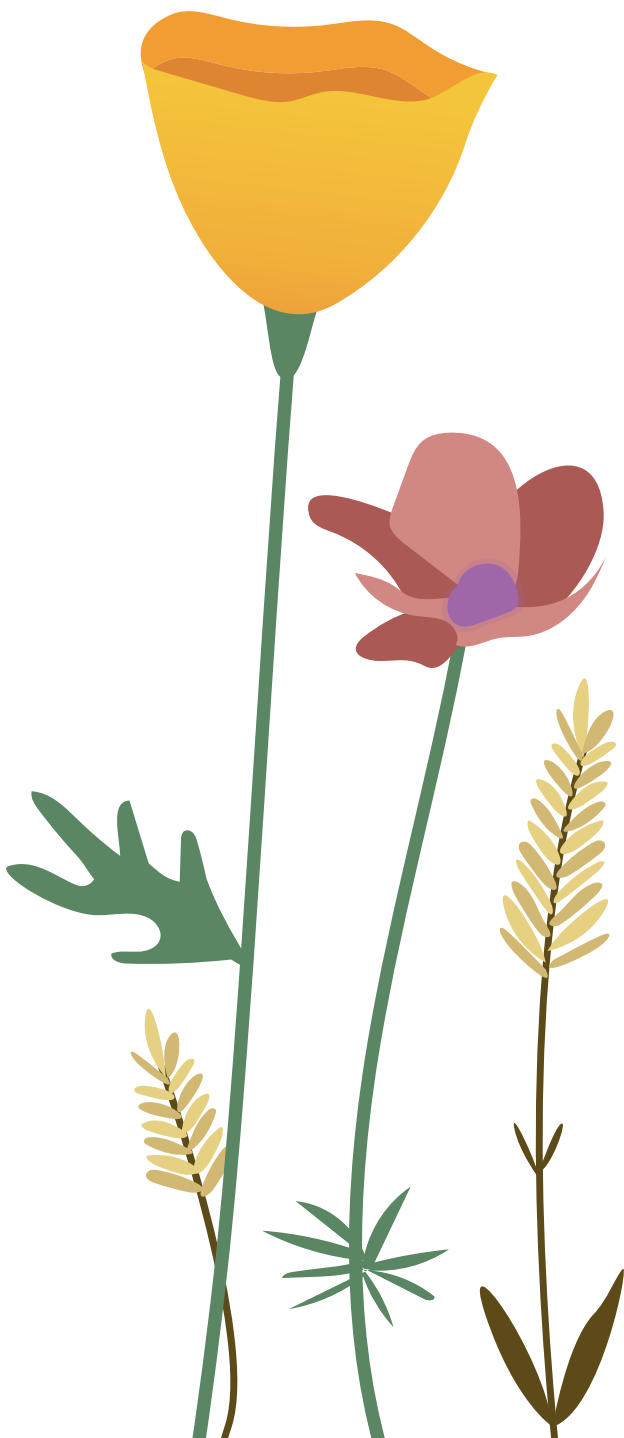
Our vision is of a Somerset-wide Nature Recovery Network creating more space for wildlife, benefiting everyone and playing its part in helping to reverse biodiversity loss and tackle the climate crisis. In 2020-21 we continued to work for the changes needed for nature and people to thrive ahead of launching, at the start of 2021-22, our bold new strategy Wilder Somerset 2030.

MORE SPACE FOR NATURE

Creating more space for nature has always been at the heart of our work. After almost 60 years of working on the ground in Somerset, we have an unparalleled knowledge of the county, its habitats and wildlife. Our nature reserves provide important refuges for a wide range of wildlife and core habitats in the wider landscape, but our work must extend well beyond these for nature to thrive.

Currently only 10% of Somerset can be classified as being in good natural or semi-natural condition with species-rich habitats supporting abundant and diverse wildlife, enabling it to move, reproduce and thrive. This figure includes all of Somerset's nature reserves, Local Wildlife Sites and legally designated sites. Our new strategy sets out to ensure at least 30% of land and sea is managed positively for nature by 2030 by working with our peers, partners, communities, farmers and landowners. We need a strong, interconnected network of wild spaces which together will form Somerset's Nature Recovery Network and connect to a national Network.

The report set out on pages 6–19 is a strategic report and Directors' report as required by sections 414A and 415 of the Companies Act 2006 and has been prepared in accordance with Part 15 of this Act and a Trustees' Report as required by the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.



We continued to restore the resilience of our ecosystems at a landscape scale by working on our nature reserves and with others to connect Somerset’s natural spaces. In December we completed the purchase and restoration of 11 critical acres of former peat diggings adjacent to our Westhay Moor National Nature Reserve, following a successful appeal in 2019. As a result, we can better control and raise water levels across Westhay, and have more wetland habitat.

In February, thanks to a £55k Biffa Award grant, we started replacing pipework to manage water levels including on Westhay’s rare lowland mire. Peat bog like this is vital for species such as the insectivorous sundew and stores large amounts of carbon, a nature-based solution addressing climate change as well as helping nature.



The Avalon Marshes remains a key landscape within Somerset’s Nature Recovery Network and we continued to work in partnership with Natural England, the RSPB and others to ensure it supports wildlife and the community. Sky-dancing Marsh Harriers and booming Bittern continue to be a magnet for visitors as were record numbers of Cattle Egret at Catcott over winter.

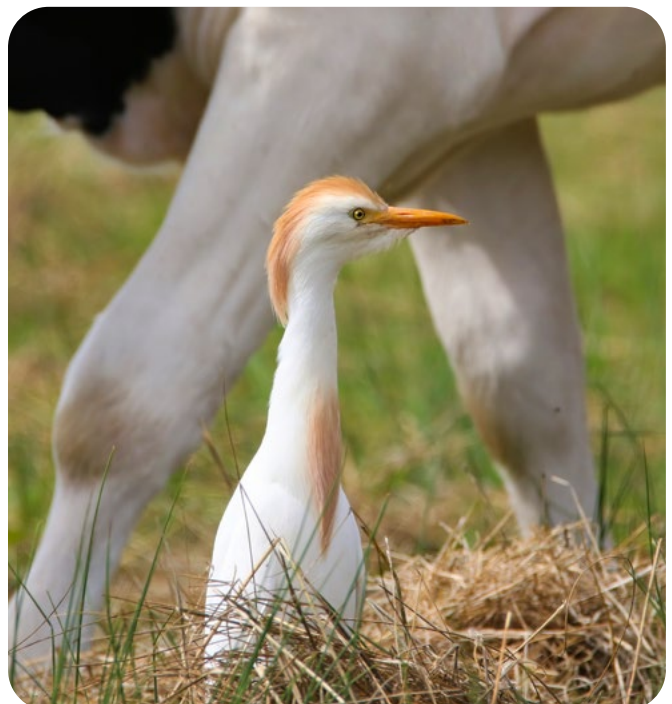
In collaboration with Somerset County Council, the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group and partners in Europe, the Adapting the Levels team prepared people living and working on the Levels for the impact of climate change. A report was produced of their findings from drop-in days and workshops in 2019-20 involving local people, Councillors, farmers and businesses. Overwhelming support exists to adopt nature-based solutions as a key part of preparing for expected increased flooding and drought. Funded by Interreg 2 Seas European Regional Development Fund and Somerset Rivers Authority, digital tools, including interactive draft Adaptation Pathways, are being developed to enable the co-creation of an effective climate adaptation plan.

Across our reserves it was a year of additional challenges due to lockdowns and the need to urgently address advancing Ash Dieback. Much of the team’s work is seasonal and cyclical but without our committed teams of regular volunteers to assist, plans had to be revised repeatedly to focus on completing essential work to meet agri-environment agreements and health and safety obligations, particularly linked to diseased ash, as well as to deliver funded projects. This included ensuring core habitats remained in good condition and repairing fencing for conservation grazing. With our reserves busier than ever with visitors, unplanned repairs were also needed to maintain reserve infrastructure. We were therefore very pleased to receive support from the Heritage Emergency Fund and an Area of Outstanding National Beauty-led Green Recovery Challenge Fund grant to help us to catch up on the backlog of work.

Thanks to support for our 2020 Dormouse Appeal, connectivity for dormice has been improved through, for example, hedgelaying of a gappy boundary hedge at Babcary Meadows, which will also support future conservation grazing.

Ash Dieback mitigation works were time-consuming and costly, and will continue to be so. Urgent work using specialist contractors, particularly across our Mendip reserves, totalled £155k with higher expenditure planned in 2021-22. Ash Dieback is widespread in Somerset and beyond. We led the sharing of learnings across the Wildlife Trust movement and produced a film with Bath Spa University students to help understanding of this silent killer.

£26k was secured to support this work through grants and an appeal, but the remainder was funded through the £600k provision made by Trustees in 2019-20 for the delivery of a three-year Ash Dieback action plan. Natural regeneration and some planting of native trees is planned but affected woodlands will be very different. Where possible trees are being turned into monoliths to preserve the lichens and ferns on them and to provide deadwood habitat for invertebrates.





Somerset's Local Nature Partnership (LNP), re-established just weeks ahead of the first lockdown and now chaired by our Chief Executive, Georgia Stokes, worked to ensure nature is represented in county plans. Its early focus is on how nature can support the development of: a strong green economy in Somerset; the health and wellbeing of those who live here; the vital food and farming community; and a strong countywide Nature Recovery Network. Representing over 100 diverse organisations from businesses, local government, farming, health, tourism and conservation, the LNP is already proving to be an effective forum for shared decision-making and, on behalf of Somerset County Council, is developing the Natural Environment and Food and Farming workstreams of Somerset's Climate Strategy.

We continued to work with many landowners though much work was delayed until at least the summer following the first lockdown. Thanks to ongoing funding by DEFRA's Countryside Stewardship, the Mendip Hills Facilitation Fund, which includes farmers, quarry companies, National Trust, South West Heritage Trust and the Longleat Estate, continued restoring species-rich grassland networks across Mendip. Three landowners joined the group, which now manages 3,200 hectares in a key area for nature's recovery. Activities are tailored to the group's needs and regenerative farming techniques, agroforestry and silvopasture, grassland management for butterflies and dealing with Ash Dieback were all covered.

10-year funding from The Torr Works Environmental Enhancement Fund has helped restore ecological networks in Mendip through our Mendip Wildlife Links project, which in its eighth year provided advice to 16 landowners, enabling two to obtain their first Mid-tier Countryside Stewardship grants to create better habitat and connectivity on their farms. Habitat surveys were undertaken for Shepton Mallet Town Council to identify areas with potential for habitat creation and restoration projects, and for Aggregate Industries to support their

ongoing land management, which in each case identified unrecorded wildflower grasslands.

We advised Yeo Valley on how best to deliver improvements for nature and connectivity across its 850-hectare Mendip estate and link to the wider Nature Recovery Network, having completed baseline species surveys. We intend to work with more farms and landowners as we implement our new strategy.

Further income from the TWT Aggregate Industries Partnership Fund enabled grassland restoration to continue on Local Wildlife Sites and woodland enhancement work at Cheddar Wood, which will help connect and buffer key habitats in Mendip, through our Mendip Habitats Fit for the Future project. Ground flora and many invertebrates, including Silver-washed Fritillary butterfly, will benefit as will the dormice present in the wood. Habitat enhancements for dormice were also made at Dommett Wood thanks to funding from the Blackdown Hills AONB Challenge Fund.

South Somerset is one of the few remaining strongholds for the Shril Carder, one of the UK's rarest bumblebees, with good numbers observed at Green Down. We continued to work with Bumblebee Conservation Trust to support Shril Carder bees, as part of the Back from the Brink project, trialling a rotational late hay-cut to extend the flowering period and nectar availability at Bab Cary Meadows.

Our ecological consultancy, First Ecology, worked on 112 projects including: implementing measures to secure the long-term future of bat roosts on five sites; producing three biodiversity enhancement strategies, and a further landscape and ecological management plan; acting as ecological clerk of works for 13 projects; and implementing mitigation, compensation and enhancement strategies for reptiles across three sites and for water voles on one site.



Experiences in nature can inspire, change attitudes, motivate action and ultimately help us to restore our wild places and wildlife, and, as the last year has shown, they are also important to everyone's health and wellbeing. We believe everyone should have the opportunity to experience nature and we need at least one in four people to take action for nature's recovery across Somerset to tip the balance for nature's recovery.

We already have amazing volunteers helping us to manage our nature reserves, run events, work with schools and in our offices or who fundraise for us, though much of this was not possible or was considerably constrained in 2020-21 due to the pandemic. All our externally funded projects were paused for periods, particularly during the first lockdown, with project staff furloughed and projects extended with funders' agreement. When we were able to resume this work, our teams innovated, moving events and training online, and rethinking how to deliver in person while meeting social distancing and government Covid-19 rules.

