FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31 MARCH 2020

Company Registration Number 00561833 (England and Wales)

Charity Registration Number 210531



REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Patrons: Sir David Attenborough OM, CH, CVO, CBE, FRS

Lady Gretton DCVO, JP

Sir Laurence Howard KCVO, OBE

Vice Presidents: Mr H F Dixon FCA

Mr P L Ward MA LLB

Council of Management:

(elected by Members of the

Charity)

Dr A J Biddle Mr J Bleby Mr R D Bearne Dr A P Cotton

Dr W R Morris Mr A S Moffat Miss M Morland Mrs E A Tomlinson Mr I P Selmes Mr P D Williams

Mr S B Love (resigned 1 November 2019)

Mr A Clarke Mrs H M R Nott Mrs L M Jones Dr A P Cotton

Chairman:

Miss M Morland

Honorary Secretary: **Honorary Treasurer:**

Mrs E A Tomlinson MA, FCA

Director:

Mr T Graham

Auditors:

RSM UK Audit LLP Chartered Accountant Rivermead House 7 Lewis Court **Grove Park**

Leicester

Leicestershire, LE19 1SD

Bankers:

HSBC Bank plc

31 Granby Street, Leicester, LE1 6EP

Registered Office:

The Old Mill, 9 Soar Lane, Leicester, LE3 5DE

Tel:0116 262 9968 E mail:info@lrwt.org.uk

Website:

www.lrwt.org.uk

Solicitor:

Knights Plc

34 Pocklington Walk Leicester, LE1 6BU

Investment Advisers:

Brewin Dolphin Two Colton Square Leicester, LE1 1QF

Charity Registration No:

210531

Company Registration No:

00561833

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

The Council, being the Trustees and directors of Lelcestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust (the Trust), presents its report and audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2020. The Council has adopted the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) — Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2015) (Charities SORP (FRS102)) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

Objectives and Activities

The Trust works for the protection and enhancement of the wildlife and wild places in Leicestershire and Rutland. The charity is dedicated to securing a positive future for wildlife, as well as improving people's understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of wildlife by carrying out the following objects:

- a) For the benefit of the public, to advance, promote and further the conservation, maintenance and protection of:
- (i) Wildlife considered to be worthy of protection for the public benefit, and its habitats;
- (ii) Places of zoological, botanical, geological or physiographical value.

in any ways that are available in law and in particular, but not exclusively, by promoting biodiversity and nature conservation.

- b) To advance the education of the public in:
- (i) The principles and practice of sustainable development;
- (II) The principles and practice of biodiversity and nature conservation.
- c) To promote research in all branches of the study of the natural world which will be for the public benefit, and to record and publish the useful results thereof.

Our Mission

To protect and enhance the wildlife and wild places of Leicestershire and Rutland and to engage people with nature.

Our Vision

A Living Landscape, rich in wildlife, valued and enjoyed by all.

Our work

The Trust works to safeguard wildlife by:

Protecting precious places

We care for 36 nature reserves covering more than 1,318 hectares (3,082 acres) spread across Leicestershire and Rutland. From woodland to meadows, wetland to heaths, these reserves contain a rich variety of animal and plant species, many rare.

Encouraging people to enjoy nature

We offer everyone the chance to experience some of Leicestershire and Rutland's fantastic wildlife. Activities and events are organised throughout the year, everything from badger watches to the Birdfair.

Inspiring and educating

We invest in the future by helping people of all ages to gain a greater appreciation and understanding of nature. Children can take part too — our junior dub Wildlife Watch is for young people who want to find out more about wildlife, make friends and have fun.

Research and survey

We monitor, study and survey the wildlife of our counties to identify special places and important species, to inform management and promote nature conservation, and to protect local biodiversity.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Our work (continued)

Speaking out

We campaign for wildlife, protecting threatened habitats like wildflower meadows and rare species such as ospreys, otters, bats and water voles.

Public Benefit Statement

The Council confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

The Trust's public benefit is enshrined in its charitable objects as outlined above. The Trust fulfils its objects and delivers its public benefit through its core activity of protecting and enhancing the wildlife and wild places of Leicestershire and Rutland and engaging people with nature.

Structure, Governance and Management

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust was founded in 1956 and is a registered charity (no. 210531) and a company limited by guarantee (no. 00561833). It is a membership organisation governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association. At 31 March 2020, a total of 16,211 members supported the Trust's work.

The Trust is managed by a Council of Trustees (the Council), elected from the membership of the Trust, who provide the overall direction for the development of the Trust. The Council, as governing body, has ultimate responsibility for the operation of the Trust. Where appropriate, sub-committees exist to advise the Council.

The appointment of Trustees is governed by the Articles of Association of the Trust, which include a provision for the retirement by rotation of one-third of Trustees at each Annual General Meeting. New Trustees are appointed to complement and strengthen existing skills on Coundl or bring new expertise to the Trust. New Trustees usually have prior involvement with the Trust's work, but undergo further induction as applicable. All new Trustees receive the appropriate constitutional, financial and legal information regarding the work of the Trust and their obligations as Trustees. New Trustees who are co-opted onto the Council during the year have their appointment ratified at the next Annual General Meeting.

The day-to-day running of the Trust is carried out by a team of 35 employed staff, headed by the Chief Executive Officer, formally known as the Director (distinct from the directors of the company), reporting to the Council. Pay and remuneration of the Trust's operational staff, including key management personnel, is established by reference to an overall grading structure established by the Council. The salary bands within this structure are reviewed periodically with reference to market conditions.

Trustees formulate, in consultation with staff, the overall strategy for the Trust, its work and its development. The Council then oversees the delivery of the overall strategy, as well as ensuring all necessary governance requirements are met.

Progress against this strategy is monitored regularly by Council and staff, and measured against performance targets. More detail on this is given in the Strategic Report below.

The Trust's work is supported by financial contributions from its wholly-owned subsidiary, Leicestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited, resulting from that company's consultancy and retail operations. In addition, the subsidiary runs the world-famous Birdfair, all profits from which are donated via the Trust to conservation initiatives (see below).

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

The Trust is assisted by more than 700 regular volunteers. In addition, local members' groups provide guided walks, lectures and talks, and educational and social events throughout the year.

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust is one of 46 individual Wildlife Trusts that form a powerful conservation network of local charities taking effective action to protect the UK's natural heritage. Together, this network has over 800,000 members, manages more than 2,300 nature reserves, runs thousands of projects and events, and works together to ensure that both local and national policies and decisions are in the best interest of wildlife and wild places. Whilst the Trust remains an independent charity, it works with this national network in progressing its major conservation initiatives.

Strategic Report

The information below, including the Review of Achlevements and Performance, Financial Review, Risk Management Statement and Summary of Future Plans, forms the Strategic Report for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006.

Review of Achievements and Performance for the Year

This Annual Report reviews the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 and outlines the progress and achievements over the course of the year.

Highlights include:

- Successful completion of the first phase of natural flood-risk management trials at Narborough Bog with the Environment Agency;
- Celebrating the 150th osprey chick fledging, as part of the Rutland Osprey Project;
- Completion of the badger vaccination project.

The Report covers the Trust's main activities and achievements in two principle strategic objectives:

- Safeguarding wildlife and wild places
- Inspiring people

These key aims are incorporated into the Trust's Five-Year Development Strategy which in turn informs the annual work plan. This plan identifies the priorities for the year, and sets out the work which needs to be carried out to achieve them. Progress against this detailed work plan is subject to regular review by management and the Council of the Trust.

Safeguarding Wildlife and Wild Places

Nature Reserves

The Trust currently manages 36 nature reserves covering more than 1,318 hectares (3,082 acres), including 19 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), two National Nature Reserves and a Special Protection Area. The Trust's nature reserves provide protection for an amazing diversity of wildlife, some rare and threatened, as well as giving people the opportunity to experience and learn about the rich variety of habitats that were once widespread.

Habitat management

Staff and volunteers committed a huge amount of effort and expertise through practical nature conservation work on the Trust's nature reserves to ensure they reach their full natural potential as wildlife havens.

Key elements of habitat management carried out during the year included:

- Merry's Meadows: cattle-grazed and hedge-cut to undertake capital fencing project, enabling further positive management;
- Large amounts of woodland work carried out in Launde Woods and Prior's Coppice;
- Wind-blown trees across paths cleared in Coombs Meadows, Priors Coppice, Tilton Cutting and Great Merrible Wood;

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Nature Reserves (continued)

- Ongoing removal of scrub and rank vegetation at Cribb's Meadow, Ketton Quarry and the Holwell nature reserves to protect and enhance the wildflower-rich grassland;
- Clearance work at Tilton Cutting to reveal the geological faces.

Rutland Water Nature Reserve

The Trust's long-standing partnership with Anglian Water to manage this internationally important wetland saw further extensive habitat management during the year including:

- Completion of work to lower the ground level on a number of islands within the shallow water lagoons was completed across lagoons 5, 6 & 8 to facilitate water management and ensure optimum conditions for a wide range of water birds;
- Shoreline willow control and pollarding to maintain open wetland habitats;
- Over-winter work on internal rides in Hambleton Wood;
- Hedge-laying and coppicing undertaken over winter, including work on bund coppicing

Badger Vaccination

The Trust's involvement with the 5-year badger vaccination programme came to an end, with more to continue should further successful funding be obtained. Completed in partnership with Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust, it has achieved:

- 16 further vaccinated badgers
- 85 vaccinated over the course of the programme
- Active advocacy for the need to include vaccination and opposing proposals to cull badgers in the designation of a BTB hotspot, including the north of our operating area.

Living Landscape Projects

Wildlife needs room to thrive and must have more opportunity to move across the countryside in order to adapt to whatever conditions arise in the future. Living Landscapes restore, recreate and reconnect fragmented habitats to create a sustainable biodiversity network and an environment full of wildlife and rich in opportunities for learning, health and well-being.

The Trust's Charnwood Forest Living Landscape ("CFLL") project aims to conserve and enhance the special wildlife, geology and character of this important area. A wide range of habitat and species surveys, close liaison and communication with local landowners and managers, and provision of tallored advice to encourage and support wildlife-friendly land management, continued to be delivered. The CFLL small grant scheme continues to be available to fund key wildlife enhancement projects.

Aggregate Industries has extensive landholdings in the Charnwood Forest, and partnership work on their Bardon Estate involved the Trust undertaking grassland and heathland habitat monitoring surveys and species surveys for farmland birds, hedgehogs, peregrine falcons and ravens.

The Trust continued its work with the National Forest to develop a Charnwood Forest Landscape Partnership which was successful in its £3.9m bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund in March 2020. The Trust will manage and deliver two important projects in Charnwood Forest, both of which will start later in 2020.

Within the Soar Valley Living Landscape area, the Trust participated in a national pilot project, led by the Environment Agency, investigating the effectiveness of natural flood management measures on the lower Soar.

The Trust has continued to be involved in the development of the Trent Valley EU Life bid led by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, and there has been further work with partners to develop innovative GIS tools to enable strategic conservation planning.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Local Wildlife Sites and Regionally Important Geological Sites

Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) are important places for wildlife but are not protected by law. A healthy network of LWS is crucial in providing more, bigger, better and joined-up areas of wildlife value. Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) are non-statutory places of geological importance that also offer opportunities for educational use and scientific study.

The Trust continued a programme of resurveying existing LWS, with a focus on priority Living Landscape areas, particularly the Charnwood Forest and Soar & Wreake floodplain. This involved close liaison with LWS landowners to offer land management advice aimed at improving the sites for wildlife. Our work has resulted in the reinstatement of the LWS Panel under a new and broader remit. Moreover, in the course of surveys, a new water vole colony was identified in Rutland.

Surveys and recording

Accurate habitat and species data are vital to inform conservation management policies, practices and procedures, and help protect and enhance biodiversity.

A wide range of biological recording was carried out on Trust nature reserves and other sites, with bat monitoring an ongoing focus. Given limited knowledge of bat roosts, and the possible numbers and species of bats using woodland nature reserves in east Leicestershire and Rutland, monitoring work included:

- Checking existing bat boxes and erecting new ones;
- Setting up passive bat detectors in various locations and analysing the recordings this work confirmed that two further nature reserves are regular foraging sites for the rare Barbastelle bat.

The ongoing programme of bird recording at Rutland Water Nature Reserve included:

- Monthly Wetland Bird Surveys (WeBs)
- Breeding Bird Surveys (BBS) at 12 sites
- Winter bird surveys
- Breeding seabird census
- Extensive bird-ringing including two Constant Effort Sites (CES), artificial sand martin banks, cormorant, ducks, osprey, spring migration, nest boxes and generalised ringing.

To support and facilitate wildlife recording in Leicestershire and Rutland, the Trust had scheduled its yearly Recorders' Conference, but unfortunately, owing to COVID-19 restrictions, this had to be cancelled. The Trust will continue to support future conferences and the wider network.