Over summer 2020 we began to bring engagement staff back from furlough and to recruit for our new Somerset Nature Connections project, a timely initiative to support those vulnerable to mental health issues. This partnership project with Blackdown Hills, Quantock Hills and Mendip Hills Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty aims to provide a 'natural health service' across much of the county. During the first lockdown, news of three-year funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to start this project was received and additional funding has since been secured from Somerset County Council, the Discovery Fund and the HPC Community Impact Mitigation Fund.

Despite the complications Covid-19 has added, by the end of 2020-21, a social media campaign #WildAboutWinter encouraging people to connect with nature during the colder months was completed, activity packs created, and online sessions run. Preparations were made for weekly Nature Connections sessions in 2021-22, for which referrals will be taken from health professionals and directly. Volunteers were recruited and will be trained to provide peer support.

Some volunteers have continued to work for us from their homes, particularly to support fundraising and Somerset Environmental Records Centre, which really helped to maintain momentum during the pandemic. But most were unable to volunteer as usual with their work parties and ecological surveys paused, and Local Area and Watch Group events largely on hold. A long service pin badge scheme was introduced to recognise the vital support volunteers provide and our annual volunteer gathering was held virtually, with four awards made to individuals and groups.

For periods, we were able to have small socially distanced groups of volunteers working with our reserves staff, and some experienced reserves' volunteers were trained to lead their own small groups. But for more than a year, volunteering has been much reduced and so has our ability to utilise the enthusiasm and skills of hundreds of committed volunteers. One new volunteer scheme, Water Guardians, run in partnership with Wessex Water, was piloted to help monitor waterways and report pollution incidents. 34 volunteers were trained as Water Guardians and cover 12 miles of the River Brue catchment plus another 16 miles of the waterways outside the immediate Brue catchment.

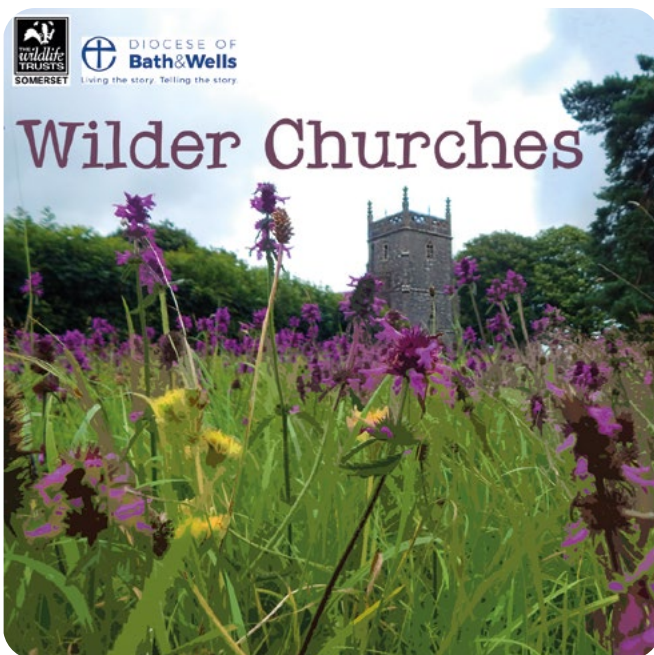
Our Somerset's Brilliant Coast project, funded by the HPC Community Impact Mitigation Fund and the National Trust, resumed in August producing rocky shore identification training videos, running Facebook Live sessions and cetacean training webinars. From autumn outdoor events resumed though adapted for social distancing, including mindfulness on Porlock Beach, monthly surveys with the Sea Watch Foundation and, as part of a national Wildlife Trust movement initiative, ShoreSearch surveys to monitor the distribution and abundance of intertidal organisms.



As part of enabling nearby parishes to make stronger links with the coast, our work led to both Minehead and Watchet achieving recognition as Plastic Free Towns and more virtual story walks were developed linked to the coast path. Over the autumn term, our Wild Beach programme of outdoor coastal learning resumed but was then halted once more in January.

Engaging more communities and parishes in taking action for nature is vital for nature's recovery and we made virtual presentations on Somerset's Nature Recovery Network to Town and Parish Council meetings, South Somerset District Council Environmental Champions Network, Berrow Dune Conservation volunteers and others to help them plan local actions that will have the best impact for nature.

Our Mendip Wildlife Links project continued to catalyse local support, engaging and building the knowledge of landowners and inspiring people and organisations, including through online training events on Right Tree, Right Place and Ash Dieback. Wilder Churches, a new initiative by Mendip Wildlife Links, was launched in partnership with the Diocese of Bath and Wells, covering 477 parishes across Somerset as well as the Bath area. Wilder Churches is bringing communities and church leaders together to learn more about their churchyards and how to manage them for wildlife. Somerset Botany Group will undertake any surveys requested, so communities know the plants present and the best action to take. In March the first of a series of online training events attracted over 200 people.



After a decade working with groups in Taunton, it was fantastic to see Taunton Environment Network, of which we are part, go from strength to strength and welcome Wellington Transition and Quantock Eco. Self-organising, its members are taking a range of actions in Taunton and beyond to support nature's recovery.

Nature reserve visitor numbers were far higher than usual, with noticeable increases in first-time visitors, including many more local families and dog walkers, and over

summer 2020 those on staycations. From August our Visitor Experience Officer was regularly present at Westhay Moor NNR and manning a new outdoor information point at the Avalon Marshes Centre. Over winter, thanks to Viridor Credits Environmental Company, Westhay's car park was much improved. More cameras were installed enabling wildlife to be shared with those unable to visit on websites and social media channels.

Young people have been under-represented in our work but many want to take action to address the biodiversity and climate crises. Grants from the Ernest Cook Trust Green Influencers Scheme and the Ninesquare Trust funded a new Green Mentor post to help those aged 10 to 14 in their environmental action projects. The Green Influencers Scheme has been created thanks to seed funding from The National Lottery Community Fund and the Department of Culture, Media & Sport forming an #iwill Fund, which is then matched by The Ernest Cook Trust.



In March we held our first Youth Environment Summit, separately funded by #iwill, Somerset County Council and Somerset Community Foundation, where young people from Somerset heard inspiring speakers and began to share their ideas. This work will also help create a peer youth nature network and a youth advisory board to steer our future work.

So much of what we did relied on our digital channels. We launched SWTtv on our website, with six 'channels' to bring nature directly into people's home, including videos for children and families, 'how to create' videos, wildlife webcams and recordings of our training events.

We introduced a live stream from a Barn Owl box in the Blackdown Hills giving an intimate insight into their lives, which was watched by over 50,000 households in its first three weeks. Wild Paths, a programme possible thanks to the National Lottery Heritage Fund, which offers entry to a career in conservation for diverse communities did not recruit in 2020. We were really pleased that our year two trainees were able to complete their training and a third cohort will be selected in 2021.

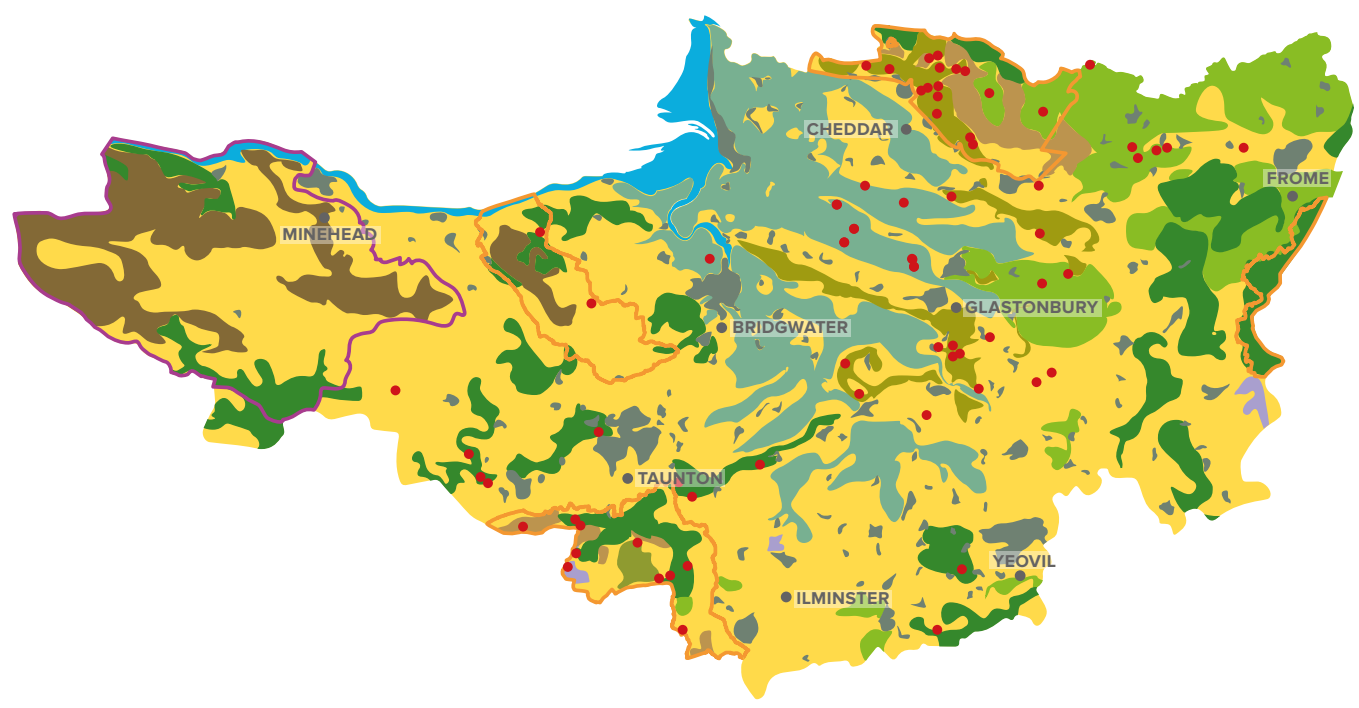
We continued to campaign with Wildlife Trusts across the UK including on taking Action for Insects and on badgers and bovine TB. Over 600 supporters in Somerset signed the Wildlife Trusts' e-petition on the Planning White Paper consultation and sought to ensure proper protection for nature's recovery in future planning legislation.

TELLING SOMERSET'S STORY

It is vital that we understand what is happening to wildlife on a county and local scale in terms of the biodiversity and bioabundance of species present. Without knowing this, and the location and health of habitats, we cannot make the best decisions for nature's recovery or deliver the right natural solutions for climate change and people.

We work closely with, host and support Somerset Environmental Records Centre (SERC) which holds over 2.5 million records of the species and habitats present in Somerset. Most are of protected or rare species and are within higher quality habitats. Specialist groups of recorders continued to supply data to SERC, including through surveying on our reserves, and people shared details of the wildlife in their gardens and elsewhere via the SERC website.

But we need more to contribute so we know more about Somerset's wildlife including the so-called 'common' species, like hedgehogs and blackbirds, so we can track changes and focus our work effectively. In future, we will be running community science initiatives, including the Great Somerset Wildlife Count, which was piloted in the year, and will help more people develop recording and monitoring skills to fill gaps in our knowledge and monitor nature trends through Team Wilder.



Somerset's habitats and our nature reserves

- Woodland
- Upland heath
- Lowland heath
- Neutral grassland
- Limestone grassland
- Purple moor grass and rush pasture
- Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh
- Coastal habitat
- Urban
- Other land use eg. farming and community
- Somerset Wildlife Trust nature reserves
- Exmoor National Park
- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Jointly with SERC, we made significant progress to establish a baseline of Somerset's current State of Nature, which will be developed as a new online platform to monitor progress and inform action by us and others. SERC largely cleared a data backlog and mapped 23 of Somerset's 26 notable protected species, as well as helping us to develop innovative carbon mapping to assess the existing and potential carbon storage of our landholdings and Somerset's habitats. This work is vital for Somerset to plan for climate change and we also began to look at phosphate inputs on the Levels, as part of nature-based solutions to restore ecosystem health.



Our Nature Recovery Network mapping of Somerset's habitats and their connectivity continued to develop and has already proved to be a key tool for Somerset County Council, the Local Nature Partnership, landowners and communities. This important work is influencing policy in Somerset, including through the development of a new Supplementary Planning Document and by feeding into AONB policies around tree planting pressure in the Mendip Hills.

Although the pandemic reduced monitoring, it continued where possible and, for example, wetland bird, breeding wader and riparian mammal surveys were done at Westhay.



2020's survey of the re-introduced Large Blue confirmed that our Green Down reserve in the Polden Hills supports the largest UK colony of this rare butterfly, with over 150,000 eggs estimated to be present.

The extensive citizen science programme of Berrow Dunes, developed as part of our Somerset Brilliant Coast project, was postponed, though limited surveys of freshwater ponds and plants took place thanks to a master's student.

Habitat surveys were undertaken for Shepton Mallet Town Council and Aggregate Industries to identify potential areas to improve for nature. Regular surveys of butterflies, wintering birds and more were carried out for EDF Energy at the mouth of the River Parrett, to inform their ongoing land management.

SERC continued to carry out searches relating to planning applications to ensure development in Somerset considers protected species, like bats, badgers and Great Crested Newts, as well as providing data to landowners and for Neighbourhood and Community Planning. There continued to be a high level of planning-related searches and we responded to over 300 planning applications, many of which were for large residential developments or barn conversions.

DEVELOPING SOMERSET WILDLIFE TRUST

We continued to build our charity and the resources needed to lead and deliver nature's recovery across Somerset. We also developed our climate and environment strategy to ensure our own actions support our aims.

Our supporters continued to be central to our success and never more so given the many uncertainties resulting from the pandemic, as was our ecological consultancy, First Ecology. In 2020-21 fundraising accounted for 70% of our overall income and the combined generosity of the individuals and organisations raised £2.7m (£1.5m: 2019-20).

Fundraising held up much better than expected thanks to particularly strong support from individuals, including members, to our emergency appeal, our Patron scheme and more people fundraising for us, including virtually during the pandemic.

As a membership-based charity, 20% of our income comes from membership, which in 2020-21 was £757k. Our members strengthen our voice when we speak with decision-makers, and take action for wildlife individually and in their communities. Nationally Wildlife Trusts have almost one million members, so our members' voices are amplified in national policy discussions. Overall our member numbers grew slightly to 20,546 (20,333: 2019-20) who represent 3.7% of Somerset's population.

Membership income is one of the foundations of our annual funding; recruiting and retaining members remains a priority. The staff of South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited (SWWFL), mutually owned by eight Wildlife Trusts including Somerset, recruits new members at events and venues across the county, but was unable to do so for over seven

months of 2020-21 due to government restrictions. SWWFL is a member of the Institute of Fundraising, which monitors their performance through mystery shopping. Additionally, we seek feedback on SWWFL's recruiters in telephone calls to new members to thank them for their support, which are conducted on its behalf by Quality Telephone Services. We also recruit members via our website and by telephone.

23 legacies were received with a total value of £202k (£214k: 2019-20). More members and non-members informed us that they had included our charity in their wills, which will result in important future funding, though we expect the value of legacies will continue to vary greatly annually.

Grants including from trusts and foundations continue to be vital to fund many aspects of the Trust's work and we thank all our supporters, old and new, for their continuing generosity.

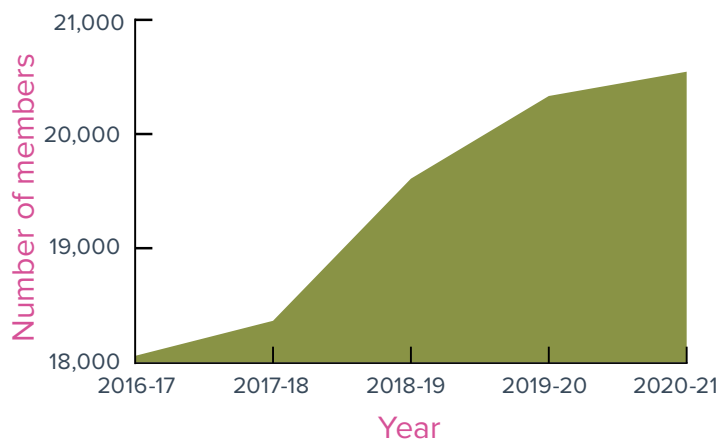
A £218k Heritage Emergency Fund grant helped us to bring furloughed staff back, invest in information technology - including to support remote working - and pay contractors to undertake essential work on our nature reserves that in a normal year would have been done with the help of volunteers. A very generous £500k gift from a Foundation gave us the confidence to develop our ambitious plans to support nature's recovery and was designated by Trustees to support future work.

Protecting and effectively engaging with our donors remains critically important to us and all fundraising, other than face-to-face membership recruitment, is carried out in-house. Learnings are shared amongst the team and the Trust is registered with the Fundraising Regulator and committed to following its Code of Practice, which sets out standards of behaviour that are expected of fundraisers.

We are also registered with the Fundraising Preference Service and received no requests from this service to opt out in the year. We continually update our database including to prevent communications being sent to any known vulnerable people who have been identified. Our website outlines our complaints policy for the public and clearly explains how an individual can complain. No complaints regarding our fundraising were received in the year. We continued to extend our reach particularly through developing our digital knowledge and skills to engage more people in our cause. Like many organisations we embraced new ways to deliver our work digitally particularly by moving events and training online.

We committed to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 and, using a carbon foot-printing tool created by the Wildlife Trust movement, measured our existing carbon footprint to provide a baseline to reduce our carbon emissions across all areas of our operation and land use. This shows that due to our landholdings sequestering carbon, we are comfortably net-negative. We will continue to work to reduce our carbon emissions and increase our carbon sequestration rates.

Membership growth



FINANCIAL REVIEW

Despite initial uncertainty the Trust has had an exceptional year from a financial perspective. As a result of a significant £500k donation, additional grant funding and a £183k gain on the value of the Trust's portfolio of investments an overall surplus of £1.46m was recognised in the year (£336k loss: 2019-20).

Overall income increased to £3.8m (£2.8m: 2019-20) primarily due to additional donations and grant funding received in the year. Expenditure fell to £2.5m (£3m: 2019-20). The reduction in expenditure compared to 2019-20 is due to the recognition of two exceptional items of expenditure in the previous year totalling £410k; a significant £600k provision for the removal of unsafe trees due to Ash Dieback disease, which will be expended over a number of years, partially offset by a £190k credit recognised as a result of a reduction in the defined benefit pension scheme liability following formal notification of the Section 75 debt. The Section 75 debt was fully paid in the year.

A surplus of £1.17m (£239k: 2019-20) was recognised on general unrestricted funds after transfers, primarily as a result of increased donations, including a very generous £500k unrestricted donation, and a £218k grant from the Heritage Emergency Fund. In addition, and due to the recovery of the stock market following a significant fall in March 2020, the Trust recognised a £183k gain (£42k loss: 2019-20) in the value of its portfolio of investments.

A surplus of £186k (£110k: 2019-20) was recognised on restricted funds, as a result of funds received during the year for specific purposes as agreed with the funder, which will be expended in future financial years, combined with a delay in planned expenditure due to projects being paused as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

The Trust recognises that 2020-21 was an exceptional year and has enabled financial reserves depleted in previous years to be replenished. The importance of ongoing financial resilience is also recognised, particularly in the increasingly challenging economic environment and combined with continuing uncertainty and potential risk in relation to future funding from agri-environment schemes and further potential liabilities as a result of Ash Dieback disease. The outturn of 2020-21 has enabled the Trust to plan the delivery of its new Wilder Somerset 2030 strategy and face the challenges ahead in a strong financial position.

INCOME

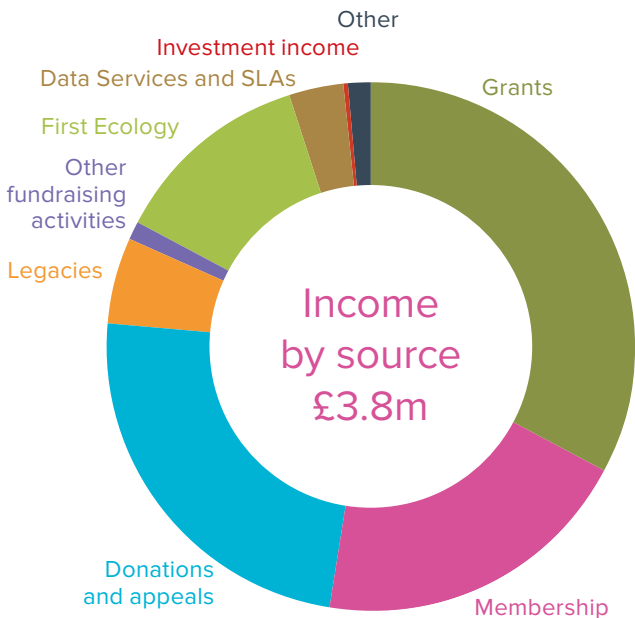
Income for the year totalled £3.8m (£2.8m: 2019-20). The £1m increase compared to 2019-20 was primarily due to a very generous £500k donation combined with a £533k increase in grant income, including £95k received through the government's Job Retention Scheme.

Grant income continues to be the largest source of income and grew to £1.3m (£767k: 2019-20), representing 30% of total income. The increase in grant income compared to 2019-20 is mainly due to £190k received in the year for the

new three-year Somerset Nature Connections partnership project and the £218k Heritage Emergency Fund grant. A total of £411k (£513k: 2019-20) grants were received through agri-environment schemes, which support the management of our nature reserves and represent 35% of total grant income.

Income from donations and appeals represented the second largest source of income in the year totalling £913k (£265k: 2019-20). This includes a generous £500k donation which has been designated by Trustees and credited to the designated development reserve. A total of £207k was raised from appeals (£152k: 2019-20), including £111k from the emergency appeal.

Membership income grew by £24k. A total of £757k (£733k: 2019-20) was received during the year from individual and corporate members representing the third largest source of income in the year and 20% of total income. An increase in the member numbers was also achieved for the fifth consecutive year.



Income from other trading activities totalled £510k (£578k: 2019-20). The decline in income compared to 2019-20 was mainly due to a reduction in events held as a result of government restrictions and a small 8% reduction in income generated by the Trust's wholly owned subsidiary, trading as First Ecology, as growth plans were put on hold due to the pandemic. First Ecology's income totalled £473k (£515k: 2019-20).

A total of £202k (£214k: 2019-20) legacy income was recognised in the year which has been credited to the designated development reserve for future projects.

Somerset Environmental Records Centre, which is hosted by the Trust, achieved a 11% growth in income which totalled £127k (£115k: 2019-20), primarily from Service Level Agreements and data searches.

EXPENDITURE

Total expenditure in the year was £2.5m (£3m: 2019-20). This includes £1.6m expenditure on nature conservation in Somerset (£1.5m: 2019-20).

The majority of the Trust's expenditure continues to be represented by staff costs as we rely on the specialist knowledge of our conservation and land management teams, in particular, to fulfil our charitable purposes. Staff costs in 2020-21 totalled £1.6m (£1.6m: 2019-20) representing 63% of total expenditure.

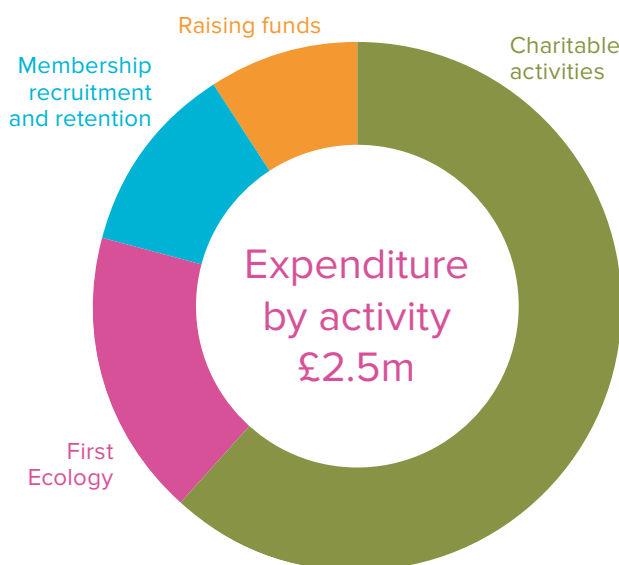
Nature reserve management was the most significant expenditure on charitable activities totalling £798k (£691k: 2019-20) and representing 31% of overall expenditure. Additional contractor costs as a result of the inability to operate volunteer work parties for much of 2020-21 resulted in additional nature reserves expenditure, and was funded by the Heritage Emergency Fund grant. Furthermore, other grant funding enabled improvements at Westhay including the upgrading of the car park plus the start of work to improve water management and habitat on the reserve.

Expenditure on a movement for nature increased by £36k to £361k (£325k: 2019-20) as a result of the new three-year Somerset Nature Connections Partnership project.

As a result of growth plans being put on hold and a reduction in income, First Ecology expenditure reduced by 10% to £441k (£487k: 2019-20). First Ecology's net profit of £91k (£93k: 2019-20) has been Gift Aided to the Trust.

The cost of raising funds and membership recruitment and retention totalled £518k (£614k: 2019-20); a reduction of £96k compared to 2019-20 primarily due to membership recruitment being put on hold due to government restrictions.

Support costs totalled £504k (£533k: 2019-20) representing 20% of overall expenditure.