Advocacy and influence

A whole range of policies and decisions can affect our wildlife and wild places. With ever-increasing agricultural, housing and other development pressures in Leicestershire and Rutland, it is crucial that there is an effective voice for wildlife at a local, county and regional level.

During the year the Trust responded to a variety of important consultations: Blaby Local Plan; Hinkley and Bosworth Green Infrastructure Study; Transport for Rutland; St George's Barracks; Broadnook Development; Enderby Flood Defence Scoping Opinion; Melton infrastructure plan; HS2 Draft Environmental Statement; HS2 route refinement consultation, adopting a broader partnership approach locally to better consider impacts of HS2 on Leicestershire. With only limited resources, the Trust has to prioritise its response to the significant number of enquiries received.

Our important work in this area has this year helped protect a rare species of plant, through engaging with Leicestershire County Council. Lizard orchid, which appeared for the second year in its second most northerly site in the world, was almost mown by Council contractors. We spoke to the County Ecologist who has since arranged with the Highways Department for the mowing of the verge to be a narrower strip, allowing a buffer between the area to be mowed and the lizard orchid.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Advocacy and influence (continued)

Support was provided to national Wildlife Trust initiatives including: National Marine Week, Wild About Gardens and the Wilder Future campaign. Of particular interest was the Time is Now mass Parliament lobby which saw staff and volunteers engage with seven of our MPs, and 30 Days Wild in which over 1,000 households took part to make their lives wilder throughout June.

Inspiring People

Encourage people to engage with nature through volunteering

Volunteering provides intrinsic benefits through health and well-being, and also enables the Trust to achieve more for nature conservation.

The Trust is very appreciative of the hard work, commitment and dedication of all our volunteers, who provide vital support by undertaking a wide range of tasks across all areas of the Trust's activities and initiatives. Their skills and knowledge underpin our achievements and progress.

During the year, the Trust's roving conservation volunteer group completed 142 task days of practical management work across the Trust's nature reserves, amounting to 1,384 volunteer days (with an average of 9.74 volunteers per day) or 6,920 volunteer hours. The Trust is currently working on more coordinated data capture to understand our impact with volunteers. This will give more accurate information from across Leicestershire where we have four further volunteer groups: NW Lelcs Friday Group; Thursday Charnwood Lodge Group, Wednesday Launde Park Group, and the Monday Limestone Group (which in itself provided 28 task days - 830 hours - across 8 nature reserves). Some of the interesting and valuable jobs completed by the volunteers included restoration work on Ulverscroft heathland and 300m of new fencing at Merry's Meadows.

The volunteer team at Rutland Water numbers nearly 560 and provided operational support in all areas of the day-to-day management of the nature reserve, including habitat management, wildlife recording, running of the two visitor centres, the Rutland Osprey Project, and events and activities, including ensuring the smooth operation of the major annual Birdfair.

A further three long-term placements participated in our Volunteer Trainee Reserve Officer scheme over the year, acquiring the skills and experience needed to work in the nature conservation sector while at the same time providing a valuable contribution to the Trust's work.

The Trust's seven Local Groups – Charnwood, Great Bowden, Humberstone, Oadby & Wigston, Melton Mowbray, North West, and Rutland – were active throughout the year, providing a valuable community presence and focus, with popular programmes of talks, walks and various fund-raising activities.

Education and Outreach

The Trust believes that it is vital to provide opportunities for people to learn about the natural world and the need to safeguard its future. We have a responsibility to educate the next generation so that they in turn will play a crucial role as future guardians of our natural heritage.

Forest School continues to be the main focus for the Trust's Outreach Education Programme, helping children to develop their confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning entirely outdoors. Funding from players of People's Postcode Lottery enabled further development of our Wild Forest School project giving children the chance to explore and experience the natural world through a range of different Forest School activities in a safe environment. The project delivered the following:

- worked with six groups of children from three Leicester primary schools;
- Four Wild Tots pre-school groups and over 50 sessions and 26 nursery sessions;
- Seven different groups of home-educated children covering 48 sessions;
- 12 other sessions outside of the PPL project.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Education and Outreach (continued)

Other education outreach included running more than 50 woodland workshops to primary schools and providing a variety of wild play sessions at different locations during school holidays. Other achievements included:

- <u>Twilight teacher training sessions</u>: 7 completed; 94 teaching staff trained;
- Short story writing competition: 7 schools entered 26 stories. The winning story was from Christ
 the King Catholic Primary School, and the prize was a specially-constructed wildlife storytelling
 area:
- <u>Learning Outside the Classroom (LOtC)</u>: Started reviewing our work procedures and policies against
 the criteria for the award.

The Trust's Grow Wild gardeners and construction team helped 10 local schools and community groups "wild-up" and make the most of their outdoor space for wildlife and engaging in outside activities. One special request was for the team to create a special food-growing and therapeutic outdoor wild space within a local hospital's grounds — particularly relevant given subsequent pressures on hospital staff dealing with the COVID-19 crisis. Another particularly interesting project was our work with the Forest Schools People Postcode Lottery competition, for which Grow Wild Installed the special storytelling chair and storytelling area (see above).

Wildlife Watch

Wildlife Watch, the Trust's junior club, provides valuable opportunities for children and young people to explore and discover local wildlife and get involved in fun and interesting projects.

The Trust's two continuing Wildlife Watch groups – Attenborough Arboretum and Rutland Water – had another full and active year, organising fun monthly activity sessions enabling youngsters to discover and enjoy local wildlife. These ran right up until COVID-19 restrictions in March 2020 forced their postponement. Sadly, the Braunstone group ceased to operate in July

Time in Nature

A new project began at Rutland Water Nature Reserve, working in partnership with Dementia Adventure, Age UK, and Rutland County Council. Based at our Volunteer Training Centre ("the VTC" - see below) and using a well-planned section of the nature reserve, events were held for those suffering dementia, together with their carers, so that they can connect to nature, experience wildlife, and use it as a therapeutic aid to improve health and wellbeing. The programme of 24 sessions had already been oversubscribed, with great feedback and even a video created, before COVID-19 restrictions forced the cancellation of events. The programme will be reinstated later in 2020.

Events and activities for all ages and backgrounds

Connecting people with nature is essential to safeguarding it. Delivering a wide range of interesting and imaginative events and activities will enable people of all ages and backgrounds to experience and enjoy the wildlife of Leicestershire and Rutland at first hand and gain a greater appreciation and understanding of nature.

A fantastic variety of events and activities was organised throughout the year — ranging from wildlifewatching and wild walks to natural arts and crafts — giving people of all ages and backgrounds a chance to connect with and enjoy nature.

Over 1,500 people took part in over 80 Trust events at Rutland Water Nature Reserve, many involving the VTC or Lyndon Visitor Centre. In addition, 14 Wild Walks were held across our nature reserves, and our popular Wild Play activities for children and young people were run in the school holidays. Other events included a Peregrine Falcon family event at Leicester Cathedral, as well as a complete programme of activities and talks via our nine Local Groups.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Birdfair

The Birdfalr Is now the biggest event of its kind in the world and provides an important showcase for birdwatching/wildlife organisations plus associated commercial enterprises, as well as raising vital funds for global nature conservation programmes.

The annual Birdfair was held at Rutland Water Nature Reserve in August 2019, organised by the Trust and jointly promoted with the RSPB. Despite very poor weather conditions for the run-up and during the event itself, more than 22,000 people attended over the three days. Visitors enjoyed interacting with a wide range of 393 exhibitors, including 56 new attendees, although the travel and tourism sector was affected by new regulations, which adding to the costs and limited the ability to attend for some operators. The expanded Wild Zone area for children and young people was well-received. A sum of £168,719 was raised to support the BirdLife International project "Saving Cambodia's Big Five". The financial results of the 2019 event were significantly affected by several different factors, and these are discussed in the Financial Review below.

Rutland Osprey Project

The Rutland Osprey Project, a partnership between the Trust and Anglian Water, has successfully established a breeding colony of ospreys in Rutland. The osprey is a charismatic species and the project has over the years generated a huge amount of public interest and attracted many visitors to Rutland Water Nature Reserve, allowing the Trust to engage with a significant range of people and offer valuable opportunities to broaden knowledge and understanding of ospreys and the natural world, thus helping to foster care and respect for our environment.

Spring and summer 2019 was another great season for the Rutland Osprey Project, with 10 breeding pairs producing 23 chicks and taking the total of young ospreys fledged from nests in the Rutland Water area since 2001 to over 150. Two nests of four chicks were observed (the first time a nest of four has been recorded in Rutland).

The Rutland Osprey Project section of the Trust's website provided comprehensive information on the lively behaviour of the ospreys, including popular live webcam footage of the osprey nest in the Manton Bay area of Rutland Water Nature Reserve.

The project staff and volunteer team welcomed over 21,200 people to the Lyndon Visitor Centre, facilitated visiting groups, gave external talks to a range of organisations and engaged with around 2,388 young students from 16 local schools and three colleges. They also ran a full programme of events and activities, with the result that 676 school-children had direct experience of the project at Lyndon Visitor Centre, while World Osprey Week events engaged 1,573 young people via schools and youth groups.

Enjoyable, Informative and Safe Nature Reserves.

The Trust's nature reserves are our most precious resource and also our showcase. The opportunities to maximise their value for both people and wildlife should be fully explored.

Trust staff and volunteer teams expended tremendous efforts throughout the year to maintain paths, trails, fences, gates, interpretation boards and viewing areas. At Rutland Water Nature Reserve, the Shallow Water Hide had its opening ceremony, as did the new Teal Hide near Lyndon Visitor Centre which has bespoke facilities to enable osprey-themed education activities. There was also considerable work at the reserve to repair trackways and damage as a result of bad weather during the Birdfair period.

Volunteer Training Centre ("the VTC")

The Trust's Volunteer Training Centre provides an exciting and effective hub for practical nature conservation and recording and monitoring, serving Rutland Water Nature Reserve and other nature reserves in Leicestershire and Rutland.

The Volunteer Training Centre was well-used throughout the year with the carefully-designed facilities enabling volunteers of all ages and background to get the most out of their experience. Comprehensive volunteering opportunities were provided, complemented by a programme of volunteer support and

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Volunteer Training Centre ("the VTC") (continued)

training. A wide range of activities, courses and workshops were organised for both volunteers and the public to enhance their wildlife knowledge and countryside skills, including species identification, dry stone walling, hedge-laying, willow-weaving, art courses in painting, field-sketching and lino-printing, and a monthly wildlife book club.

The Trust's Support Base

In order to carry out its work any charity needs a strong and enthusiastic support base, and the Trust is no exception. The Trust is fortunate to receive support from many different sources and it is extremely grateful to all those who help us in our work, in any way they choose.

The Trust relies on the support and loyalty of our members, who contribute in many different ways – providing income, giving volunteer help, offering moral support and exercising influence. A committed and engaged membership that is representative of the local community is vital to the success of the Trust.

Membership rose above 16,000 for the first time, with 16,281 at the end of the year (compared to 15,811 at 31 March 2019). Without our members, the Trust would not exist – the essential support they provide and the vital financial resources they contribute are all greatly appreciated.

As well as its members, the Trust is fortunate to receive vital voluntary support from a wide range of sources, including: dedicated - Local Groups, whose members provide guided walks, lectures and talks, fundraising and social events throughout the year; Wildlife Watch groups that organise activities for our junior members; and more than 700 regular volunteers who are involved in virtually every aspect of the Trust's work. We are immensely grateful to them all.

The financial statements of the Trust include all monetary transactions, in particular donations and similar contributions, but the value of the time and efforts of hundreds of unpaid volunteers who support the work of the Trust is not quantified. The Trust's many volunteers are active in numerous areas of the Trust's work. They provide major assistance in conservation work, administration, fund-raising, community awareness, youth involvement, governance, and financial and technical advice and help. Activities such as the Rutland Osprey Project and Birdfair would not be possible without the large number of volunteer hours contributed. In all, we estimate more than 60,000 volunteer hours across the whole of the Trust's work were given during the year.

As specified by the Charities SORP (FRS 102), no monetary value is put on such contributions, varied as they are, nor does the Trust feel it is helpful or productive do so. However the sheer scale of volunteers' input is clear.

It is appropriate that this help is formally acknowledged and gratitude expressed for what the volunteers help the Trust to achieve. The part played by volunteers remains a vital element of the Trust's work and without such grass-roots activity the continuing success of the Trust would not be possible.

The Trust is also especially grateful for the generosity of supporters who remember the Trust with a gift in their Will, and particularly in the last year the late Michael Kingsland, Anne Lane, Alan Parker, Marion Vincent, Kathleen Ward, and George Woods. The Trust is also grateful to have received a number of donations from friends and family in memory of loved ones. Gifts in Wills and In Memoriam donations make a tremendous difference to the amount of conservation work the Trust is able to achieve.

The Trust gratefully acknowledges all those who have given their support over 2019/2020, including a range of businesses and organisations.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Changes in senior management

During the course of the year and up to the date of this Report, there were significant changes in the senior management team:

- Simon Bentley left the Trust in November 2019 after 19 years in post as Trust Director. During
 his tenure he oversaw significant developments in the Trust's membership base and in key
 operational areas;
- Tim Graham joined the Trust as Director (Chief Executive Officer) in November 2019;
- John Clarkson joined the Trust as Head of Conservation in August 2019;
- Tim Appleton MBE left the role of Birdfair Manager in May 2020. His time with the Trust, starting
 with a 40+ year tenure as Reserve Manager of Rutland Water Nature Reserve, is marked by
 many achievements, both in the UK for the Trust, and globally via the huge influence of Birdfair,
 of which he was one of the two founders;
- Matt Cottam, who succeeded Tim Appleton as Reserve Manager, left in February 2020. He was Instrumental in a number of important public engagement initiatives during his time at the Nature Reserve.

Financial Review

Overall Results for the Year

The Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the Trust and its subsidiary, Leicestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited, (together constituting "the Group") shows a positive net movement in funds for the year of £391,765 (2019: £11,603) after revaluation of investments, and total reserves of £5,231,262 (2019: £4,839,497).

The Trust's core income, obtained via membership subscriptions, donations and legacies, allows the Trust to continue its central work of maintaining and expanding its nature reserves and carrying on its educational and advocacy work. Other sources of funding received during the year are in the main applied to specific projects, generating matching expenditure.

The results for the year, show a loss on unrestricted funds of £80,634 (2019: £49,964 profit) before revaluation gains. This is largely the effect of Increased membership recruitment costs on a relatively static income position. The benefits of the additional recruitment activity will not flow through into income streams until later years. The consolidated balance sheet at the year-end continues to show the Group in a strong asset position. The unrestricted financial reserves of the Group are discussed below.

The wholly-owned subsidiary, Leicestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited, made a loss for the year, after tax, of £3,020 (2019: £25,576 contribution), and in the year donated £26,900 (2019: £28,969) to the Trust under Gift Aid. The subsidiary's principal activity is nature conservation contracts and wildlife consultancy, plus retailing operations. It also runs the annual Birdfair at Rutland Water.

Birdfair was established by the Trust in 1989 with a view to encouraging greater public support for international conservation projects. To this end, the subsidiary donates all the profits from each Birdfair to conservation initiatives. For the year ended 31st March 2020, Birdfair made a profit of £168,719 (2019: £320,236). The significantly lower amount, when compared with previous years, was the result of three main factors:

 Extremely poor weather and resulting difficult site conditions which necessitated additional infrastructure costs, and also depressed visitor numbers;

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Overall Results for the Year (continued)

- The impact of the Packaged Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 which
 resulted in the loss of some sponsors and exhibitors, and which necessitated additional legal
 costs on the part of Birdfair to ensure the event was compliant with the regulations;
- The cancellation of the 2020 live event (see 'The Trust and COVID-19' below) which meant
 that costs related to the cancellation were required to be reflected in the results of the 2019
 event.

A total donation of £168,719 will be made to the Birdlife International project 'Saving Cambodia's Big Five' (2019: £320,236).

It is the intention of the Trustees and the directors of Leicestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited that over the coming year the company will continue in the above activities with a view to maintaining its ability to make donations to its parent company. The subsidiary has however been seriously affected by the impact of COVID-19 in all its activities, and the Trust has taken a number of steps to improve its financial resilience.

Moreover the costs borne by the subsidiary as a result of the cancellation of the 2020 live Birdfair event and the consequent inability to offset overheads in the 2020/2021 financial year has necessitated external financing to support the future operations of Birdfair until live events can be resumed.

These issues are dealt with in the section 'The Trust and COVID-19' below.

The Trustees consider the results of the subsidiary undertaking, which are stated in note 15 to the financial statements, to be satisfactory for the year, given the factors noted above

Financial Reserves

The Charities SORP (FRS 102) requires a charity to state the amount and type of financial reserves it holds, and to compare how the level of those reserves matches up to "the level of reserves the trustees feel as appropriate given their plans for the future activities of the charity". Where it falls short, the trustees need to explain what steps they are taking to rectify the situation.

In this context, the Trust views financial reserves as those held in its unrestricted funds. In addition to the Charitable Accumulated Fund, the balance on which stood at £282,088 at the year-end (2019: £317,965), further unrestricted funds are held within the Designated Funds described in the paragraphs below.

The Trustees establish the appropriate level of unrestricted reserves (over and above those already ring-fenced for future plans or known liabilities within the Designated Funds) by seeking to ensure that the level of the Trust's 'free reserves' meets a chosen benchmark related to the budgeted expenditure for unrestricted activities. The Trustees define 'free reserves' as the unrestricted net assets of the Group, plus cash or near-cash reserves held within the Trust Development Fund (see below).

As a result of a full and objective review of its 'free reserves' policy, taking into account all the risks foreseeable at that point and the Trust's approach to their mitigation, the Trustees agreed in September 2019 that a minimum level equivalent to four months' budgeted expenditure should be maintained as 'free reserves' (a reduction of two months from the previous policy). This level will continue to be reviewed for adequacy and robustness as the Trust continues to deal with the implications of COVID-19, to ensure the Trust maintains adequate finances to meet day-to-day operating costs and to provide headroom for stock, debtors and cash-flow fluctuations.

As at 31 March 2020, the Trust "free reserves" stood at £582,734 (2019: £452,386), resulting in a surplus of £249,559 (2019: deficit of £33,000) when compared with the current benchmark, calculated as £333,175.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Financial Reserves (continued)

The impact of COVID-19 (see 'The Trust and COVID-19' below) and the loss, however temporary that might be, of some income streams, will have a significant effect on the Trust's overall financial reserves going forward and the Trustees believe it will continue to do so for some time. The Trust has already made good progress since the year-end in identifying new ways of engaging supporters of all kinds to rebuild the likely loss in income and alleviate the pressure on retained reserves over the coming period, and will continue to develop this in implementing a new Five-Year Strategy, as well as augmenting the staff team with engagement-related posts and initiatives.

Other risks which have an impact on financial reserves, and the Trust's strategy for their management and mitigation, are discussed in the Risk Management section below.

The Trustees believe that, despite the current pressures on finances arising from COVID-19, the Trust remains in a satisfactory liquidity position. However, these pressures will continue to require close monitoring and control of the Trust's financial position for the foreseeable future.

Designated funds

Within its total unrestricted reserves, the Trust, as permitted by the Charities SORP (FRS 102), has set up a number of designated funds as a means of ring-fencing financial reserves to meet anticipated costs or liabilities. These individual designated funds are as follows:

Heritage Assets and Other Related Fixed Assets

This fund holds all the Trust's nature reserve properties not otherwise held in the restricted financial reserves, together with other property forming an integral part of the Trust's operating requirements.

The year-end balance on the Heritage and Fixed Assets Funds stood at £1,271,717 (2019: £1,285,879).

Trust Development Fund

This fund comprises assets which may be used to provide financial resources towards projects furthering the Trust's charitable objects, or key operational requirements for the Trust's long-term development. This could include; land acquisition for nature reserves; land and/or property acquisition to allow the Trust to carry out its work effectively; maintenance and enhancement work on existing nature reserves; education projects; advocacy work; operational support.

This fund will be supplemented over time by receipts of legacy income, income from the Trust's investment portfolio, and surpluses from the Trust's unrestricted operations, to the extent to which the Trustees deem such transfers to be appropriate, having taken into account the existing operational requirements of the Trust.

This year the fund has continued to be deployed to cover important salary costs for the Supporter Development Officer and (from October) for a new HR Officer post. These are strategic posts to develop our unrestricted fundraising capability and staff support systems.

The balance on the Trust Development Fund at the year-end stood at £1,053,029 (2019: £908,786) and is made up as follows:

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Investment properties	543	543
Investments	179	193
Current assets	331	173
	1,053	909

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Pension Costs Fund

This designated fund is designed to help meet the increased pension costs associated with the closure of the defined benefit section of the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme, and the related deficit in that Scheme's assets.

The Trustees aim to designate reserves within this fund, as appropriate and available, to provide a cushion against future revaluations of the Scheme which result in a charge to the Income and Expenditure account, over and above the established annual charge to eliminate the deficit.

As explained in note 20 to the financial statements, disclosure of liabilities and costs relating to this Pension Scheme have up until this year been required to be stated on a group basis as it was not possible to identify the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to the individual participating employers. During this financial year, changes in the number of Trusts involved in the Pension Scheme have meant that the liabilities relating to each company in the Scheme can now be separately identified. However, in the opinion of the Trustees and directors of both the Trust and its subsidiary, Lelcestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited, the obligation relating to settlement of any liabilities and contributions due in respect of the defined benefit section of the Scheme, including those of the subsidiary, resides with the parent charitable company, Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust. The pension charge relating to the subsidiary and that company's remaining liability to the Scheme are therefore aggregated with those of the Trust and Included in the Trust's accounts.

Moreover, for the financial years on and after 31st March 2020, sufficient information is now available to account for the Trust's obligations on a defined benefit basis, and the Trust has early-adopted the amendments made to FRS 102 in May 2019 to account for the Scheme liabilities on this basis. This results in a lower balance sheet provision than before, even though the annual charges to the Trust and its subsidiary will be calculated as before over the remaining years.

Trustees have opted to use this lower figure for the balance sheet disclosure, as they believe that the Trust will be able to meet the annual contributions to the Scheme as they fall due. The reserves so released from the Balance Sheet provision will be held in the Designated Funds, and will be used as required to fund charitable operations. However, for additional prudence, the Trustees will aim to ensure that the Pension Costs Designated Fund will continue to hold sufficient to cover 1 to 2 years' worth of future liabilities in respect of both companies.

At the year-end, the balance on the Pension Costs Fund stood at £139,925 (2019: £50,939).

Fixed Asset Depreciation Fund

This fund provides for future depreciation charges on specific large fixed asset items. Depreciation costs on key assets, including computers, tools, equipment and vehicles, resulted in a year-end balance of £8,046 (2019: £14,104).

Fundraising policy and practice

A significant amount of the Trust's income comes from Individuals by way of membership recruitment and the consequent receipt of subscriptions. As part of its membership strategy, the Trust engages the services of Wildlife Fundralsing (Central) Limited ("WFCL"), a company set up by the Trust in common with several other Wildlife Trusts within the region. Both this company and the Trust are registered with the Fundraising Regulator and adhere to the Fundraising Code of Practice. The Trust works closely with WFCL and receives regular reports on the performance of its recruiters. The business strategy in place does not permit intrusive, persistent or pressurised recruiting methods. No complaints have been received during the course of the year by either Trust or WFCL in respect of recruitment and fundraising.

'Face-to-face' recruitment carried out by WFCL on behalf of the Trust was suspended at the commencement of lockdown. Plans for the future will include better use of technology for sign-ups and a flexible approach to commencement of recruitment. Other methods of recruitment such as telefundraising will also be explored by the company as they adapt to COVID-19 and look to mittgate impacts.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Investment powers and policy

The Trust's investments are made up of investment properties and financial instruments.

The Trust holds a number of investment properties, with a combined value of £543,228 (2019: £543,228). These comprise a part of the Trust's headquarters building which is let to third-party tenants, and buildings and related land at Charnwood Lodge nature reserve which were bequeathed to the Trust. Whilst rental income is obtained from the Charnwood properties, the Trust nevertheless regards them as an integral part of the nature reserve.

The Trust's investment portfolio, originating from a bequest, stood at £178,707 at the year-end (2019: £192,473). After a significant drop in value at the year-end owing to the financial impact of COVID-19 on global markets and the UK economy, the portfolio has since then recovered a good deal of ground. The overall yield was 2.6%. The Trust's strategy is to hold the portfolio in pooled investment products, helping to streamline investment decisions, and spread risk. Over time, these investments are also being switched into investment funds that aim to follow ecological principles. The Trustees consider that the financial reserves represented by the portfolio will provide important assistance in ensuring the Trust continues to develop and grow despite very difficult circumstances.

Otherwise the Trust's overall financial reserves are held in cash, reflecting the high cash-flow requirements of the organisation and the need to be ready to respond to acquisition opportunities. Subject to this general principle, the Trustees continue to review the needs of the specific categories of financial reserves described above with a view to ensuring that the assets allocated to them are managed to their best advantage, according to whether income or capital growth is the priority, and bearing in mind both the economic environment in which the Trust operates, and the need to ensure the Trust continues to fulfil all of its charitable objects.

Grant-making policies

The Trust operated a small grants scheme under its "Charnwood Forest Living Landscapes" project, to assist farmers and landowners in that area with practical nature conservation schemes.