FUNDS OF THE CHARITY

Charity funds increased to £7m at the end of the year (£5.6m: 2019-20) as a result of an overall £1.17m increase in unrestricted and designated funds, a £186k increase in restricted funds and a £108k increase in endowment funds.

Overall unrestricted funds increased by £1.17m. This includes a £488k increase in general unrestricted funds and a £679k increase in designated funds. Designated funds include £2m of tangible and heritage fixed assets, of which £1.4m

are nature reserves and £648k is the Trust's headquarters in Taunton, and £1.49m which has been set aside by the Trust for specific purposes in future years. A breakdown of designated funds is included in note 21.

The £186k increase in restricted funds represents a combination of income received in the year, including from grants, which will be expended in future financial years and a delay in planned expenditure due to projects being paused as a result of the coronavirus pandemic. Restricted funds are funds which the Trust has a legal obligation to use only for the specific purpose for which they were donated. These funds cannot therefore be used to fund the general operations of the Trust outside those specific purposes.

The £108k increase in endowment funds represents an increase in heritage assets following the purchase of 11 acres of land adjacent to Westhay nature reserve.

FINANCIAL RESERVES POLICY

The Trust has a policy of holding reserves of funds to:

- Enable it to take advantage of unanticipated opportunities to further the aims of the Trust when no other source of income is available.
- Provide adequate working capital to carry out projects for which funds have been granted by external bodies, but for which those funds are payable only after expenditure has been incurred.
- Provide a reserve to cover contractual obligations and short-term payment of essential costs, such as staff salaries, in the event of an unanticipated shortfall in funds and/or fluctuations in income.
- Meet any legal obligation on the Trust to meet any future costs.

FINANCIAL RESERVES HOLDINGS

Total reserves at the end of the year amounted to £7m (£5.6m: 2019-20), although a significant proportion of this total is represented by tangible and heritage fixed assets, leaving available financial reserves of £2.46m (£1.27m: 2019-20). This includes £1.49m which has been designated by Trustees for specific purposes leaving £966k in the income fund.

Total reserves	£7,027,381
Less:	
Restricted funds	(£593,242)
Tangible and heritage fixed assets	(£3,976,213)
Total available reserves	£2,457,926

The Trust's £2.46m reserves consist of £966k in the income fund and £1.49m which has been designated by Trustees for specific purposes. In accordance with the financial reserves policy, the Trust aims to hold four months planned expenditure in the income fund which equates to a target of £944k. The Trust's existing reserves held in the income fund are £22k above the target and equate to just over four months planned expenditure.

Total available reserves	£2,457,926
Designated funds	(£1,492,266)
Income fund	£965,660
Income fund target	£944,000

The careful management of cash flow is crucial to ensuring that there is sufficient cash to deliver the Trust's planned programme of works as grant income is often payable in arrears. The Trust aims to hold two months planned expenditure which equates to approximately £472k in unrestricted cash.

The Trustees have designated £1.49m for specific purposes to support the management of nature reserves, future land

purchase, innovation opportunities and strategic investment to support the delivery of charitable activities as outlined in note 21. The Trust designates all legacy receipts to the designated development reserve on receipt to support future strategic investment in the Trust's charitable objectives.

INVESTMENTS

The value of the Trust's investment portfolio at the end of the year increased to £909k (£732k: 2019-20) and generated income of £13k (£17k: 2019-20). The Trust recognised a £183k gain (£42k loss: 2019-20) arising from revaluations in the year.

The investment portfolio is managed to provide the Trust with a range of sound marketable investments providing a balance of regular income and opportunity for capital growth. This requires a balanced portfolio consisting of investment grade fixed interest stocks or funds of fixed interest stocks and equities.

An ethical investment policy has been adopted to ensure that the investment portfolio consists of stocks consistent with the Trust's obligation to further its charitable activities, whilst ensuring that its investments do not conflict with its aims and objectives. The Trust's ethical investment policy seeks to encourage investment in companies with strong sustainability policies and practices that respect and protect wildlife, communities and their wider environment.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for the Trust's system of risk management which is designed to safeguard the Trust's assets, maintain proper accounting records and ensure that any information disseminated is accurate and reliable. However, such a system can only be designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve the Trust's objectives.

is being embedded in all of the organisation's planning and decision-making so that any identified major risks are anticipated and planned for in a structured way.

The Trustees have examined all the areas of the Trust's operations and work and have considered the identified risks arising. In the opinion of the Trustees, the Trust has established processes and systems which should allow the risks identified by them to be mitigated to an acceptable level in its day-to-day operations and to support working practices, and in particular, during and emerging from the coronavirus pandemic.

The Trustees have identified the current principal risks as:

- Additional financial liabilities resulting from Ash Dieback disease on our nature reserves.
- Increased competition for charitable funding as a result of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the economy and personal giving.
- Transition to the new government agri-environment Environmental Land Management Scheme leading to a potential reduction in income.

The Trust also compiles and shares The Wildlife Trusts' benchmarks on governance, finances and other issues to support risk management.

Based on an agreed Risk Policy, all key organisational risks are identified and managed through a Risk Register which is reviewed annually by Trustees. A risk-based approach

LOOKING AHEAD

Our new and ambitious 10-year strategy launched at the start of 2021-22 sets out to create a Wilder Somerset by 2030. Our vision is a Somerset-wide Nature Recovery Network creating more space for wildlife, benefiting everyone and playing its part in helping us reverse biodiversity loss and tackle the climate crisis. We can only achieve this by working together and all taking action to help nature recover.

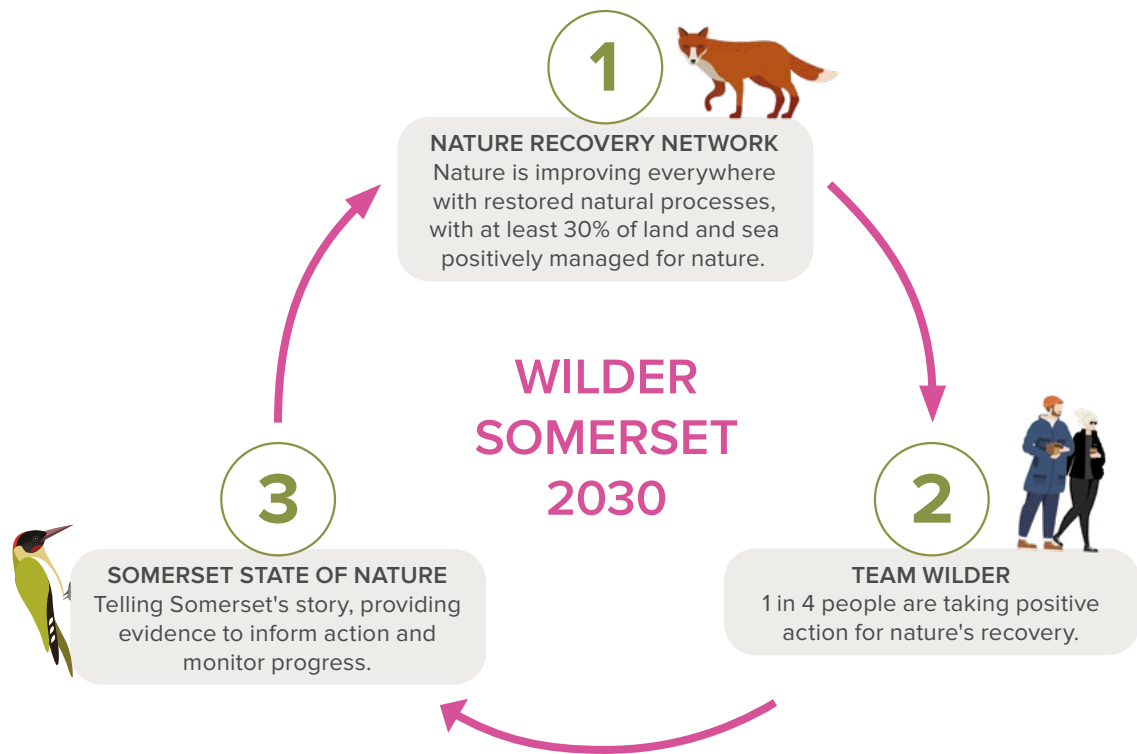
We will always manage nature reserves, develop projects that protect and restore the natural world, and fight for change in the wider social and political arena. Going forwards supporting others to put nature first will be a much higher priority – at home, in their communities, schools, places of worship, at work, and on their farms and landholdings. We will look to co-ordinate and lead nature’s recovery in Somerset through the Local Nature Partnership including peatland restoration.

We have set three strategic goals. First, we need more space across Somerset for nature, with at least 30% of land and sea being managed positively for nature. We are seeking for nature to be improving everywhere with restored natural processes, connected and managed through a Nature Recovery Network.

Tripling the amount of land managed for nature will be a significant challenge, but one we can deliver over the

next decade by working with many more people and organisations to improve and connect habitats and restore the resilience of our ecosystems. We will continue to also work on Somerset’s coastal and marine environment.

In May 2021 Esmée Fairbairn Foundation bought Honeygar Farm, 46.5 hectares of grazed dairy farmland backing onto the River Brue and its associated farm buildings, which it will hold for 22 months while we fundraise to buy it from them. Honeygar is perfectly situated to strengthen nature connectivity within the Avalon Marshes landscape being between our existing nature reserves. In May 2021 34.5 hectares of land bordering Honeygar plus a further 5.5 hectares buffering its nearby Westhay Heath reserve were bought at auction. All will contribute significantly to Somerset’s Nature Recovery Network and offers us new opportunities to transform agricultural land of low value for biodiversity into something good for wildlife.



We will wild the land to develop our approach to nature-based solutions, seeking to trial and deliver benefits such as carbon storage and natural flood management, which are critical issues for Somerset, while monitoring change so we can show the clear benefits for wildlife. This will be a groundbreaking project for Somerset and the internationally important Avalon Marshes, and a major fundraising campaign is being planned.

Goal two is to develop a countywide movement for wildlife, so everyone can experience nature, with at least one in four people taking action for nature's recovery across Somerset to create a social 'tipping point' where the majority will follow. We are calling our new movement Team Wilder and will be supporting communities, young people, businesses and groups to take an active role in nature's recovery.

We are already working with groups through our funded projects and have begun developing the practical resources and training to help many more people take action locally. We will identify what interventions would make the biggest impact for nature. We will share our knowledge and skills, and connect communities so they can share their learnings, creating a powerful peer-to-peer Team Wilder network.

Telling the story of nature's recovery in Somerset is our third goal. We will continue to build our knowledge of the health, distribution and location of habitats and species, and to work closely with and support SERC in developing an online State of Nature platform. This will over time enable us to track our progress to our 30% target.

Community science initiatives, including our own Great Somerset Wildlife Count, will be developed to help us gather more species records. We will use drone technology to map habitats and gather data.

To help deliver our Wilder Somerset 2030 strategy, we will establish advisory groups on each key aim including experts from outside the Trust to learn from and help to shape our thinking.

We start 2021-22 with an improved financial position thanks to a far stronger performance in 2020-21 than expected, which is in large part due to the amazing loyalty and generosity of our supporters and grant givers, plus the success of First Ecology. Planning how to grow First Ecology profitably by providing high quality ecological and environmental services which deliver for nature, and achieve Biodiversity Net Gain, will be another important focus.

We plan to invest in new staff posts to help implement our strategy, maintain tight cost control and work to grow fundraising income to support our plans, and mitigate the risks of Ash Dieback and continuing uncertainty about the new Environmental Land Management Scheme.

A £445k (£600k: 2020) provision has been recognised for the removal of unsafe trees due to Ash Dieback disease. The provision is based on a third party report commissioned by the Trust in 2019-20 which provided an indicative cost to deal with this issue over a number of years. Although mitigation work continues as planned, the progression and impact of the disease cannot be quantified and the cost associated with Ash Dieback remains uncertain hence a further third party arboricultural report is planned in 2022-23.

To help us to interact with many more people and organisations, we will be moving to a new database in 2021-22, which will initially support fundraising and membership, but will over time be rolled out to all staff. We will continue to develop our digital knowledge and experience, while reverting to more face-to-face meetings and events.

Looking forward, we will need to continue to build our charity, be clear in our priorities and ensure our own actions support our aims. By bringing people together as Team Wilder, our growing membership, supporters, partners and with the national Wildlife Trust movement, we will together create a Wilder Somerset.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

CHARITABLE PURPOSE

Somerset Wildlife Trust is set up to achieve three charitable objects:

1. For the benefit of the public, to advance, promote and further the conservation, maintenance, protection and enjoyment of wildlife and its habitats, including places of botanical, geographical, zoological, archaeological or scientific interest and places of natural beauty;
2. To advance the education of the public in the principles of biodiversity conservation and of sustainable development;
3. To promote research in all branches of ecology and geology.