Risk management

As an on-going exercise, the Council examines the principal areas of the Trust's operations during the year and considers the major risks that may arise. In the opinion of the Council, the Trust has established procedures and systems that, under normal conditions, should allow the risks identified by them to be mitigated to an acceptable level in day-to-day operations.

The Trust compiles a risk register that identifies risks in a number of key areas and outlines control procedures and actions to manage and mitigate these risks:

- Funding and economic needs regular review of funding requirements; careful monitoring of financial reserves; close contact with wide range of key funders; ongoing membership recruitment and retention;
- Governance and management good communication and flow of information with Council, staff and volunteers; review of policies and procedures;
- Operational effectiveness and performance monitoring progress against annual work plan and Five-year Development Strategy; effective Health and Safety guidelines and procedures; robust IT systems and backup procedures; staff and volunteer training and development; asset management;
- Financial systems and controls accurate and up-to-date financial reporting; close monitoring of internal controls;
- External relationships and perception development of publications, websites and social media;
 close contact and liaison with key partners;
- Compliance with laws and regulations ongoing monitoring and review of changes; adherence to best practice:
- Pension Scheme liability ongoing monitoring of the Scheme valuations (see note 20 to the financial statements) to ensure adequate provisioning is made.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Risk management (continued)

Additional risks have been Identified as a result of the COVID-19 situation, and these are dealt with in the following section.

The Trust and COVID-19

The Trust began monitoring the impending Impact of COVID -19 at an early stage, and started planning for the measures that would be required. Nevertheless, despite all possible precautions, the impact of the virus on economic conditions, on people's activities, and on the community at large have been significant and have in turn affected the Trust to a significant degree.

Our approach to the requirement to be "COVID-Secure" was implemented via a clear policy framework.

COVID-19 contingency planning was based on Government Guidance, and focussed on determining both critical and priority operations for the organisation. A Situation Management Team of key management and Trustees was established to monitor, review and facilitate prompt decision-making. Operational risk mitigation was augmented by a regular assessment of key financial impacts from the very first stage of the pandemic, with more detailed forecasting being developed subsequently.

The details of our approach to financial risk management are set out below (see Future Plans).

COVID-Secure Risk Assessment Approach

This involves the following key requirements:

- Adequate Risk Assessments have been developed and implemented on:
 - o Outdoor Activities
 - o Travel and Transport
 - o Working From Home
 - Office Space and Workshop Space (Lyndon, VTC and The Old Mill), together with other storage/lockups
 - Visitor Space (Lyndon, Hides, Reserves, VTC)
 - Events [Note: reinstatement of events programmes will be dependent on Government guidance and restrictions].
- Adequate PPE is available (we will need to continue to define this, in consultation with staff and volunteers.)
- · Government Guidance is followed
- Staff and Volunteer assessment of risk including those in shielding and/or high risk have been developed, and there will need to be continual updating to provide for new requirements.
- Staff feel safe and secure in undertaking relevant areas of work.
- Communications and Awareness processes which are robust, clear, universal and rapid.
- Clear ability to instigate lock-down remote working measures at short notice, with procedures
 understood by all, and able to be communicated to volunteers, key stakeholders and the public.

The following areas of the Trust's operations have been particularly affected by the associated risks from COVID-19.

Nature reserves

The main risks identified and mitigated for nature reserves focus on operations and infrastructure. Bird hides and visitor centres are of critical concern, and when closure is required it has a knock-on to operations. Personal responsibility is emphasised for bird hides, and our Lyndon Visitor Centre has a focus to maintain operations in coordination with Anglian Water and the broader tourist infrastructure of Rutland Water.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

The Trust and COVID-19 (continued)

Volunteering

Volunteering is a key operation for the Trust and volunteers are only enabled to work following Government guidance and after a soft start to task groups. Groups will be monitored, and numbers managed. Long-term impacts will limit events led by volunteers, and will affect what tasks can be undertaken, subject to determining who can and is willing to volunteer. All this has implications for our nature reserve management activities.

Membership

Membership subscription income began to drop with the commencement of lockdown. This is partly because people started to consider the situation and the potential financial consequences. However there is also a natural attrition rate in any membership population, and the suspension of face-to-face recruitment with the commencement of lockdown meant that normal levels of recruitment to replace those lost members were simply not possible. Up to the date of this report, the Trust is so far seen a 2.08% percent decrease in its membership overall. The Trust has, over the past months, been exploring new ways of contacting potential members and encouraging people to subscribe.

Birdfair

It became clear as the COVID-19 situation developed in the early spring that it would not be possible to hold a "live" Birdfair event in August 2020. A number of factors contributed to this, including restrictions on travel, both from overseas and in the UK, and restrictions on public gatherings, all of which were in fact introduced on 23 March, with no clarity at that point as to when they would be lifted. Moreover, Birdfair relies heavily for its success on not only the staff team but also a large number of volunteers, all of whom are valued highly, and it is the Trustees' responsibility to protect them. Taking all things together, and in order to minimise financial damage to the Trust and its operations, a decision to cancel the 2020 event was made in early April.

The Trustees, in their commitment to Birdfair's legacy and its great potential for the future, wanted to ensure that Birdfair remained in the public consciousness during this difficult year so that live events could be successfully resumed in 2021. They therefore wholeheartedly supported the proposals of the Birdfair team for the development of a "Virtual Birdfair", involving a digital version of the annual pattern of events, talks, and debates, together with the varied exhibitors and sponsors who participate in the normal Birdfair. This event was duly held on 19th-23rd August – the traditional Birdfair period – with online material due to remain on the Virtual Birdfair website for a further three months. The report for the next Financial Year will deal with the results in detail.

Despite a very short timescale for development of what is, in effect, a brand-new type of event, Virtual Birdfair has been extremely successful, attracting twice as many 'visitors' as a live Birdfair and engaging the interest of a new and diverse audience. In this, it fully met the strategic aim of ensuring Birdfair remains large in the public consciousness, with an enthusiastic audience engaged for the following year.

Despite the success of Virtual Birdfair, two important financial impacts have occurred:

- cancellation costs in respect of the 2020 live event have had to be reflected in the results of the 2019 event, under accounting standards. This has contributed to the donation in respect of that year's event being lower than usual;
- with the cancellation of the 2020 event, the operating costs for the financial year 2020/2021
 were unsupported, putting the continuation of the event at risk. In view of this, the Trust has
 obtained a loan of £41,713 from the Royal Society of Wildlife Trust's Strategic Development
 Fund, to provide bridging finance for Birdfair until it can resume normal operations.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

The Trust and COVID-19 (continued)

Leicestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited

Since the year-end, the subsidiary has suffered heavily from loss of income from retail activities and events at Rutland Water Nature Reserve, owing to restrictions on movement arising from COVID-19 precautions. As at the date of this report, these activities have only been partially reinstated, and visitor levels have been lower. We believe it will be some time before the income from this source returns to its expected levels.

As part of the Trust's strategy to ensure charitable activities can continue effectively in testing times, a grant of £149,900 has been obtained from the Heritage Lottery Fund, which will be directed at developing the Trust's public engagement capabilities and capacity. This will improve the financial resillence of both the Trust and its subsidiary.

Future Plans

At the end of March 2015, the Trust adopted a new Five-year Development Strategy 2015 – 2020 which detailed a clear overall direction for the Trust, and specified broad targets for what the Trust wants to achieve over the five years, in order to protect and enhance the wildlife and wild places of Leicestershire and Rutland and to engage people with nature.

This strategy is in the process of being reviewed and renewed, to create a new Five-year Development Strategy which will help Trust grow and strengthen in the post COVID-19 world.

All the issues identified in the above section 'The Trust and COVID-19" will need to be factored into the development of this Strategy. In the shorter term an Income Plan has been devised to both halt any loss of income and find new funding streams, and external sources of finance have been obtained, as noted above.

Meanwhile our main strategic objectives remain as follows:

Safeguarding Wildlife and Wild Places

- Ensure our nature reserves are in good ecological condition to protect the wildlife living there;
- Further develop priority Living Landscape projects to create biodiversity networks more, bigger, better and joined-up areas of wildlife value;
- Work in partnership to promote and support Local Wildlife Sites, Regionally Important Geological Sites and other designated sites;
- Survey and record flora and fauna to help safeguard special places and important species, and to inform land management;
- Be an effective voice for wildlife and champion a resilient and healthy environment that is valued and accessible.

Inspiring People

- Encourage more people to engage with nature through volunteering for the intrinsic benefits it brings and to help protect wildlife and wild places:
- Create innovative and Imaginative learning and outreach opportunities that explore our natural heritage and the need to safeguard its future;
- Provide a wide range of activities so that people of all ages and backgrounds can experience, enjoy and benefit from our wildlife and wild places;
- Reach out to new audiences to broaden the support base for the Trust's work;
- Ensure that our nature reserves are enjoyable, Informative and safe places to visit;
- Continue to develop the new Volunteer Training Centre into a centre of excellence that will
 enable skilled volunteers of all ages and backgrounds to safeguard the precious wildlife at
 Rutland Water and other nature reserves into the future.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Future Plans (continued)

Ensuring a resilient Trust

- Develop new income sources by engaging new audiences and supporter-types;
- Ensure we can connect and engage with people digitally, as well as face to face, to make our message heard more widely;
- Invest in marketing, communications, financial expertise and support, membership systems and supporter development so that Trust continues to have a firm basis for its operations.

The forward look

As far as the Trustees are able to do so, in a sensible way, they are looking forward to try to establish what the Trust's financial position will be over the next couple of financial years. Forecasts at present, which have factored in estimates of membership attrition and loss of certain income streams whilst continuing to identify others, indicate that the consolidated results of the 2020/2021 financial year will show an overall loss of around £50,000, with the 2021/2022 financial year returning to a roughly break-even position.

Our Forecasting and Risk Mitigation approach into the long-term, whilst subject to the inherent uncertainties in the current situation, nevertheless enables us to build our resilience and understand areas in need of improvement or resources.

- Forecasting: predict and anticipate pinch points;
- Worse-case scenario-planning: adapt to changing circumstances;
- Risk Register updates: better planning and mitigation of risk arising from COVID 19 impacts;
- Close monitoring of the economic situation and related factors: enabling the development of broad strategies for differing circumstances.

Forecasting is reviewed across three scales:

- Near- and short-term forecasting mainly focused on cash-flow and membership attrition;
- Medium term to the end of financial year with sensitivity analysis, cash-flow predictions and unrestricted income modelling;
- Longer-term up to two years ahead in less detail, but allowing us to understand the
 implications for continuation of key scenarios.

An understanding of current performance and needs within the organisation enables us to make the correct decisions for investment, and better navigate risks in the future. Our future plans include investing in our staff to achieve enhanced impact. We will also invest in our infrastructure (such as customer relationship management systems) and digital capabilities which will allow us to be more sophisticated and efficient in our fund-raising, and in generating support for our mission. The Heritage Lottery Fund grant, noted above, which will provide additional capacity for the development of public engagement in all aspects of the Trust's work, will have a significant impact on the Trust's overall effectiveness.

However in order to help maintain a stable financial position, the Trustees will also be authorising, where appropriate, the use of retained financial reserves to support the initiatives outlined above. One of the chief reasons for holding a good level of financial reserves is to ensure that an organisation is capable of weathering difficult times; the Trustees believe this current situation warrants the use of these reserves in the ways intended.

At all times, the Trustees will continue to ensure that the Trust is run responsibly and prudently, in line with its charitable objects and all governance requirements.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Future Plans (continued)

The forward look (continued)

As at the date of this report, the Trustees feel that it is not yet possible to make any meaningful predictions about the financial year 2021/2022. However the Trustees believe that it will be possible to have a better idea as we enter 2021 as to the extent and timing of recovery from the economic fallout from COVID-19. The Trust's forecasting procedures mean that forward planning can be regularly updated to adapt to changing circumstances and help ensure that the Trust can remain in a stable position. Currently, forecasts of the Trust's financial position twelve months from the date of this report indicate that, after a loss-making period, group operations should be returning to a break-even position by the end of financial year 2021/2022.

Charitable and Political Donations

The Trust makes an annual donation of all the profits from the Birdfair to fund conservation initiatives. This annual donation is the primary and continuing purpose of the Birdfair since its inception in 1989. During the year, a preliminary donation of £102,926 was made to fund the Birdlife International project "Saving Cambodia's Big Five", and following confirmation of the financial results post-audit, the total donation in respect of the 2019 event will be £168,719

Trustees of the Charity

The Trustees of the charity, who are directors for the purposes of company law and trustees for the purposes of charity law, serving during the year and up to the date of this report, are set out on page 1.

Disclosure of Information to the Auditors

So far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company and Group's auditors is unaware. Additionally, the Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

Auditors

In accordance with the Companies Act 2006, a resolution proposing the appointment of RSM UK Audit LLP as Auditor will be put to the members.

Statements of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also directors of Lelcestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust Limited for purpose of company law) are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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

- · select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in 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 a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company and Group 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.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

This report is prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to Companies entitled to take the small companies exemptions under the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved on behalf of the Council on 28 September 2020 and signed on their behalf.

Honorary Treasurer - Mrs E A Tomlinson MA, FCA

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust Limited (the 'parent charitable company') and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 March 2020 which comprise the Group Statement of Financial Activities (including Group Income and Expenditure account), the Group and Trust Balance Sheets, the Group Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the group's and the parent charitable company's affairs
 as at 31 March 2020 and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including
 its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

We have been appointed auditors under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with those Acts.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the group's or parent charitable company'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 Report of the Council other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

Other information (continued)

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 Report of the Council and which Includes the Directors' Report
 prepared for the purpose of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements
 are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report included within the Report of the Council have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and the parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report included within the Report of the Council.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 and the Charitles Act 2011 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate and sufficient accounting records have not been kept by the parent charitable company,
 or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the parent charitable company financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report in preparing the Report of the Council.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on pages 20, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the group's and parent charitable 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 parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED

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.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company'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 charitable company'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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

RSM UK Audit LUP

Gareth Jones (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of RSM UK Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
Rivermead House
7 Lewis Court
Grove Park
Leicester
Leicestershire
LE19 1SD

Date: 22/10/2020

GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING GROUP INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

		•			
	Notes		Restricted Funds 2020	Total 2020	Total 2019
Income from:		£	£	£	£
Donations and legacies	4	635,146	488,889	1,124,035	785,616
Charitable activities	7	142,599	1,352,853	1,495,452	1,715,105
Other trading activities	5	91,721	-	91,721	82,794
Investments	6	38,062	•	38,062	34,503
Total		907,528	1,841,742	2,749,270	2,618,018
Expenditure on: Raising funds:					
Costs of generating members subscriptions/voluntary incom		201,971	•	201,971	144,629
Cost of goods sold and other	costs	80,454	-	80,454	70,148
Investment management fees	5	3,450	-	3,450	2,640
Charitable activities Taxation charge	10	703,508 -	1,608,649 -	2,312,157 -	2,388,895 5,397
Total	8	989,383	1,608,649	2,598,032	2,611,709
Net (losses)/gains on investme	nts 15	(17,239)		(17,239)	3,204
Net income		(99,094)	233,093	133,999	9,513
Gross transfers between funds	23/24	18,460	(18,460)		
Net income before other recognised gains and losses		(80,634)	214,633	133,999	9,513
Other recognised gains/(lo	sses)				
(Losses)/gains on revaluation of fixed assets Actuarial gains on defined bene	14	(5,850)	-	(5,850)	2,090
pension scheme	20	263,616	-	263,616	-
Net movement in funds		177,132	214,633	391,765	11,603
Reconciliation of funds Total funds brought forward		2,577,673	2,261,824	4,839,497	4,827,894
Total funds carried forward		2,754,805	2,476,457	5,231,262	4,839,497

The statement of the financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities.

Details of the comparative group statement of financial activities are included in note 29.

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2020 (Company number 00561833)

		Group		Trust		
	Notes	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £	31 March 2020 £	31 March 2019 £	
Fixed assets		_	_	_	_	
Tangible assets	14	1,334,871	1,416,936	1,267,796	1,325,868	
Heritage assets	14	1,932,586	1,932,586	1,932,586	1,932,586	
Investments	15	721,935	735,701	722,035	735,801	
Total fixed assets	-	3,989,392	4,085,223	3,922,417	3,994,255	
Current assets		-				
Stocks	16	7,022	27,0 44	•	•	
Debtors	17	190,740	323,588	177,245	107,018	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,709,039	1,487,395	1,401,974	1,239,220	
Total current assets	-	1,906,801	1,838,027	1,579,219	1,346,238	
Liabilities						
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	18	(529,749)	(641,225)	(131,054)	(84,225)	
due within one year	-	(J23,743)	(041,223)	(131,034)	(01,223)	
Net current assets		1,377,052	1,196,802	1,448,165	1,262,013	
Total assets less current liabilit	ies	5,366,444	5,282,025	5,370,582	5,256,268	
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	20	(135,182)	(44 2,528)	(135,182)	(442,528)	
Scheme Babling	20	(133,162)	(112,320)	(133,102)	(412,320)	
Total net assets	_	5,231,262	4,839,497	5,235,400	4,813,740	
The funds of the charity Restricted funds	23	2,476,457	2,261,824	2,476,457	2,261,824	
Unrestricted Funds - Accumulated charitable fund - Designated funds – includes Investment/revaluation reser	.ve	282,088	317,965	286,226	292,208	
(see note 15) of £473,385	••	•				
(2019: £492,214)		2,472,717	2,259,708	2,472,717	2,259,708	
Total unrestricted funds	24	2,754,805	2,577,673	2,758,943	2,551,916	
Total charity funds	-	5,231,262	4,839,497	5,235,400	4,813,740	
ivai charity lunus	_	3,231,402	7,557,557		7,013,770	

As permitted by S408 Companies Act 2006, the Trust has not presented its own statement of financial activities and related notes as it prepared group accounts. The Trust's surplus for the year was £421,660 (2019: £14,996).

The financial statements on pages 25 to 58 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 28th Jeptembra 2020 and are signed on their behalf by:

Honorary Treasurer - Mrs E A Tomlinson MA, FCA

GROUP STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

		2020			2019	
	Note	£	£	£	£	
Cash flows from operating activities:						
Net cash provided by operating activities Interest paid Income taxes paid	27		237,584 (121) (5,397)		122,798 - -	
Net cash inflow from operating activities			232,066		122,798	
Cash flows from investing activities: Dividends, interest and rents from investments Proceeds from the sale of tangible assets Purchase of tangible assets Proceeds from the sale of investments Purchase of investments		38,062 700 (43,319) 17,667 (23,532)		34,503 533 (38,713) 13,720 (16,762)		
Net cash used In investing activities			(10,422)		(6,719)	
Cash and cash equivalent movement in the reporting period	nt		221,644		116,079	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period			1,487,395		1,371,316	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period			1,709,039		1,487,395	

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

1. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The Trust makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

Pension scheme

The present value of the defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 20, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a rollforward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 1 April 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 March 2020. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability. The carrying value of the defined benefit pension scheme at the yearend was £135,182.

Critical areas of judgement

The trustees do not consider the Trust as any critical judgement which will have a significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

2. Accounting policies

Accounts conversion

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (FRS 102), (Charities SORP (FRS102)) "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland" including the adoption of the amendments issued in December 2017 ("FRS 102") and the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice as it applies from 1 April 2015.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

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

In accordance with FRS 102, the Trust has taken advantage of the exemptions from the following disclosure requirements;

- Section 7 'Statement of Cash Flows' Presentation of a Statement of Cash Flow and related notes and disclosures for the Trust.
- Section 33 'Related Party Disclosures' Compensation for Key Management personnel.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

2. Accounting policies (continued)

The financial statements of the Trust are consolidated in the financial statements of Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust Limited. The consolidated financial statements of Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust Limited are available from its registered office, The Old Mill, 9 Soar Lane, Leicester, LE3 5DE.

Going concern

The charity has embarked on new Five-year Development Strategy to help respond to and strengthen the Trust in the post Covid-19 world. It remains the intention of the Trustees and the Directors of Lelcestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited ("LWS"), the charity's subsidiary undertaking, that over the coming year, activities will continue where it is safe to do so and by innovating on their format.

The Trust's healthy cash reserves position, and the core income obtained via membership subscriptions, will allow the Trust to continue its central work of maintaining and expanding its nature reserves and carrying on its educational and advocacy work. Further sources of funding received during the year are in the main applied to specific projects, generating matching expenditure.

Having considered its financial position, the Trust has pledged financial support to LWS, as required, for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. There remains uncertainty over several income streams in LWS which continue to be impacted as a result of physical gatherings having to be cancelled or postponed.

The charity has therefore carried out scenario-planning by looking at what the Impact would be of a fall in these income streams. These scenarios are based on known information at the time of compiling and will be monitored and modified on an ongoing basis. Based on this and the available cash reserves, the Trustees consider that the Trust has adequate funds and sufficient cash flows to meet its liabilities, and those of its subsidiary undertaking as required, as they fall due for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. The trustees also consider that its anticipated future objectives can be met and have therefore prepared the financial statements on the going concern basis.

Group financial statements

These financial statements comprise the results of the Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust Limited and its subsidiary, consolidated on a line-by-line basis. All the financial statements are made up to 31 March 2020.

All Intra-group transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions with the subsidiary are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

Trust's Statement of Financial Activities

As permitted by Section 408 of the Companies Act 2006, the Trust has not presented its own Statement of Financial Activities ("SOFA") as it prepares group accounts and the Trust's individual balance sheet shows the Trust's net movement in funds in the financial year.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

2. Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting

Accumulated charitable funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Trust and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds set aside at the discretion of the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and the use of each fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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

Income

All income is recognised once the Trust has entitlement to the resources, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

- Voluntary income, including donations, member subscriptions and legacies, are recognised where there is entitlement, probability of receipt, and the amount can be measured reliably.
 Donations of land or other assets are included at fair value at date of receipt.
- Any legacy entitlement is taken as the earlier of: the date on which the Trust is aware that probate has been granted; the estate has been finalised and notification has been made by the executor(s) to the Trust that a distribution will be made; or a distribution is received from the estate. Receipt of a legacy, in whole or in part, is only considered probable when the amount can be measured reliably and the Trust has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where a legacy has been notified to the Trust or the Trust is aware of the granting of probate, but the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then that legacy is treated as a contingent asset, and disclosed if material.
- Rental income on assets leased under operating leases is recognised on a straight-line basis over the lease term.
- Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.
- Income direct from charitable activities is recognised when the Trust is legally entitled to income and the amount can be measured reliably.

Voluntary help

In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), no value has been put on the help received by the Trust during the year from volunteers of the Trust. Additional information about the contribution made by volunteers is given in the Report of the Council.

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under charitable activity rather than the type of expense, in order to provide more useful information to users of the financial statements.

Charitable activity costs comprise both direct expenditure, including direct staff costs attributable to the activity, and support costs. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

2. Accounting policies (continued)

Expenditure and irrecoverable VAT (continued)

Fundralsing costs are those incurred in seeking voluntary contributions and other sources of income to enable the Trust to carry out its charitable activities.

Support and governance costs which cannot be directly attributed to a specific activity have been split across the costs categories on the same percentage as staff costs incurred.

Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust Limited is unable to reclaim all of the Value Added Tax (VAT) that it incurs. All expenditure in these financial statements in relation to its activities is shown inclusive of any VAT which cannot be recovered.

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are initially recorded at cost, and subsequently measured at cost net of depreciation and any impairment losses. Tangible fixed assets with a cost price in excess of £500 are capitalised, and all other expenditure is charged to the SOFA in the year incurred.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation of the asset less any residual value, except for land, over its estimated useful economic life. It is calculated at the following annual rates:

Heritage assets	Nil
Freehold buildings	50 years
Leasehold buildings	25 years
Tools and equipment	5 Years
Motor vehicles	5 Years
Fixtures and fittings	5 Years
Computers equipment	5 Years

Heritage assets represent the nature reserves portfolio of the Trust and are capitalised at cost at the date of addition. Heritage assets are not depreciated as the figure relates to land making up the Trust's nature reserves. Where buildings occur on those reserves, the Trustees consider the amount insignificant and thus any depreciation would be immaterial.

The Trust maintains its heritage assets in accordance with its charitable objectives and its stated Development Strategy.

The livestock is valued at its existing use value by the Trustees. Revaluations are shown as other recognised gains and losses within the SOFA. Livestock is used in the management of the nature reserves and not as a commercial venture.

Impairments of fixed assets

An assessment is made at each reporting date of whether there are indications that a fixed asset may be impaired or that an impairment loss previously recognised has fully or partially reversed. If such indications exist, the Trust estimates the recoverable amount of the asset.

Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts, being the higher of fair value less costs to sell and value-in-use, are recognised as impairment losses. Impairments of revalued assets are treated as a revaluation loss. All other impairment losses are recognised in the SOFA.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

2. Accounting policies (continued)

Impairments of fixed assets (continued)

Recognised impairment losses are reversed if, and only if, the reasons for the impairment loss have ceased to apply. Reversals of impairment losses are recognised in the SOFA or, for revalued assets, as a revaluation gain. On reversal of an impairment loss, the depreciation is adjusted to allocate the asset's revised carrying amount (less any residual value) over its remaining useful life.

Investments

All listed investments are stated at fair value. Both realised and unrealised gains and losses are shown in the SOFA, together with the net gains and losses arising from revaluations and disposals throughout the year. The fair value of an investment quoted on a recognised stock exchange is deemed to be the quotation from that stock exchange.