The Trust delivers its charitable purposes through its strategic objectives as described in this report.

The Trust measures its success by:

- The Senior Leadership Team and Trust Council monitoring progress towards charitable goals and their achievement

through quarterly reviews of the implementation of the annual and long-term delivery plan

- Monitoring the work plan for key work areas, including membership, fundraising and wider income generation
- Setting objectives for all staff which link to the delivery plan and reviewing progress regularly at one to one and annual review meetings
- Qualitative feedback from Trustees, members, supporters, volunteers and partners
- Continuing to develop successful relationships with partner organisations and funders
- Hosting Somerset Environmental Records Centre, which collects and provides data on species and habitats across Somerset, and using this data to monitor Somerset's State of Nature
- Monitoring and reporting on complaints received

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 public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. The Trust's public benefit is enshrined in its charitable objectives and activities – providing multiple benefits for the public which are wide-ranging and long-lasting.

Nature reserves

The Trust's nature reserves, located throughout Somerset are used extensively by the public for quiet recreation; many have access on clearly marked paths along with information and interpretation for visitors.

Education and engagement

The Trust delivers a broad engagement programme, promoting life-long learning and inspiring people of all ages, including children and young people, to enjoy and benefit from contact with the natural world, enhancing their health and wellbeing.

Restoring nature at landscape-level

The Trust's habitat management and restoration work help to create biodiverse habitats which provide essential

ecosystem services for the public, such as flood risk management, carbon storage, pollination, pollution control, improved health and wellbeing, and aesthetic beauty. Government and businesses are now recognising the essential role that nature plays in supporting the economy, not least through the provision of these public goods and services.

Land management advice for nature

Through providing advice and assistance to farmers and landowners to manage their land for the benefit of wildlife the Trust helps to support the rural economy, the countryside and landscapes that are enjoyed and valued by the wider public.

Research

Evidence and advice provided by the Trust to local authorities, landowners and communities helps to ensure that decisions on policies such as land management, development, and health and wellbeing take full account of the public benefit of wildlife and a healthy environment.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

STRUCTURE

Somerset Wildlife Trust is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its articles of association.

Somerset Wildlife Trust is a member of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (registered charity number 207238) along with 46 other local Wildlife Trust members throughout the UK which are collectively known as The Wildlife Trusts.

Somerset Wildlife Trust is also a partner in the South West Wildlife Trusts, an independent charity formed by seven of the eight Wildlife Trusts located in the South West of England and the Isles of Scilly to increase the effectiveness of the Wildlife Trusts in the South West.

Somerset Wildlife Trust has one wholly owned subsidiary, **SWT (Sales) Limited**. The charity owns 100% of the company's ordinary share capital. The principal activities of SWT (Sales) Limited are that of overseeing the environmental consultancy, First Ecology.

First Ecology provides ecological consultancy, protected species services, planning support and arboricultural services to a wide range of clients. It is based at the Trust's Callow Rock Offices. First Ecology trades under SWT

(Sales) Ltd, a company limited by shares and registered in England No. 1317396.

Somerset Environmental Records Centre (SERC) was established in 1986 and is hosted by the Somerset Wildlife Trust at the Trust's office in Taunton. The core work of SERC is to gather, manage and supply biological and geological data and hold the county list of sites recognised for their natural value. Data gathered by SERC is used to build up a comprehensive picture of the biodiversity and geodiversity of Somerset, and help to monitor the state of the natural environment. SERC is a member of the Association of Local Environmental Records Centres and has close links to the National Biodiversity Network, and the National Federation of Biological Recorders.

South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited (SWWFL) is an Associate trading subsidiary (set up for mutual trading) and jointly owned by eight Wildlife Trusts, including Somerset Wildlife Trust, to help secure regular financial support through memberships recruited face to face. SWWFL provides membership recruitment services for Somerset, Avon, Devon, Dorset, Hampshire & Isle of Wight, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Worcestershire and as clients now also to Herefordshire and Gwent Wildlife Trusts.

GOVERNANCE

Council

Members elected to serve on Council have a dual role as a Trustee of the Charity and a Director of the company. There can be no fewer than 10 and no more than 15 Trustees. All Trustees are volunteers, give freely of their time and have no beneficial interest in the group or charity. Trustees are elected by the members at the Annual General Meeting and serve for a term of five years. Each Trustee can serve for two consecutive terms of office and then must stand down for a year until they become eligible to stand again.

The Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer are elected by Council following the AGM and serve one-year terms. No Trustee can hold the position of Chair, Vice-Chair or Treasurer for more than five consecutive years though this can be extended in exceptional circumstances for a year.

To ensure that Council is equipped to carry out its responsibilities it carries out skills analysis of existing members before new ones are appointed. In addition, each new Trustee receives a full induction into the work and administration of the charity. Trustees receive regular updates on the work of the Trust and any training deemed necessary to enable members to carry out their responsibilities.

At the Trust AGM in November 2020, two Trustees were re-elected.

As part of ongoing good governance, a review of our Articles of Association is being undertaken to bring them up to date and to incorporate new guidelines from the Charity Commission.

Council is assisted by three committees:

Finance and Resources Committee: scrutiny of accounts, oversight of investments and financial controls, policy development, advice on business risk and resource management and income generation;

Health and Safety Committee: oversight on all health and safety matters in the Trust.

Risk Management Committee: advising on the Trust's risk appetite and risk tolerance, reviewing and monitoring current and potential business risks.

In addition, the chairs of all committees meet with the Chair of Council and the Chief Executive once a year to review governance performance.

Transactions involving council members and related parties

During 2020-21 the Trust received a total of £1,053 (2020: £675) donations and membership from Trustees.

Strategy and policy setting

Council is responsible for furthering the objectives of the Trust as set out in the Articles of Association. The focus of Council's work is on setting and reviewing the strategic direction for the Trust, on monitoring its delivery of agreed targets and to ensure that the income and expenditure of the Trust and its property and assets are managed appropriately. Following the appointment of Georgia Stokes as the Trust's new Chief Executive Officer in April 2019, and consultation with members, the public and all key stakeholders, the Trust has developed and launched a new 10-year strategy 'Wilder Somerset 2030'.

Staffing

Council appoints the Chief Executive Officer and supports the appointment process for members of the Senior Leadership Team. In practice, this translates into giving the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Leadership Team clear strategic objectives for the Trust which have demonstrable outcomes for wildlife in the county, and ensuring that the Trust's financial affairs are managed appropriately.

The Chief Executive Officer reports to the Chair of Trustees. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the day to

day running of the Trust and has delegated powers of authority approved by the Council. The Chief Executive Officer delegates decision making powers through the Senior Leadership Team into the organisation.

During the year the Trust employed 50 full-time equivalent staff (2020: 49), three of which worked for SERC and nine for First Ecology. The majority of the Trust's staff are usually based at its headquarters in Taunton with others based at Ford Farm, the Avalon Marshes Centre and Callow Rock. The staff are organised into functional teams, such as reserves, and also work in cross-functional teams, such as for delivering major projects. As a result of coronavirus and social distancing measures introduced in March 2020, all Trust offices have remained largely closed throughout the year and staff have mainly worked remotely from home. Additionally, a total of 24 staff (41%) were furloughed through the government's Job Retention Scheme. The decision to place staff on this scheme was taken based on whether they were able to continue delivering their role in lockdown conditions and/or as a direct result of loss of income resulting from the coronavirus pandemic.

Complaints

The Trust treats all complaints seriously. In the year 2020-21 the Trust received 1 complaint (4: 2020). Complaints were responded to within 7 days. Complaints are individually reviewed by the Chief Executive Officer and relevant senior staff and monitored by Trustees as part of a system for continuous improvement.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also directors of Somerset Wildlife Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Strategic Report, Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards including Financial Reporting Standard 102; the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and 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 in business.

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

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

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.

The Trustees' Report, including the Strategic Report, was approved by the Trustees on 20 July 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Graeme Mitchell
Chair

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SOMERSET WILDLIFE TRUST

Qualified opinion

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

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

In our opinion, except for the possible effects of the matter described in the basis for qualified opinion section of our report, the financial statements:

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

Basis for qualified opinion

The Trust has recognised a provision of £445k (2020: £600k) for the removal of unsafe trees following a technical report commissioned to estimate the financial impact of Ash Dieback disease on the Trust's nature reserves.

Due to significant uncertainties regarding the long term costs of managing the disease we were unable to satisfy ourselves that the provision is a reliable estimate of the total costs of managing the impact of the disease on the Trust's reserves at the balance sheet date. Consequently we were unable to determine whether any adjustments to this amount were necessary.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

Other information

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

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

or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and charitable parent company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report).

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

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

Responsibilities of the Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

Identifying and assessing potential risks of material misstatement due to irregularities

We considered the following when identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement due to irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations:

- the legal and regulatory framework in which the group operates
- the nature of the sector in which the group operates
- the control environment and controls established to mitigate such risks
- the results of our enquiries of management about their identification and assessment of risks of irregularities
- discussions with the audit engagement team about where fraud might occur
- the incentives for fraud.

Laws and regulations which are considered to be significant to the group include those relating to the requirements of financial reporting framework FRS 102, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, UK tax legislation, employment law and health and safety. In addition we consider other laws and regulation which may not directly impact the financial statements but may impact on the operation of the group.

As a result of these procedures we concluded, in accordance with International Auditing Standards, that a risk in relation to the potential for management override of controls existed.

Audit responses to risks identified

We undertook audit procedures to respond to the risks identified, and designed our audit testing to respond to these risks. The additional procedures we undertook included the following:

- gaining an understanding of the group's procedures for ensuring compliance with laws and regulations
- testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments
- considering whether accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias
- considering whether any transactions arose outside the normal course of business
- making enquiries of management
- corroborating our enquiries through review of Board Minutes and correspondence.

We also communicated relevant laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indicators of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

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



Alexandra Shore FCA CTA

Senior Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of A C Mole & Sons
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
Stafford House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
Somerset TA1 2PX

20 July 2021

A C Mole & Sons is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

(INCLUDING CONSOLIDATED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2021	Total funds 2020
		General £	Designated £	£	£	£	£
Income from:							
Donations and legacies	2	1,532,145	196,732	142,369	-	1,871,246	1,212,643
Charitable activities:							
More space for nature – nature recovery	3	19,079	-	145,328	-	164,407	147,083
More space for nature – nature reserves	3	436,231	-	190,650	-	626,881	558,869
A movement for nature	3	5,000	-	410,105	-	415,105	117,901
Telling Somerset's story	3	124,467	-	2,197	-	126,664	114,884
Other trading activities (including First Ecology)	4	509,555	-	-	-	509,555	578,282
Investments	5	13,496	-	-	-	13,496	21,820
Other income	6	95,265	-	-	-	95,265	-
Total		2,735,238	196,732	890,649	-	3,822,619	2,751,482
Expenditure on:							
Raising funds (including First Ecology)	7	970,216	-	-	-	970,216	1,107,106
Charitable activities:							
More space for nature – nature recovery	7	130,585	2	129,909	-	260,496	364,171
More space for nature – nature reserves	7	567,045	-	231,296	-	798,341	690,500
A movement for nature	7	158,553	-	202,670	-	361,223	324,645
Telling Somerset's story	7	152,349	-	2,197	-	154,546	149,244
Current service pension cost/(credit)	8	-	-	-	-	-	(189,824)
Provision for Ash Dieback liability	18	-	-	-	-	-	600,000
Total		1,978,748	2	566,072	-	2,544,822	3,045,842
Net gain/(loss) on investments		183,097	-	-	-	183,097	(41,948)
Net income/(expenditure)		939,587	196,730	324,577	-	1,460,894	(336,308)
Transfers between funds	22	(451,780)	482,626	(138,430)	107,584	-	-
Net movement in funds		487,807	679,356	186,147	107,584	1,460,894	(336,308)
Reconciliation of funds							
Fund balances brought forward at 1 April 2020		692,215	2,833,328	407,095	1,633,849	5,566,487	5,902,795
Fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2021		1,180,022	3,512,684	593,242	1,741,433	7,027,381	5,566,487

All of the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses recognised in the year are included above. The notes on pages 30 to 45 form part of these financial statements.