Investment properties (including properties held under an operating lease) are initially measured at cost and subsequently measured at fair value where a reliable measure of that value is available without undue cost or effort. Changes in fair value are recognised in the SOFA.

The investments in the subsidiary undertaking is stated at cost.

Stock

Stock consists of shop stock and Birdfair stock purchased for resale, and is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving items.

At each reporting date, the Trust assesses whether stocks are impaired or if any impairment loss recognised in prior periods has reversed. Any excess of the carrying amount of stock over its estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell is recognised as an impairment loss in the SOFA.

Operating leases

Rentals applicable to operating leases, where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor, are charged against profits on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Financial instruments

The Trust only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments and are not considered to be of financial nature. Such financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with exception of investments in shares and property. The investments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at fair value through the SOFA.

Debtors

Trade debtors and other debtors (including accrued income) which are receivable within one year and which do not constitute a financing transaction are initially measured at the transaction price. Trade debtors and other debtors are subsequently measured at amortised cost, being the transaction price less any amounts settled and any impairment losses.

Cash at bank

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and monies on short-term deposits at the bank, and other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

2. Accounting policies (continued)

Creditors

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

Taxation

No provision for corporation tax has been made as the Trust is exempt from corporation tax on its Income and gains to the extent that these are applied to its charitable activities. The non-charitable subsidiary will be subject to Corporation Tax on any profits not gift aided to the charitable parent.

Pensions

Trust personnel participate in two pension schemes; a defined contribution stakeholder scheme and a defined benefit scheme that has now been closed to new members.

Defined contribution

The pension costs charged in the financial statements represent the contributions payable by the Trust during the year. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the Trust in an independently administered fund. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments.

Defined benefit

The Trust participates in the Wildlife Trust Pension Scheme, which is a multi-employer pension Scheme which provides benefits to its members.

The Trust participates only in the defined benefit section. The Scheme is run in such a way that the Trust was previously unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities. However, for the financial year ended 31 March 2020 sufficient information will be available to account for its obligations on a defined basis. The Trust has early adopted the amendments made to FRS 102 in May 2019 to account for the pension scheme on defined basis. When defined benefit accounting is applied, any liability recognised for the present value of the Trust's deficit funding agreement will be derecognised, as per the guidance in the amendment to FRS 102. The difference between the deficit funding agreement liability that Trust currently recognise for the Wildlife Trust Pension Scheme, and the net defined benefit deficit should be recognised in other recognised gains/(losses) within the SOFA.

Employee benefits

The costs of short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability and an expense.

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the Trust is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits,

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

3. Legal Status of the Trust

The Leicestershire and Rutland Wildlife Trust is an incorporated charity (company number 00561833) and is a company also registered at the Charity Commission (Charity Commission number 210531) in England and Wales. The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and as such has no issued share capital.

The address of the Trust's registered office and principal place of business is The Old Mill, 9 Soar Lane, Leicester, LE3 SDE.

The Trust works for the protection and enhancement of wildlife and wild places in Leicestershire and Rutland. The Trust is dedicated to securing a positive future for wildlife as well improving people's understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of wildlife.

4. Donation and legacies

	2020 £	2019 £
Legacies	52,436	69,342
Donations and similar income	525,124	183,838
Members subscriptions including Gift Aid	546,475	532,436
	1,124,035	785,616

The Trust has been notified of a donation of bonds from Kingsland Trust. At the balance sheet date, neither the quantum nor the likely date of receipt of this legacy was known, and so it has not been included in the above legacy total.

5.	Other trading activities	2020 £	2019 £
	Shop sales	91,721	82,794
6.	Investment income	2020 £	2019 £
	Income from listed investments Income from cash investments Income from investment properties	4,725 7,837 25,500	4,529 6,174 23,800
		38,062	34,503

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

7. Income from charitable activities

•	2020 £	2019 £
Consultancy fees	394,268	388,031
British Birdwatching Fair	848,684	917,064
Grants	237,136	392,279
Uvestock	5,517	7,387
Rental income	9,847	10,344
	1,495,452	1,715,105
Grants	2020	2019
	£	£
Aggregate Industries Limited	32,799	39,762
Heritage Lottery Fund	-	21,740
Hanson Cement	-	2,500
DEFRA Environmental Stewardship Scheme	7,061	29,492
DEFRA Single Farm Payment	62,744	48,602
DEFRA Countryside Stewardship	46,996	28,174
Tesco Bags of Help	•	2,000
Grantscape	-	19,917
Whitley Animal Protection Trust	-	5,000
Jack Patston Charitable Trust	•	3,000
Next Pic	-	8,250
Peter De Haan Charitable Trust	-	20,000
Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts	69,244	68,977
The National Forest Company	8, 9 97	6,362
The Banister Charitable Trust	-	18,945
The Samworth Foundation	-	32,250
Leicestershire and Rutland Community Foundation	-	17,886
Melton Building Society	-	18,135
Rutland Community Foundation	2,500	-
Dementia Adventure	5,495	, -
Others	1,300	1,287
	237,136	392,279
	 	

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

8.	Analysis of expenditure	Wildlife Havens £	Inspiring People £	Wildlife Champions £	Generating Funds £	Retail Operations £	Investment Mgt Costs £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
	Nature reserve	204,430	42,529	-	-	-	-	246,959	328,488
	Consultancy work	-	-	95,296	•	-	-	95,296	96,684
	British Birdwatching Fair	-	494,735	•	•	-		494,735	449,399
	Shop expenditure	-	-	-		62,007	-	62,007	50,644
	Membership commission	•	-	-	100,819	-	•	100,819	69,546
	Subsidiary support costs	•	1,003	9,604	-	-	-	10,607	8,155
	Trust support costs	143,102	131,349	78,395	42,972	4,125	•	399,943	346,208
	Salary costs (including pension and NICs)	431,295	351,508	159,071	58,180	14,322	•	1,014,376	932,366
	Grants and donations made	-		169,719	-	-	-	169,719	322,182
	Stockbroker fees	-	-	-	-	-	1,220	1,220	1,200
	Rental collection	-	-	-	-	-	2,230	2,230	1,440
	Interest payable	121	-	-	-	-	-	121	-
		778,948	1,021,124	512,085	201,971	80,454	3,450	2,598,032	2,606,312
	Taxation charge								5,397
			•				,	2,598,032	2,611,709

Included in the above figures of Grants and Donations made are donations of £168,719 (2019: £320,236) to Birdlife International as well as grants of £1,000 (2019: £1,946) under the Charnwood Forest Living Landscape project small grant scheme.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

		Wildlife Havens £	Inspiring People £	Wildlife Champions £	Generating Funds £	Retail Operations £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
9.	Analysis of governance and support costs							
	Trust Support Costs							
	Office costs	87,788	80,145	45,713	22,680	2,681	239,007	194,858
	RSNC levy	11,871	10,838	6,182	3,067	363	32,321	33,070
	Depreciation	31,307	28,582	16,302	8,089	957	85,237	94,373
	Pension finance charges and administration expenses	4,045	3,693	2,107	1,045	124	11,014	
	Subsidiary Support Costs							
	Office costs	-	-	10,266	-	-	10,266	6,206
	Depreciation	-	1,003	33,294	-	-	34,297	34,399
	(Profit)/loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	(700)	-	•	(700)	5,208
	Amortisation of capital grant	-	-	(33,256)	-	-	(33,256)	(37,658)
	Governance costs	8,091	8,091	8,091	8,091	-	32,364	23,907
	_	143,102	132,352	87,999	42,972	4,125	410,550	354,363

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

Taxation	2020 £	2019 £
Current tax	_	_
Adjustments in respect of previous periods	-	5,397
Analysis of staff costs and members	2020	2019
	£	£
Total staff emoluments for the year were as follows:		
Salaries costs	854,116	762,422
Social security costs	70,292	62,540
Pension contributions (see note 20)	65,730	107,404
Termination payment	24,238	-
	1,014,376	932,366
	Current tax Adjustments in respect of previous periods Analysis of staff costs and members Total staff emoluments for the year were as follows: Salarles costs Social security costs Pension contributions (see note 20)	Current tax Adjustments in respect of previous periods Analysis of staff costs and members Total staff emoluments for the year were as follows: Salarles costs Social security costs Pension contributions (see note 20) Termination payment £ 2020 £ 70,292 65,730 72,292

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

The average monthly number of employees in the Group and Trust during the year was as follows:

	Gre	Group		st
	2 0 20 No.	2019 No.	2020 No.	2019 No.
Management and Administration	11	9	8	8
Charitable Activities	28	28	16	13
	39	37	24	21

The average number of employees in the Group during the year was 30 (2019: 31), on a full-time equivalent basis.

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses, and costs of key management personnel

Trustees received no remuneration and were not reimbursed for any of their expenses in the year.

The key management personnel of the group comprise the Trustees and the senior staff, namely the Chief Executive Officer (formally the Director), the Head of Conservation, the Rutland Water Nature Reserve Manager and the Birdfair Manager. The senior staff are responsible for the day-to-day running of the group. The total employee benefits for the key management personnel were £215,729 (2019: £158,354).

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

13. Net income

This is arrived after charging/(crediting):-	2020 £	2019 £
Depreciation of owned fixed tangible assets	119,534	128,772
Operating lease rentals	4,774	4,608
(Profit)/loss on disposal of fixed tangible assets	(700)	5,208
Amortisation of capital grant	(33,256)	(37,658)
Fees payable net of VAT to RSM UK Audit LLP and its associates in res audit services as are follows:	pect of both a 2020 £	udit and non- 2019 £
Audit services – statutory audit of trust and consolidated accounts	17,000	11,612
Other services:		
Audit services – statutory audit of associates of the Trust company	1,500	1,115
Taxation compliance service	1,800	2,446
All other non-audit services	11,500	8,666
	31,800	23,839

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

14. Fixed tangible assets

Group	Land and buildings £	Heritage assets £	Motor vehicles £	Tools and equipment £	Fixtures fittings and computers £	Livestock £	Total £
Cost/Valuation	_	_	_	-	-	-	_
1 April 2019	1,410,015	1,938,627	301,104	217,988	309,758	39,330	4,216,822
Additions	-	-	•	21,678	21,641	•	43,319
Disposals	-	•	-		(8,764)	• •	(8,764)
Revaluation	•	-	•	-	•	(5,850)	(5,850)
31 March 2020	1,410,015	1,938,627	301,104	239,666	322,635	33,480	4,245,527
Depreciation							
1 April 2019	201,318	6,041	204,046	184,460	271,435	-	867,300
Charge for the year	49,550	•	37,533	16,039	16,412	-	119,534
Disposal	-	•	-		(8,764)	-	(8,764)
31 March 2020	250,868	6,041	241,579	200,499	279,083	-	978,070
Net book value							
31 March 2020	1,159,147	1,932,586	59,525	39,167	43,552	33,480	3,267,457
31 March 2019	1,208,697	1,932,586	97,058	33,528	38,323	39,330	3,349,522

Livestock is valued at their fair value at 31 March 2020 by the Trustees.

Included in land and buildings above, is freehold land and buildings with a net book value at 31 March 2020 of £236,146 (2019: £239,916) and long leasehold buildings with a net book value at 31 March 2020 of £923,001 (2019: £968,781).

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

14. Fixed tangible assets (continued)

Trust	Land and buildings £	Heritage assets £	Motor vehicles £	Tools and equipment	Fixtures fittings and computers £	Livestock £	Total £
Cost/Valuation							
1 April 2019	1,410,015	1,938,627	113,886	217,988	268,177	39,330	3,988,023
Additions	· · · -	· · · -	· -	21,678	11,336	· -	33,014
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	· -	(5,850)	(5,850)
31 March 2020	1,410,015	1,938,627	113,886	239,666	279,513	33,480	4,015,187
Depredation							
1 April 2019	201,318	6,041	94,436	184,460	243,314	-	729,569
Charge for the year	49,550	•	9,100	16,039	10,547	-	85,236
31 March 2020	250,868	6,041	103,536	200,499	253,861		814,805
Net book value				<u></u>			
31 March 2020	1,159,147	1,932,586	10,350	39,167	25,652	33,480	3,200,382
31 March 2019	1,208,697	1,932,586	19,450	33,528	24,863	39,330	3,258,454

Livestock is valued at their fair value at 31 March 2020 by the $\dot{\text{Trustees}}.$

Included in land and buildings above, is freehold land and buildings with a net book value at 31 March 2020 of £236,146 (2019: £239,916) and long leasehold buildings with a net book value at 31 March 2020 of £923,001 (2019: £968,781).

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

14. Fixed tangible assets (continued)

Five year financial summary of heritage asset transactions:

Group and Trust

Additions	£
2019 – 2020	-
2018 - 2019	18,000
2017 - 2018	-
2016 - 2017	,
2015 - 2016	54.481
	- 4

Heritage assets represent the Trust's nature reserves, and are maintained in accordance with the Trust's charitable objectives and stated Development Strategy, which include public access and educational purposes. The Trust continually seeks to expand its portfolio of nature reserves, in line with the above and following its acquisition policy. The nature reserves are an essential part of the Trust's work and consequently it is not the Trust's policy to dispose of any.

Included in the additions for the year ended 31 March 2016 was a donation of land valued at £47,000. There were no disposals or other donated assets in the above 6 years.

15. Fixed asset investments

	Group		T	rust
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Shares in Leicestershire Wildlife				
(Sales) Limited	-	-	100	100
Listed shares and other securities	178,707	192,473	178,707	192,473
Investment properties	543,228	543,228	543,228	543,228
	721,935	735,701	722,035	735,801
				

Investment in trading subsidiary

The investment In Leicestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited (company number 02347573), a company incorporated in the UK, represents a 100% holding of the trading subsidiary's share capital. The company's registered office is at The Old Mill, 9 Soar Lane, Leicester, LE3 5DE. Leicestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited undertakes nature conservation contracts and wildlife consultancy, together with its retailing operations and the running of the annual Birdfair at Rutland Water. The trading company donates its taxable profit to the Trust. A summary of its trading results is shown below.

	2020 £	2019 £
Profit and loss account	_	_
Turnover	1,336,263	1,389,470
Expenditure	(1,339,962)	(1,359,262)
Interest receivable	800	765
Interest payable	(121)	-
(Loss)/profit before taxation	(3,020)	30,973
Taxation		(5,397)
(Loss)/profit for the year	(3,020)	25,576

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

15. Fixed asset investments (continued)

the back investments (continues)	2020 £	2019 £
Balance sheet	_	_
Fixed and current assets	420,732	583,781
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(424,795)	(557,924)
Total net (liabilities)/assets	(4,063)	25,857
Capital and reserves	2020	2019
	£	£
Called up share capital	100	100
Profit and loss account	(4,163)	25,757
Total equity	(4,063)	25,857
Listed shares and other securities Investments in quoted companies are stated at market value.		£
Value at 1 April 2019		192,473
Additions		23,532
Disposals		(17,667)
Fair value revaluation		(19,631)
Value at 31 March 2020		178,707

The fair value revaluation movement of £19,631 includes £2,392 which relates to the movement on the actual cash held at bank by the brokers that is included in the listed shares and other securities of £178,707 (2019: £192,473).

Historical cost of shares held at 31 March 2020 is £167,368 (2019: £162,304).

All quoted investments are UK investments and are held to provide an investment return.

The following investments each exceed 5% of the total value of share investments:	%
UK Government 4,125% Index Linked Stock	5.50
UK Government 2% Gilt	5.24
Maitland Insti Select Managers Bond	6.26
JP Morgan AM UK Ltd US Equity Inc	9.74
Merian Investment Management	5.06
Jupiter UT Managers Ecology Inc	5.88
Impax Enviro Markets	7.32
Finsbury Income Trust	5.35

Investment properties

The Group's and Trust's investment properties comprise buildings and related land at or near Charnwood Lodge Nature Reserve, and part of The Old Mill, 9 Soar Lane, Leicester which is leased to a third party.

£

Balance at 31 March 2020 and 31 March 2019

543,228

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

15. Fixed asset investments (continued)

The buildings and related land at or near Charnwood Lodge Nature Reserve were revalued at £440,000 by Mather Jamie, Chartered Surveyors, as at 31 March 2017. The Trustees are of the opinion that the fair value has not materially changed at the balance sheet date.

The part of the property at the Old Mill, Soar Lane, Leicester which is leased out and treated as an investment property was revalued at a fair value of £100,000 by Mather Jamie, Chartered Surveyors, as at 31 March 2016. The Trustees are of the opinion that the fair value has not materially changed at the balance sheet date.

The historical cost of the investment properties is £181,183 (2019: £181,183).

The Revaluation Reserve of £473,385 (2019: £492,214) included in Designated Funds within the Balance Sheet arises from the year-end revaluations of investment properties and investments, less their historical costs.

Other Investment

The Trust, along with six other Wildlife Trusts, has established Wildlife Fundraising (Central) Limited (company number 08372218), a company limited by guarantee. This company undertakes membership recruitment for the seven Wildlife Trusts involved. As a member of the company, the Trust's liabilities are limited to £1, being the amount that each member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up. The Trust, in common with the other participating Trusts, has also contributed loan finance to the company. This is reflected in the debtors figure for both the Trust and the Group (see Note 17) and is described further in Note 28, Related Party Transactions.

16.	Stock	Gı	roup	1	rust
		2020	2019	2020	2019
		£	£	£	£
	Shop stock	5,437	18,673	-	-
	Birdfair stock	1,585	8,371	-	•
		7,022	27,044		

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

17. Debtors

Gro	oup T		Trust	
2020	2019	2020	2019	
£	£	£	£	
61,083	199,911	37,939 ·	38,304	
-	-	26,100	-	
49,442	33,304	49,442	33,304	
10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	
70,215	80,373	53,764	25,410	
190,740	323,588	177,245	107,018	
	2020 £ 61,083 - 49,442 10,000 70,215	£ £ 61,083 199,911 49,442 33,304 10,000 10,000 70,215 80,373	2020 2019 £ £ £ 61,083 199,911 37,939 26,100 49,442 33,304 49,442 10,000 10,000 10,000 70,215 80,373 53,764	

The debtor from Wildlife Fundraising (Central) Limited represents a loan to that company of £10,000 (2019: £10,000) which is repayable on demand. This is explained further in Note 28 - Related Party Transactions.

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

·	Gr	oup	T	Trust	
	2020 £	2019 £	2020 £	2019 £	
Trade creditors Amounts owed to Leicestershire	75,072	50,497	64,301	37,852	
Wildlife (Sales) Limited	-	•	-	994	
Other taxation and social security	16,773	•	11,762	-	
Corporation tax	•	5,397	-	-	
Accruals and deferred income	437,904	585,331	54,991	45,379	
	529,749	641,225	131,054	84,225	
Deferred income					
Deferred income at 1 April 2019	428,150	505,403	-	1,300	
Resources deferred in the year	50,011	428,150	814	•	
Amounts released from previous years	(385,650)	(505,403)	-	(1,300)	
Deferred income at 31 March 2020	92,511	428,150	814		

The deferred income relates to advances with respect to the 2021 Birdfair, consultancy fees and rent received in advance.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

19. Financial instruments

	G	Group		Trust	
	2020 £	2019 £	2020 £	2019	
Financial assets				_	
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost Equity instruments measured at cost	109,903	277,817	110,454	104,746	
less impairment Instruments measured at fair value	-	-	100	100	
through statement of financial activities	178,707	192,473	178,707	192,473	
•	288,610	470,290	289,261	297,319	
Financial liabilities Debt instruments measured at					
amortised cost	412,333	191,288	109,347	67,835	

20. Pension contributions

The Trust currently operates two schemes:

- (a) a Stakeholder defined contribution scheme operated by Standard Life and available to all staff. Pension contributions for the year were £65,730 (2019: £68,703): and
- (b) The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme, which is described in detail below.

The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme

The Trust, together with a number of other employers, participates in the defined benefit section of The Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme (the Scheme). Capita Hartshead administers the Scheme and its assets, which are held separately from those of the Trust. Due to the nature of the Scheme, it was previously not possible to identify the share of underlying assets and liabilities belonging to the individual participating employers. However, for the financial years on and after 31 March 2020 sufficient information is available to account for its obligations on a defined benefit basis. The Trust has early adopted the amendments made to FRS 102 in May 2019 to account for the pension scheme on defined basis.

The liabilities set out in this note have been calculated based on the preliminary results of the full Scheme Funding Assessment as at 31 March 2019, updated to 31 March 2020. The present value of the defined benefit obligation was measured using the projected unit credit method. The Employers have agreed a funding plan with the Trustees, whereby contributions are made into the Scheme in order to remove the funding deficit based on each Employer's share of the total Scheme liabilities, calculated by the Scheme Actuary as at the most recent Scheme Funding Assessment (currently, 31 March 2019). The disclosures set out below are based on calculations carried out as at 31 March 2020 by an independent qualified actuary.

The contribution payable by the Trust to Scheme for the year was £54,744 (2019: £50,194).

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

20. Pension contributions (continued)

Pension liability

The balance is made up as follows:

	£
Balance brought forward	442,528
Releases of 2018/19 pension deficit	(442,528)
New opening net pension deficit	172,733
Administration costs	7,434
Net interest	3,580
Employer contributions	(54,744)
Actuarial gain	(23,030)
Return on assets	29,209
Balance carried forward	135,182

The principal assumptions used in the calculations of the valuation of the plan assets and the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	2020	2019	
	%	%	
Discount rate	2.25	2.40	
Future expected rate of increase of pensions	1.70	1.70	
Future expected rate of increase in salaries (RPI)	2.70	3.45	
Post-retirement mortality	1.25	1.25	

Mortality assumptions

The average life expectancy for a pensioner retiring at 65 on the reporting date is:

	2020 Years	2019 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	22.5	22.4
- Females	24.8	24.7
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	23.9	23.8
- Females	26.2	26.2

Amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in respect of the defined benefit scheme are as follows:

	2020 £
Current service cost Administration expenses Net Interest on defined benefit liabilities	7,434 3,580
Amounts charge to net income/(expenditure)	11,014

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

20. Pension contributions (continued)

		2020
Actuarial gain Return on assets		23,030 (29,209)
Net loss in the year Net gain on transition at 1 April 2019		(6,179) 269,795
Other recognised gains/(losses)		263,616
The amounts included in the Balance Sheet arising from the Tridefined benefit plans are as follows:	ust's obligation	ns in respect of
	2020 £	2019 £
Present value of defined benefit obligations Fair value of plan assets	(1,047,778) 912,596	(1,081,895) 909,162
Deficit in scheme	(135,182)	(172,733)
Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations:		£
Liabilities at 1 April 2019		_
Administration costs		1,081,895 7,434
Interest cost		25,528
Benefits paid		(44,049)
Actuarial gain		(23,030)
Liabilities at 31 March 2020		1,047,778
Movements in the fair value of plan assets:		£
Fair value of assets at 1 April 2019		909,162
Interest income		21,948
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net interest)		(29,209)
Benefits paid		(44,049)
Contributions by the employer		54,744
Fair value of assets at 31 March 2020		912,596
The charity's share of the scheme assets at the reporting date wer	e as follows:	
	2020 £	2019 £
Equity instruments	444,434	486,402
Bonds	419,794	388,212
Property	22,815	22,729
Cash	25,553	. 11,819
Total fair value of assets	912,596	909,162

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

21. Commitments under operating leases

Group and Trust as a lessee

The total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases are as follows:

	Gro	up	Tr	ust
	2020	2019	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Within one year	4,584	4,051	836	195
Within 2-5 years	6,424	5,660	2,925	-
	11,008	9,711	3,761	195

Group and Trust as lessor

At the year end, the Group and Trust had contracted with tenants, under non-cancellable operating leases, for the following future minimum lease payments:

2020	2019
£	£
16,500	16,500
18,600	27,900
35,100	44,400
	16,500 18,600

The operating leases represent leases of three properties to third parties. One of the properties is being let on a one year rolling lease and the other two properties are let on a fixed rental over 5-7 years.