CONSOLIDATED AND TRUST BALANCE SHEETS

AS AT 31 MARCH 2021

	Notes	Group		Trust	
		2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13	847,651	864,433	832,560	852,910
Heritage assets	13	3,128,562	3,020,978	3,128,562	3,020,978
Investments	14	908,540	732,079	908,543	732,082
		4,884,753	4,617,490	4,869,665	4,605,970
Current assets					
Stock	15	1,690	1,659	1,690	1,659
Debtors	16	685,603	760,921	698,147	762,576
Deposit accounts		1,802,732	596,951	1,802,732	596,951
Cash at bank and in hand		346,515	586,805	333,459	581,801
		2,836,540	1,946,336	2,836,028	1,942,987
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	248,493	176,472	233,048	161,758
Net current assets		2,588,047	1,769,864	2,602,980	1,781,229
Total assets less current liabilities		7,472,800	6,387,354	7,472,645	6,387,199
Provisions for liabilities	18	445,419	600,000	445,419	600,000
Total assets excluding pension liability		7,027,381	5,787,354	7,027,226	5,787,199
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	12	-	220,867	-	220,867
Total net assets		7,027,381	5,566,487	7,027,226	5,566,332
The funds of the charity					
Endowment funds		1,741,433	1,633,849	1,741,433	1,633,849
Restricted funds		593,242	407,095	593,242	407,095
Designated funds		3,512,684	2,833,328	3,512,684	2,833,328
Unrestricted funds		1,180,022	692,215	1,179,867	692,060
Total charity funds	23	7,027,381	5,566,487	7,027,226	5,566,332

The notes on pages 30 to 45 form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 27 to 45 were approved by the Trustees on 20 July 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



Graeme Mitchell
Chair



Richard Atkin
Treasurer

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

		2021	2020
	Note	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	25	1,101,245	225,234
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and rental income		13,496	21,820
Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment		-	6,322
Purchase of property, plant and equipment		(155,886)	(83,759)
Proceeds from sale of investments		139,039	113,403
Purchase of investments		(150,978)	(79,563)
Net cash used in investing activities		(154,329)	(21,777)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		946,916	203,457
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		1,225,509	1,022,052
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		2,172,425	1,225,509

The notes on pages 30 to 45 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Charitable company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and does not have any share capital. The liability of the guarantors, who are the members, is limited to £1 per guarantor. At 31 March 2021 the charity had 20,546 members. The company is registered in England & Wales. The registered office address is 34 Wellington Road, Taunton, Somerset, TA15AW. On behalf of the members, the Council controls the company.

(b) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102) 2019 the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention with the exception of listed investments which are included at their fair value.

The Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

(c) Preparation of the accounts on a going concern basis

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

(d) Group financial statements

The financial statements consolidate the results of the charity and its wholly owned subsidiary SWT (Sales) Limited on a line-by-line basis. A separate Statement of Financial Activities and Income and Expenditure Account for the charity has not been presented because the Trust has taken advantage of the exemption afforded by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006. The surplus in the year for the charity was £1,460,894 (2019-20: £336,308 deficit). Note 24 gives full details of the results of the subsidiary undertaking for the year to 31 March 2021.

(e) Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity. Certain unrestricted funds have been designated by the Trustees for specific purposes.

Designated funds

Designated funds are unrestricted funds that have been set aside by Council for a future purpose.

Restricted funds

Restricted funds are funds that are used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes.

Endowment funds

The nature reserves endowment fund represents amounts received specifically for, and expended on, the purchase of nature reserves.

(f) Income

All income is included in the SOFA when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Income for works that has been completed but has not yet been received is included as accrued income.

Legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the charity is aware that probate has been granted 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. Unless restricted, legacies are credited to the designated development reserve on receipt.

Grants are included in the SOFA in the year they are receivable and when any performance conditions attached to the grant have been met. Grants received in respect of the purchase of specific nature reserves are credited to the nature reserves endowment fund.

Government grants are included within other income and are recognised where there is entitlement, when receipt is considered probable and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income from investments and from rental income is included in the SOFA in the year it is receivable.

The total income receivable in respect of membership is included as income from membership in note 2. Income from life membership is included in the SOFA in the year in which it is receivable.

Gifts in kind are included in the SOFA at their estimated current value in the year in which they are receivable.

Trading income is included in the SOFA in the year in which it is receivable.

(g) Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that 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 or apportioned to the applicable expenditure headings. Where an employee works in more than one department, their costs are allocated on the basis of time worked in each department. Certain overhead costs, such as relevant insurance premiums, are allocated on the basis of staff numbers, while others are allocated on an actual usage basis.

Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the expenditure heading for which it was incurred.

(h) Tangible and heritage fixed assets and depreciation

Heritage assets are assets of historical or scientific importance that are held to advance the preservation, conservation and educational objectives of the charity and through public access contribute to

the nation's culture and education at either a national or local level. Freehold nature reserves are included in heritage fixed assets at their acquisition costs and they are not revalued or depreciated. The charity aims to preserve and enhance its nature reserves, which are not held for their resale potential. The market value of the reserves is of no practical relevance to the charity's activities. No depreciation is provided because the reserves have an indefinite life.

The costs of leasehold nature reserves are amortised over the period of the lease.

All other tangible fixed assets are held at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is provided on all other tangible fixed assets as follows:

Freehold property: 2% on a straight line basis
Computers: on a straight line basis over 3 years
Plant and equipment: 15% on written down value
Motor vehicles: 25% on written down value
Office equipment, furniture and fittings: 15% on written down value

(i) Investments

Listed Investments are stated at fair value which equates to market value at the balance sheet date. The SOFA includes all net gains and losses arising on revaluations and disposals throughout the year. The investment in the subsidiary is stated at cost.

(j) Stock

Stock consists of publications for distribution to members and purchased goods for resale. Stock is valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

(k) Cash and equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

(l) Financial instruments

The Trust only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value, with the exception of listed investments as noted above.

(m) Pension costs

The Trust participates in The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme, a hybrid, multi-employer pension scheme which provides benefits to members on a defined benefit or a defined contribution basis.

The majority of employees are members of a defined contribution pension scheme.

Defined contribution scheme

Pension contributions in relation to defined contribution schemes are recognised as an expense in the statement of financial activities as incurred. The Trust contributes 7% of gross annual salary for participating employees.

Defined benefit scheme

The Trust settled the remaining Section 75 debt advised by the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme in the year.

(n) Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the SOFA as incurred.

(o) Volunteer support

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

(p) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The Trustees are of the opinion that apart from the Ash Dieback provision there are no other estimates or assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

The Trust has a liability to manage the impact of Ash Dieback on its nature reserves. Consultants have been engaged to try to estimate the financial impact of this obligation, and a provision has been recognised within the accounts. Due to the many assumptions which will impact this estimate, including the rate of progression of the disease, actual costs could be materially different from these estimates. Further details are included in note 18.

(q) Provisions

The Trust recognises a provision where it has a liability which is of uncertain timing or amount. Movements in provisions are recognised in the SOFA in the period in which they occur. Provisions are discounted where the time impact of money is material.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £
Membership ¹	756,831	-	756,831	733,114	-	733,114
Donations and appeals	775,314	137,369	912,683	96,359	168,911	265,270
Legacies	196,732	5,000	201,732	214,259	-	214,259
	1,728,877	142,369	1,871,246	1,043,732	168,911	1,212,643

¹ Membership includes corporate membership £7,417 (2020: £21,336).

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £
More space for nature – nature recovery						
Natural England	-	12,732	12,732	-	5,938	5,938
Statutory body grants	-	30,715	30,715	-	14,615	14,615
Other grants	-	101,881	101,881	-	101,385	101,385
Consultancy fees	19,079	-	19,079	25,145	-	25,145
	19,079	145,328	164,407	25,145	121,938	147,083
More space for nature – nature reserves						
DEFRA	411,269	-	411,269	510,112	2,500	512,612
Statutory body grants	-	4,150	4,150	-	7,724	7,724
Landfill tax credit scheme	-	65,422	65,422	-	-	-
Other grants	-	121,078	121,078	-	6,633	6,633
Grazing licences and property lettings	14,506	-	14,505	20,076	-	20,076
Wood and firewood sales	10,456	-	10,456	11,824	-	11,824
	436,231	190,650	626,881	542,012	16,857	558,869
A movement for nature						
Education provision	-	-	-	180	-	180
Statutory body grants	5,000	120,478	125,478	-	52,399	52,399
Other grants	-	289,627	289,627	-	65,322	65,322
	5,000	410,105	415,105	180	117,721	117,901
Telling Somerset's story						
Statutory body grants	-	200	200	-	300	300
Other grants	-	1,997	1,997	-	-	-
Service level agreements	78,861	-	78,861	76,602	-	76,602
Data services	43,336	-	43,336	37,982	-	37,982
Sales income	2,270	-	2,270	-	-	-
	124,467	2,197	126,664	114,584	300	114,884
	584,777	748,280	1,333,057	681,921	256,816	938,737

4. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Trust £	SWT (Sales) Ltd (see note 24) £	Total 2021 £	Trust £	SWT (Sales) Ltd (see note 24) £	Total 2020 £
Shop sales	2,433	-	2,433	2,905	-	2,905
Fundraising events	3,270	-	3,270	25,234	-	25,234
Other fundraising activities	30,586	-	30,586	35,067	-	35,067
First Ecology	-	473,266	473,266	-	515,076	515,076
	36,289	473,266	509,555	63,206	515,076	578,282

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £
Dividends receivable from equity shares	11,778	-	11,778	16,640	-	16,640
Interest receivable from investment funds	934	-	934	836	-	836
Interest receivable from bank and deposit accounts	784	-	784	4,344	-	4,344
	13,496	-	13,496	21,820	-	21,820

6. OTHER INCOME

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2021 £	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Total 2020 £
Government grants	95,265	-	95,265	-	-	-
	95,265	-	95,265	-	-	-

7. BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total 2021 £	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total 2020 £
Expenditure on raising funds						
Cost of raising funds	167,660	49,829	217,489	175,456	53,772	229,228
Membership recruitment and retention	251,521	49,051	300,572	332,157	51,530	383,687
Merchandising costs	2,094	-	2,094	2,362	-	2,362
Investment management fees	8,838	-	8,838	5,236	-	5,236
First Ecology	343,481	97,742	441,223	388,032	98,561	486,593
	773,594	196,622	970,216	903,243	203,863	1,107,106
Charitable activities						
More space for nature - nature recovery	204,616	55,880	260,496	284,211	79,960	364,171
Mores space for nature - nature reserves	701,702	96,639	798,341	584,602	105,898	690,500
A movement for nature	243,866	117,357	361,223	219,630	105,015	324,645
Telling Somerset's story	116,707	37,839	154,546	110,800	38,444	149,244
	1,266,891	307,715	1,574,606	1,199,243	329,317	1,528,560
	2,040,485	504,337	2,544,822	2,102,486	533,180	2,635,666

Support cost breakdown by activity

	Costs of generating voluntary income £	Membership recruitment and retention £	First Ecology £	More space for nature – nature recovery £	More space for nature – nature reserves £	A movement for nature £	Telling Somerset's story £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Finance	8,758	6,128	19,929	11,923	21,299	14,777	7,716	90,530	106,159
HR/staff support	2,787	1,952	6,346	3,796	6,782	4,705	2,454	28,822	40,727
Office costs	7,986	5,589	18,170	10,872	19,420	13,472	7,032	82,541	69,498
Property and motor vehicles	4,904	3,428	11,151	6,671	11,917	8,268	4,318	50,657	53,472
Recoverable VAT	(12,123)	-	-	(2,598)	(17,319)	(2,598)	-	(34,638)	(17,272)
Marketing	20,135	19,792	2,594	1,552	12,270	49,410	1,005	106,758	98,250
Information technology	5,998	4,197	13,649	8,167	14,588	10,119	5,284	62,002	54,737
National and regional support	4,464	3,123	10,157	6,076	10,854	7,530	3,932	46,136	52,940
Insurance	498	348	1,133	678	1,211	840	439	5,147	3,447
Governance	6,422	4,494	14,613	8,743	15,617	1,0834	5,659	66,382	71,222
	49,829	49,051	97,742	55,880	96,639	117,357	37,839	504,337	533,180

Basis of allocation

Finance	Headcount
HR/staff support	Headcount
Office costs	Headcount
Property and motor vehicles	Headcount
Recoverable VAT	Actual resources expended
Marketing	Actual resources expended
Information technology	Headcount
National and regional support	Headcount
Insurance	Headcount
Governance	Headcount

8. EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

During the previous financial year, the Trust received confirmation of the liability arising from triggering the Section 75 debt in respect of the defined benefit pension scheme. As a result the pension liability had been over-provided for. To correct the liability a credit of £189,824 was recognised in the prior period. The Trustees consider this credit is material by virtue of its nature and amount and it has therefore been disclosed separately on the face of the statement of financial activities.

During the previous financial year, the Trust recognised a £600k provision in respect of Ash Dieback as explained in note 18.

9. OTHER COST DISCLOSURES

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Depreciation	65,084	62,164
Auditors' remuneration		
Audit fees	14,392	11,850
Taxation compliance	1,110	2,082
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	954

10. STAFF COSTS

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Wages and salaries	1,378,719	1,367,654
Social security costs	120,687	115,173
Pension costs	92,927	69,211
	1,592,333	1,552,038

The number of employees whose remuneration exceeded £60,000 was as follows:

	Total 2021	Total 2020
£60,000 – £69,999	1	1
	1	1

Total remuneration of key management personnel in the period was £400,325 (2020: £301,677).

The key management personnel of the group and the parent charity comprise the Trustees, Chief Executive Officer, Director of Fundraising and Marketing/Deputy CEO, Head of Nature Reserves and Land Management, Head of Nature Recovery, Head of Engagement and Community Programmes, Head of Communications and Corporate Relations, Head of Business Development and Operations, and Head of Finance.

During the year the Trust made settlement payments of £nil (2020: £24,485).

The average number of employees during the year, analysed by function, was:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Charitable activities	49	53
Raising funds	9	8
Governance	1	1
	59	62

The average number of full-time equivalent employees during the year totalled 50 (2020: 49).

11. TRUSTEE EMOLUMENTS

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Reimbursement of Trustees' travel and subsistence costs	-	326
Donations received from Trustees	1,053	675

Trustees did not receive any remuneration or benefits in kind during either year.

No Trustees were reimbursed for travel expenses during the year (2020: two).

12. PENSION COSTS

The Trust participated in the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme, a hybrid, multi-employer pension scheme which provides benefits to members on a defined benefit or a defined contribution basis.

Defined benefit scheme

The scheme is closed to new members.

During 2014-15 the Trust received notification that that Section 75 clause in the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme had been breached due to there no longer being any active members in the defined contribution section of the scheme. In March 2020 the Trust received formal notification of the value of the Section 75 debt. Accordingly, at the previous year end, the liability recognised was the value of the Section 75 debt, which was the Trust's only remaining liability under the scheme. During the current year, this debt was settled.

Prior to receiving this notification the Trust was unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the defined benefit section of the scheme. Accordingly, as permitted under FRS 102, the Trust previously accounted for the defined benefit scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme and recognised a liability for the present value of the contributions payable by the Trust under the agreed Recovery Plan for the scheme.

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
At 1 April 2020	220,867	460,700
Cash contributions in the year	-	(62,338)
Section 75 debt cash payments	(220,867)	
Finance cost:		
Unwinding of interest	-	13,831
Movement in discount rate	-	(1,502)
Section 75 debt adjustment	-	(189,824)
At March 2021	-	220,867
Discount rate (IBOxx 15 year Sterling Corporates AA rated bond yield)	-	2.35%

Information regarding the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme (as a whole) is disclosed below:

The latest valuation was carried out as at 1 April 2016 on a Statutory Funding Objective Basis. The assumptions that have the most significant effect on the results of the valuation are those relating to the discount rates, the rate of increase in pensions and the life expectancy of pensioners.

	Total 2021	Total 2020
Discount rate pre-retirement	-	4.45%
Discount rate post-retirement	-	2.2%
Price inflation (RPI)	-	3%
Price inflation (CPI)	-	2.2%

Post retirement mortality assumptions are based on S2PA tables projected by each member's year of birth. As at the valuation date the total value of Scheme's deficit was £5.9m.

Defined contribution scheme

The Trust contributes 7% of annual salary to employees' current pension schemes, all of which are now defined contribution in nature. The pension charge for the year in respect of these contributions amounted to £92,927 (2020: £69,487).

13. TANGIBLE AND HERITAGE FIXED ASSETS

Group

	Nature reserves		Freehold and	Plant and	Vehicles	Office	Total
	Freehold	Leasehold	leasehold	equipment		equipment	
	£	£	property	£	£	£	£
			£				
Cost							
At 1 April 2020	3,020,978	103,946	739,830	391,700	164,024	157,254	4,577,732
Additions	107,584	-	-	7,082	-	41,220	155,886
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(722)	(722)
At 31 March 2021	3,128,562	103,946	739,830	398,782	164,024	197,752	4,732,896
Depreciation							
At 1 April 2020	-	103,758	91,037	268,958	98,799	129,769	692,321
Charge for the year	-	2	14,885	18,763	16,307	15,127	65,084
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(722)	(722)
At 31 March 2021	-	103,760	105,922	287,721	115,106	144,174	756,683
Net book value							
At 31 March 2021	3,128,562	186	633,908	111,061	48,918	53,578	3,976,213
At 31 March 2020	3,020,978	188	648,793	122,742	65,225	27,485	3,885,411

Charity

	Nature reserves		Freehold and	Plant and	Vehicles	Office	Total
	Freehold	Leasehold	leasehold	equipment		equipment	
	£	£	property	£	£	£	£
			£				
Cost							
At 1 April 2020	3,020,478	103,946	739,830	369,486	164,024	115,237	4,513,501
Additions	107,584	-	-	3,456	-	37,244	148,284
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(722)	(722)
At 31 March 2021	3,128,562	103,946	739,830	372,942	164,024	151,759	4,661,063
Depreciation							
At 1 April 2020	-	103,758	91,037	253,274	98,799	92,745	639,613
Charge for the year	-	2	14,885	17,692	16,307	12,164	61,050
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(722)	(722)
At 31 March 2021	-	103,760	105,922	270,966	115,106	104,187	699,941
Net book value							
At 31 March 2021	3,128,562	186	633,908	101,976	48,918	47,572	3,961,122
At 31 March 2020	3,020,978	188	648,793	116,212	65,225	22,492	3,873,888

Heritage fixed assets

Heritage assets are represented as freehold nature reserves above.

A summary of transactions relating to heritage assets over the last five years is as follows:

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of acquisitions	107,584	500	-	-	14,709
Value of donated assets	-	-	-	-	-
Carrying amount of disposals	-	-	-	-	54,938
Proceeds of disposals	-	-	-	-	120,709
Value of impairment	-	-	-	-	-

14. INVESTMENTS

Group

	Listed securities £	Cash holdings £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Cost				
At 1 April 2020	638,393	41,753	680,146	667,463
Additions	150,978	195,343	346,321	203,971
Disposals	(135,601)	(213,918)	(349,519)	(191,288)
At 31 March 2021	653,770	23,178	676,948	680,146
Revaluations				
Unrealised gains at 1 April 2020	51,933	-	51,933	112,644
Net gains/(losses) arising on revaluations in the year	183,097	-	183,097	(41,948)
Disposals/reverse revaluations	(3,438)	-	(3,438)	(18,763)
Unrealised gains at 31 March 2021	231,592	-	231,592	51,933
Fair value at 31 March 2021	885,362	23,178	908,540	732,079

Charity

	Subsidiary company £	Listed securities £	Cash holdings £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Cost					
At 1 April 2020	3	638,393	41,753	680,149	667,466
Additions	-	150,978	195,343	346,321	203,971
Disposals	-	(135,601)	(213,918)	(349,519)	(191,288)
At 31 March 2021	3	653,770	23,178	676,951	680,149
Revaluations					
Unrealised gains at 1 April 2020	-	51,933	-	51,933	112,644
Net gains/(losses) arising on revaluations in the year	-	183,097	-	183,097	(41,948)
Disposals/reverse revaluations	-	(3,438)	-	(3,438)	(18,763)
Unrealised gains at 31 March 2021	-	231,592	-	231,592	51,933
Fair value at 31 March 2021	3	885,362	23,178	908,543	732,082

At 31 March 2021 the charity had one wholly owned subsidiary, SWT (Sales) Limited. The charity owns 100% of the company's ordinary share capital. The principal activity of SWT (Sales) Limited is that of environmental consultancy work (see note 24).

15. STOCKS

	Group		Trust	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Stocks	1,690	1,659	1,690	1,659
	1,690	1,659	1,690	1,659

16. DEBTORS

	Group		Trust	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	88,035	133,178	37,429	27,204
Other debtors	25,020	13,685	18,809	10,969
Prepayments and accrued income	365,114	335,462	319,404	278,350
Legacies receivable	207,434	278,596	207,434	278,596
Amounts owed by subsidiary company	-	-	115,071	167,457
	685,603	760,921	698,147	762,576

Other debtors includes £nil (2020: £nil) due after more than one year.

17. CREDITORS

	Group		Trust	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts falling due within one year				
Trade creditors	155,670	86,981	144,935	82,195
Other creditors and accruals	92,823	89,491	88,113	79,563
	248,493	176,472	233,048	161,758

18. PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES

During 2019-20 the progression of Ash Dieback disease on the Trust's nature reserves became apparent. A specialist report was commissioned during the year, and as a result, a provision of £600k was recognised in the year for the estimated future cost of removing dangerous trees.

The £600k was based on costs from a report received from a third party arborist which provides an indicative range of costs to deal with the issue. This range includes a number of assumptions including the

rate of progression of the disease and the costs of dealing with it. As a result actual costs could be different from those estimated. In addition, the report focusses on high use and high value areas. Further areas of Trust woodland which require management may be identified in due course.

	Group		Trust	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Provisions				
At 1 April 2020	600,000	-	600,000	-
Provisions recognised in the year	-	600,000	-	600,000
Provisions released in the year	(154,581)	-	(154,581)	-
At 31 March 2021	445,419	600,000	445,419	600,000

19. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

Minimum lease payments on non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	Group		Trust	
	2021 £	2020 £	2021 £	2020 £
Within one year	10,847	18,488	10,847	18,488
Due one to five years	-	15,057	-	15,057
	10,847	33,545	10,847	33,545

20. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

The following transactions took place after the balance sheet date but prior to the approval of the financial statements. These are all non-adjusting post balance sheet events in and in accordance with FRS 102 are therefore disclosed here:

Additional land purchases

The Trust was successful in bidding at auction for two parcels of land with a total cost of £544k. The purchases were both completed in July 2021.

The Trust intends to acquire Honeygar Farm over the next two financial years, a 46.5 hectare farm with a total cost of £959k.

21. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	At 1 April 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Investment gains £	At 31 March 2021 £
Unrestricted funds						
Income fund	692,215	2,735,238	(1,978,748)	(451,780)	183,097	1,180,022
Total unrestricted funds	692,215	2,735,238	(1,978,748)	(451,780)	183,097	1,180,022
Designated funds						
Nature reserves	1,387,317	-	(2)	-	-	1,387,315
Operating freehold	647,988	-	-	(14,885)	-	633,103
Nature reserves development	16,354	-	-	-	-	16,354
Development reserve	539,067	196,732	-	500,000	-	1,235,799
Innovation fund	42,602	-	-	(2,489)	-	40,113
Nature reserves fund	200,000	-	-	-	-	200,000
Total designated funds	2,833,328	196,732	(2)	482,626	-	3,512,684
Restricted funds						
More space for nature – nature recovery	22,132	145,328	(129,909)	-	-	37,551
More space for nature – nature reserves	279,610	330,739	(231,296)	(108,944)	-	270,109
A movement for nature	105,353	412,385	(202,670)	(29,486)	-	285,582
Telling Somerset's story	-	2,197	(2,197)	-	-	-
Total restricted funds	407,095	890,649	(566,072)	(138,430)	-	593,242
Endowment funds						
Nature reserves	1,633,849	-	-	107,584	-	1,741,433
Total endowment funds	1,633,849	-	-	107,584	-	1,741,433
Total funds	5,566,487	3,822,619	(2,544,822)	-	183,097	7,027,381

Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds represent the free funds of the charity, which are not designated for a particular purpose and are maintained in accordance with the policy explained in the Trustees' report.

Designated funds

The nature reserve fund represents funds other than endowment funds that the charity has used to purchase nature reserves.

The operating freehold fund represents the value of the Trust's freehold property and main headquarters in Taunton.

The designated nature reserve development fund represents proceeds from the sale of land during 2016-17 which the charity has set aside specifically for re-investment in nature reserves.

The designated development reserve fund represents funds that the charity has set aside for investment in income generation, capital investment and future projects.

The innovation fund represents funds that have been set aside to support strategically important initiatives that will enhance the delivery of the Trust's programme of work.

The nature reserves fund represents funds re-allocated from the designated development reserve to mitigate the potential loss of agri-environment income.

Restricted funds

The restricted income funds of the charity include restricted funds comprising the unexpended balances of donations, grants and other income, which are to be applied for specific purposes within the charity's objectives:

- More space for nature
 - Nature recovery – improving nature everywhere through a Nature Recovery Network.
 - Nature reserves – manage our nature reserves for conservation purposes.
- A movement for nature – taking action for nature's recovery across Somerset as part of Team Wilder.
- Telling Somerset's story – through our online State of Nature platform that informs action and monitors progress.

22. TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Designated funds		
Nature reserves	-	500
Operating freehold reserve	(14,885)	(14,725)
Development reserve	500,000	(1,069,782)
Innovation fund	(2,489)	(272)
Ash Dieback fund	-	600,000
Nature reserves fund	-	200,000
Restricted funds		
More space for nature – nature reserves	(108,944)	-
A movement for nature	(29,486)	-
Endowment funds		
Nature reserves	107,584	-
Unrestricted funds	(451,780)	284,279
	-	-

The designated innovation fund transfer represents funds that have been set aside by the charity to support strategically important initiatives that will enhance the Trust's programme of work.

The designated Ash Dieback fund transfer in 2020 represents funds re-allocated from the designated development reserve specifically for the removal of dangerous trees as a result of Ash Dieback disease.

The designated nature reserves fund transfer represents funds that have been re-allocated from the designated development reserve to mitigate the loss of agri-environment scheme income as existing Schemes come to an end.

The restricted fund and endowment fund transfer represents the transfer of assets purchased during the year through projects and grants.

The designated nature reserves transfer in 2020 represents legal fees associated with the future land purchase.

The designated operating freehold reserve transfer represents the depreciation charged in the year on the Trust's freehold property and main headquarters in Taunton.

The designated development reserve transfer in 2020 represents designated funds expended during the year to support investment in approved projects agreed by Council. In 2021, a significant £500k donation was received which has been designated by Council to support future investment in the Trust's strategy.

23. ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
Tangible and heritage fixed assets	214,362	2,020,418	-	1,741,433	3,976,213
Investments	908,540	-	-	-	908,540
Current assets	751,032	1,492,266	593,242	-	2,836,540
Current liabilities	(248,493)	-	-	-	(248,493)
Provisions for liabilities	(445,419)	-	-	-	(445,419)
	1,180,022	3,512,684	593,242	1,741,433	7,027,381

24. SUBSIDIARY COMPANY

SWT (Sales) Limited income and expenditure statement for the year ended March 2021

	2021 £	2020 £
Turnover	475,301	527,825
Cost of sales	306,541	336,783
Gross profit	168,760	191,042
Administrative expenses	77,974	96,188
Interest payable	-	1,665
	90,786	93,189
Net profit	90,786	93,189
Taxation	-	-
Net profit after taxation	90,786	93,189
Paid under gift aid to Trust	90,786	93,189
	-	-
Profit brought forward	152	152
Retained profit carried forward	152	152

Turnover includes a charge of £2,036 (2020: £12,748) for services to the Trust.

The aggregate of the assets, liabilities and funds of SWT (Sales) Limited was:

Assets	127,956	182,327
Liabilities	(127,801)	(182,172)
Funds	155	155

25. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2021	2020
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	1,460,894	(336,308)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	65,084	62,164
(Gains)/losses on investments	(183,097)	41,948
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(13,496)	(21,820)
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	954
(Decrease)/increase in provision for liabilities	(154,581)	600,000
(Decrease) in defined benefit pension liability	(220,867)	(239,833)
Decrease in debtors	75,318	82,006
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(31)	354
Increase in creditors	72,021	35,769
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,101,245	225,234

26. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2021	2020
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	346,515	586,805
Deposit accounts (less than 3 months)	1,825,910	638,704
	2,172,425	1,225,509

27. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds 2020
	General	Designated	£	£	£
	£	£			
Income from:					
Donations and legacies	829,473	214,259	168,911	-	1,212,643
Charitable activities:					
Inspiring people and communities	180	-	58,072	-	58,252
Rebuilding ecological networks	139,729	-	124,451	-	264,180
Standing up for nature	-	-	57,436	-	57,436
Nature reserves	542,012	-	16,857	-	558,869
Other trading activities	578,282	-	-	-	578,282
Investments	21,820	-	-	-	21,820
Total	2,111,496	214,259	425,727	-	2,751,482
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	1,100,928	5,315	-	-	1,106,243
Charitable activities:					
Inspiring people and communities	189,533	8,135	57,165	-	254,833
Rebuilding ecological networks	347,739	-	118,061	-	465,800
Standing up for nature	59,431	-	58,858	-	118,289
Nature reserves	607,044	1,925	81,532	-	690,501
Current service pension cost/(credit)	(189,824)	-	-	-	(189,824)
Provision for Ash Dieback liability	-	600,000	-	-	600,000
Total	2,114,851	615,375	315,616	-	3,045,842
Net gains on investments	(41,948)	-	-	-	(41,948)
Net income/(expenditure)	(45,303)	(401,116)	110,111	-	(336,308)
Transfers between funds	284,279	(284,279)	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	238,976	(685,395)	110,111	-	(336,308)
Reconciliation of funds					
Fund balances brought forward at 1 April 2019	453,239	3,518,723	296,984	1,633,849	5,902,795
Fund balances carried forward at 31 March 2020	692,215	2,833,328	407,095	1,633,849	5,566,487

28. STATEMENT OF FUNDS 2020

	At 1 April 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Investment gains £	At 31 March 2020 £
Unrestricted funds						
Income fund	453,239	2,111,496	(2,114,851)	284,279	(41,948)	692,215
Total unrestricted funds	453,239	2,111,496	(2,114,851)	284,279	(41,948)	692,215
Designated funds						
Nature reserves	1,386,819	-	(2)	500	-	1,387,317
Operating freehold	662,713	-	-	(14,725)	-	647,988
Nature reserves development	16,354	-	-	-	-	16,354
Development reserve	1,404,648	214,259	(10,058)	(1,069,782)	-	539,067
Innovation fund	48,189	-	(5,315)	(272)	-	42,602
Ash Dieback fund	-	-	(600,000)	600,000	-	-
Nature reserves fund	-	-	-	200,000	-	200,000
Total designated funds	3,518,723	214,259	(615,375)	(284,279)	-	2,833,328
Restricted funds						
Inspiring people and communities	47,109	61,170	(57,165)	-	-	51,114
Rebuilding ecological networks	66,133	130,460	(118,061)	(7,560)	-	70,972
Standing up for nature	7,064	57,436	(58,858)	-	-	5,642
Nature reserves	176,678	176,661	(81,532)	7,560	-	279,367
Total restricted funds	296,984	425,727	(315,616)	-	-	407,095
Endowment funds						
Nature reserves	1,633,849	-	-	-	-	1,633,849
Total endowment funds	1,633,849	-	-	-	-	1,633,849
Total funds	5,902,795	2,751,482	(3,045,842)	-	(41,948)	5,566,487

29. ANALYSIS OF GROUP NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS 2020

	Unrestricted funds £	Designated funds £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total funds £
Tangible and heritage fixed assets	216,257	2,035,305	-	1,633,849	3,885,411
Investments	732,079	-	-	-	732,079
Current assets	141,218	1,398,023	407,095	-	1,946,336
Current liabilities	(176,472)	-	-	-	(176,472)
Provisions for liabilities	-	(600,000)	-	-	(600,000)
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	(220,867)	-	-	-	(220,867)
	692,215	2,833,328	407,095	1,633,849	5,566,487

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

We would like to thank all our members, donors and grant givers for their generous support which is helping nature to recover across Somerset.

LEGACIES

Joyce Andrews
Katharine Balmforth
Margaret Burr
Paul James Chadwick
Jasmin Chilcott
Tim Flew
Michael and Rosemary Gaitskell
Muriel Horrell

David Richard Hutcherson
John Keylock
Janet Gwynne Maitland
John McGeoch
Katharine Elizabeth Muller
Marion Parsons
Elizabeth Ann Pugh
Donald Rimmer

Michael Alan Rockett
Sheila Sawyer
Derek Strong
Larry Owen Trerise
Malcolm John Tucker
Patricia Willcox
Marion Zurick

PATRONS

Phillipa Archer
David and Loredana Buchan
Dudley Cheesman
Richard Denton-Cox
John Deverell CBE
Margaret Drabble
Jacob Evergarden
James and Alka Hughes-Hallett
Stanley and Jennifer Johnson

Julia Manning
Jean Mantle
Rohan and Lily Masson-Taylor
Mark O'Neill
Caroline Rathbone
Tim and Dede Sanderson
Paul Sheppard and Lucy Dunford
Patricia Stainton and Robin Levien
Chris and Maria Thring

Patrick Thomson
Matt Trimmer
Robert Unwin
Neil and Sarah Williams
Giles Woodward
Plus those who wish to remain anonymous

CORPORATE MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

A C Mole & Sons
Brimsmore Gardens (The Gardens Group)
Ecclesiastical Insurance Ltd
EDF Energy
Golledge Electronics Ltd

Habitat Aid Ltd
Holiday Inn Express Bridgwater
Homethos
John Fowler Holiday Parks
John Wainwright & Co Ltd
Somerset Birdwatching Holidays

Stonewater
Suez Recycling
Tepe Oral Hygiene Products Ltd
Travel Chapter Ltd
Wessex Water

TRUSTS AND GRANTS

Biffa Award
Blackdown Hills AONB
Blair Foundation
Bristol Avon Rivers Trust
Community Impact Mitigation Fund
Co-op Local Community Fund
Devon County Council
Discovery Fund
Environment Agency
Ernest Cook Trust – Green Influencers Scheme
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Ewing and Haines Charitable Trust
Exmoor National Park
Forestry Commission
Foxglove Trust
Frazer Trust
Green Scythe Community Fair
Hinkley Point C Community Fund
#IWill Fund – with funding from The National Lottery Community Fund and the Department of Culture, Media & Sport

National Lottery Heritage Fund – Heritage Emergency Fund
Interreg 2 Seas European Development Fund
Linley Shaw Foundation
Mendip Hills AONB
National Lottery Community Fund
National Trust
Natural England
Ninesquare Charitable Trust
People's Postcode Lottery
Public Health Somerset
Quantock Hills AONB
Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
Sir John and Lady Heathcoat Amory's Charitable Trust
St James's Place Charitable Foundation
Somerset Archaeology History Society
Somerset Community Foundation
Somerset County Council
Somerset Rivers Authority

South Somerset District Council
Somerset West and Taunton
Somerset Youth Parliament
Stephen Clark Charitable Settlement 1965
Tesco Bags of Help
Thatchers Foundation
Torr Works Environmental Enhancement Fund
TWT Aggregate Industries Partnership Fund
Verdon Smith Family Charitable Trust
Wates Family Enterprise Trust
Viridor Credits Environmental Company

KEY PEOPLE AND ADVISERS

KEY PEOPLE

Patron

Simon King OBE

President

Stephen Moss

Vice-Presidents

Dudley Cheesman

Ralph Clark

Roger Martin

Chris Sperring MBE

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company ("the Trust") are its Trustees for the purpose of charity law. The Trustees on the date of approval of this report, all of whom were members for the whole of the financial year in question unless stated otherwise, were as follows:

Chair

Graeme Mitchell

Vice-Chair

Sarah Nason

Treasurer

Richard Atkin

Elected Trustees

Richard Atkin

Matthew Bell

Professor Valerie Brown (resigned 19 January 2021)

Simon Hicks

Philip Holms

Helen Lawy

Graeme Mitchell

Sarah Nason

Dr Mark Steer

Melville Trimble

Co-opted Trustees

Edward Green (appointed 19 January 2021)

Lorna Harrison (appointed 19 January 2021)

Stuart McBride (appointed 19 January 2021)

Holly Purdey (appointed 19 January 2021)

SWT (Sales) Ltd Directors

Richard Atkin (resigned 9 December 2020)

Malcolm Hutton (appointed 21 July 2020)

David Mounsey

Georgia Stokes

Senior Leadership Team

Katie Arber, Director of Fundraising and Marketing/Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Jolyon Chesworth, Head of Engagement and Community Programmes

Simon Clarke, Head of Nature Recovery

Kirby Everett, Head of Communications and Corporate Relations

Rachael Fickweiler, Head of Nature Reserves and Land Management

Kate Matravers-Cox, Head of Finance

Malcolm Ramsay, Head of Business Development and Operations

Georgia Stokes, Chief Executive Officer

ADVISERS

Senior Statutory Auditor

Alexandra Shore FCA CTA, A C Mole & Sons, Stafford House, Blackbrook Park Avenue, Taunton, Somerset TA1 2PX

Bankers

Lloyds Bank, 31 Fore Street, Taunton, Somerset TA1 1HN

Solicitors

Clarke Willmott, Blackbrook Gate, Blackbrook Park Avenue, Taunton, Somerset TA1 2PG

Investment Managers

Rathbone Greenbank Investments, 10 Queen Square, Bristol BS1 4NT

Land Agents

Greenslade Taylor Hunt, 1 High Street, Chard, Somerset TA20 1QF

Somerset Wildlife Trust is a registered charity

Charity number 238372

Company number 818162

Registered office

34 Wellington Road, Taunton, Somerset TA1 5AW



Somerset Wildlife Trust

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Taunton
Somerset TA1 5AW

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www.somersetwildlife.org

Charity number 238372
Company number 818162