22. Capital commitments

Group and Trust

Amounts contracted for but not provided in the financial statements:

	Group		Trust	
	2020	2020 2019	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	240,000	-	240,000	-

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

23.	Restricted funds	Balance at 1/4/19 £		Expenditure £	Transfer £	Balance at 31/3/20 £
	Rutland Water	71,539	52,566	(E2 221)	(2.225)	60 E40
	Rutland Osprey Project	25,211		(52,331)	(2,225)	
			6,390	(15,705)	-	15,896
	Sponsor a Cow	9,013	5,418	(2,202)	-	12,229
	Charnwood Woodland	18,182	340.000	- (E0E)	•	18,182
	Holwell Nature Reserve Rutland Water Volunteer	15,798	240,000	(505)	-	255,293
	Training Centre	E 421	11 671	(77.220)	4 276	1.40
	Charnwood Forest Living	6,431	11,671	(22,330)	4,376	148
	Landscape Project	4,937	22 600	(20.020)	(1.000)	7.607
	Cloud Wood Local Group	9,925	32,689	(28,929)	(1,000)	
	Launde Woods	6,175	2,256 4,126	(935)	-	11,246
	Fox Wood	990	4,120	(307)	-	9,994 174
	Trainee Reserves Officer Schem		-	(816)	(E00)	
	Grow Wild		107.600	(3,690)	(500)	8,312
	Forest School – People's Postco	2,000	107,699	(103,041)	(6,000)	658
	Lottery		フォ こうり	(74.207)		00 504
	Mountsorrel and Rothley Marsh	88,411 es 28,782	74,570	(74,397)	/E00\	88,584
			•	(2.000)	(500)	
	Badger vaccination program National Forest – Black to Green	3,403	-	(3,000)	(6)	403
	Charnwood Wildflower	2,645	-	-	(6)	2,639
	Meadows Project	18, 94 5	8,997		(18,994)	8,948
	Cossington Meadows	166	2,600	_	(10,557)	2,766
	Samworth Foundation	2,546	2,000	(2,552)	6	2,700
	Nature Reserves Fighting Fund	2,530	_	(664)		1,866
	Capacity Building Fund	40,669	_	(17,122)	_	23,547
	Fresh Air Think Tank / Grand Id		_	(4,012)	(4,376)	1,598
	Go Wild/Melton Building Society		_	(737)	(861)	1,230
	Rutland Water Trainee	1,330	_	(737)	(301)	_
	Reserve Office scheme	8,250	5,000	_	_	13,250
	Wider Countryside	27,603	33,549	(3,664)	(2,500)	54,988
	CF Urban Jungle	27,005	2,500	(945)	(300)	1,255
	Battersby Watson re Charnwood	f	2,300	(313)	(500)	1,233
	And Rutland		25,000	_	_	25,000
	Time in Nature Dementia Adven	ture -	5,543	(1,683)	(600)	3,260
	Rutland Logs Woodland Fund	-	2,287	(2,000)	680	2,967
	Other funds	25,185	19,356	(9,997)	(5,154)	
	Land held with restricted funds		-	(1,678)		1,058,645
	Fixed assets held with	_,000,000		(2,0.0)		1,000,11
	Restricted funds	758,079	-	(57,882)	19,494	719,691
	Total – Trust only	2,261,824	642,217	(409,124)	(18,460)	2,476,457
	Anglian Water ~ Leicestershire					
	Wildlife Sales Limited	_	350,841	(350,841)	ē	_
	Birdfair	_	•	(848,684)	•	-
			848,684			
	Total – Group	2,261,824	1,841,742	(1,608,649)	(18,460)	2,476,457

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

23. Restricted funds (continued)

Expenditure on capital assets is included in fixed assets and depreciated over the life of the asset in accordance with the accounting policies. The depreciation is set off against the restricted funds when it is recognised in the accounts.

See note 26 for the split of fixed assets held within the above restricted funds.

The transfers were with respect to the movement between restricted funds and the allocation of staff costs and overheads permitted against certain restricted funds.

Definitions of restricted funds:

Group and Trust

- Rutland Water: Funds for nature conservation at Rutland Water Nature Reserve.
- Rutland Osprey Project: Funds to establish and maintain a breeding population of Ospreys in and around Rutland Water Nature Reserve.
- Sponsor a Cow: Funds to support the work of the Trust's conservation grazing cattle.
- Charnwood Woodland: Funds for woodland nature reserve work in Charnwood.
- Holwell Nature Reserve: Funds to support the management of the Holwell group of nature reserves, and for the acquisition of new land.
- Rutland Water Volunteer Training Centre: To provide a much needed facility, fit for purpose, to support and train volunteers and staff in conservation heritage and countryside skills.
- Charnwood Forest Living Landscape Project: To work with local people, farmers and landowners to restore nature across extensive areas of Charnwood Forest.
- Cloud Wood Local Group: To support volunteer activity and habitat management at Cloud Wood.
- Launde Woods: Woodland restoration work in Launde Big Wood and Launde Park Wood.
- Fox Wood: Funds to support the management of Fox Wood Nature Reserve.
- Trainee Reserves Officer Scheme: Funds to support a Trainee Reserves Officer scheme in Leicester.
- Grow Wild: Wildlife gardening service supporting schools, community groups and other notfor-profit organisations to make the most of their outdoor spaces for both people and wildlife.
- Forest School People's Postcode Lottery: Funds to support Forest School activities and initiatives.
- Mountsorrel and Rothley Marshes: Funds for habitat creation, restoration and management work at Mountsorrel and Rothley Marshes nature reserve.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

23. Restricted funds (continued)

- Badger vaccination programme: Five-year programme vaccinating healthy badgers against bovine TB on Trust nature reserves.
- National Forest Black to Green: Project to connect people with landscape change in the Heart of the Forest area.
- Charnwood Wildflower Meadows Project: Funds for purchase of large machinery which will enable management of wildflower meadows.
- Cossington Meadows: Funds for habitat creation, enhancement and management at Cossington Meadows nature reserve.
- Samworth Foundation: Funds to support volunteer engagement and development with young people and wildlife recording and monitoring.
- Nature Reserves Fighting Fund: Funds to acquire land and create new refuges for wildlife.
- Capacity Building Fund: Funds to build operational capacity, Including funding and communications.
- Shallow Water Hide: Funds to upgrade Shallow Water Hide at Rutland Water Nature Reserve.
- Fresh Air Think Tank / Grand Ideas: Funds to support local youth-led environmental projects.
- Go Wild / Melton Building Society: Funds to support opportunities for outdoor learning in local primary schools to broaden knowledge of the natural world.
- Rutland Water Trainee Reserve Officer scheme: Funds to support the Trainee Reserve Officer scheme at Rutland Water Nature Reserve.
- Wider Countryside: Funds to support nature conservation projects and initiatives in the wider countryside of Leicestershire & Rutland.
- CF Urban Jungle: Funds to support expansion of Forest School delivery into key sectors of Leicester's inner city population.
- Battersby Watson re Charnwood and Rutland: Funds to support nature conservation projects split between Charnwood Forest and Rutland.
- Time in Nature Dementia Adventure: Funds for facilitated events at Rutland Water Nature Reserve that help support those suffering from Dementia and their carers.
- Rutland Logs Woodland Fund: Funds to support training on charcoal-making and associated, skills.
- Other restricted funds: Miscellaneous funds for various nature conservation work.

Group only

- Anglian Water Leicestershire Wildlife Sales Limited: Management of Rutland Water Nature Reserve.
- Birdfair: Funds related to the annual Birdfair held at Rutland Water Nature Reserve every August.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

24. Unrestricted funds

Balance at 1/4/19 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Revaluation Movement £	Other Recognised Gains/(losses) £	Transfers , £	Balance at 31/3/20
317,965	867,456	(919,559)	-	257,766	(241,540)	282,088
red 1,285,879	-	(14,162)	-	-	•.	1,271,717
908,786 50,939 14,104	40,072 - -	(38,590) (11,014) (6,058)	(17,239 - -	· - -	160,000 100,000 -	1,053,029 139,925 8,046
2,259,708	40,072	(69,824)	(17,239)		260,000	2,472,717
2,577,673	907,528	(989,383)	(17,239)	257,766	18,460	2,754,805
	1/4/19 £ 317,965 ked 1,285,879 908,786 50,939 14,104 2,259,708	1/4/19	1/4/19	1/4/19	Balance at 1/4/19 E Income £ Expenditure £ Revaluation Movement £ Recognised Gains/(losses) £ 317,965 867,456 (919,559) - 257,766 ced 1,285,879 - (14,162) - - 908,786 40,072 (38,590) (17,239) - 50,939 - (11,014) - - 14,104 - (6,058) - - 2,259,708 40,072 (69,824) (17,239) -	Balance at 1/4/19 Income £ Expenditure £ Revaluation Movement £ Recognised Gains/(losses) £ Transfers £ 317,965 867,456 (919,559) - 257,766 (241,540) ced 1,285,879 - (14,162) - - - - 908,786 40,072 (38,590) (17,239) - 160,000 - 100,000 -

With the exception of the Accumulated Charitable Fund which holds all the Group's unrestricted funds which have not been designated, the above represents designated funds, being financial reserves earmarked to meet specific aspects of the Group's objects.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

24. Unrestricted funds (continued)

ourestricted luitus (condinuea)	Balance at 1/4/19	Income	Expenditure	Revaluation Movement	Other Recognised Gains/(losses)	Transfers	Balance at 31/3/20
Trust only	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Accumulated Charitable Fund	292,208	860,913	(883,121)	-	257,766	(241,540)	286,226
Designated funds:							
 Heritage assets and other related fix assets 	ed 1,285,879	-	(14,162)	-	-		1,271,717
- Trust development fund - Pension costs fund - Fixed asset depreciation fund - Fixed asset depreciation fund - Fixed asset depreciation fund	908,786 50,939 14,104	40,072 - -	(38,590) (11,014) (6,058)	(17,239	- - -	160,000 100,000	1,053,029 139,925 8,046
	2,259,708	40,072	(69,824)	(17,239	-	260,000	2,472,717
	2,551,916	900,985	(952,945)	(17,239	257,766	18,460	2,758,943

With the exception of the Accumulated Charitable Fund which holds all the Trust's unrestricted funds which have not been designated, the above represents designated funds, being financial reserves earmarked to meet specific aspects of the Trust's objects.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

24. Unrestricted funds (continued)

The Designated Funds, which are further described in detail in the Report of the Council, have the following purposes:

Trust development fund: This fund comprises assets which may be used to provide financial resources towards projects furthering the Trust's charitable objects, or key operational requirements for the Trust's long-term development. This could include: land acquisition for nature reserves; land and/or property acquisition to allow the Trust to carry out its work effectively; maintenance and enhancement work on existing nature reserves; education projects; advocacy work; operational support.

At the year-end, the balance on this fund was made up as follows:

	2020	2019
	£′000	£′000
Investment properties	543	543
Investments	179	193
Other current assets	331	173
	1,053	909

Heritage assets and other related fixed assets: This fund identifies those assets comprising or relating to nature reserves, or other property forming an integral part of the Trust's operating requirements, which lie within the Trust's overall unrestricted funds.

Pension costs fund: To help provide against increases, arising from periodic actuarial revaluations of the defined benefit section of the Wildlife Trusts Pension Scheme, in the Trust's overall liability towards eliminating the deficit on that Scheme (see note 20).

Fixed asset depreciation fund: To finance the depreciation on specific items of strategic capital expenditure.

25. Transfer between funds

Where individual restricted funds have been used during the year for capital expenditure with a restricted purpose, this expenditure has been transferred into specific funds representing all such restricted land held and all such restricted fixed assets, as appropriate. The resulting balances on the individual restricted funds (shown in note 23) are thus a clearer reflection of the resources available to the Trust for expenditure within each fund.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

26. Analysis of net assets between funds

Group Fund balance at 31 March 2020 are represented by:	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	Accumulated Charitable fund £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets and heritage assets Investments Net current assets Defined benefit pension scheme liability	1,778,336 - 698,121	1,279,966 721,935 470,816	209,155 - 208,115 (135,182)	3,267,457 721,935 1,377,052 (135,182) :
,	2,476,457	2,472,717	282,088	5,231,262
Trust Fund balance at 31 March 2020 are represented by:	Restricted funds £	Designated funds £	Accumulated Charitable fund £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets and heritage assets Investments Net current assets Defined benefit pension scheme	1,778,336 - 698,121	1,279,966 722,035 470,716	142,080 - 279,328	3,200,382 722,035 1,448,165

27. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2020 £	2019 £
Net income for the reporting year Adjustments for:	133,999	9,513
Depreciation charges	119,534	128,772
Net losses/(gains) on investments	19,631	(3,449)
Dividends, interest and rent from investments	(38,062)	(34,503)
Interest payable	121	•
(Profit)/loss on sale of tangible fixed assets	(700)	5,208
Taxation charge	•	5,397
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(54,744)	(11,493)
Pension finance charges and administration costs	11,014	•
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	20,022	(5,976).
Decrease in debtors	132,848	96,363
(Decrease) in creditors	(106,079)	(67,034)
Net cash provided by operating activities	237,584	122,798

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

28. Council of trustees

The Trustees referred to in the information to the accounts constitute the directors of the company.

29. Related party transactions

During the year, the Trust recharged management charges and certain expenses to its trading subsidiary Leicestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited amounting to £138,441 (2019: £127,052) and purchased goods amounting to £1,616 (2019: £1,581). It also received a gift aid donation from Leicestershire Wildlife (Sales) Limited amounting to £26,900 (2019: £28,869). At the year end, the Trust was owed £26,100 (2019: £994 owed).

The Trust, in participation with six other Wildlife Trusts, has established Wildlife Fundralsing (Central) Limited ("WFCL"), which provides membership recruitment services to those Wildlife Trusts. In common with the other participating Trusts, the Trust has also contributed loan finance to the company and, at the year-end, the balance of this loan stood at £10,000 (2019: £10,000). The loan pays interest of 3% above the Cooperative Bank plc base lending rate. Under the terms of the agreement with WFCL, the Trust has, from 28 January 2016, been able to require repayment of this loan, although it has not yet chosen to do so.

During the year, the Trust was charged £105,221 (2019: £63,494) by WFCL for its recruitment services. The creditors figure (note 18) at 31 March 2020 includes an amount of £24,587 (2019: £8,691) owed to that company.

Also during the year, the Trust received a donation totalling £240,000 (2019: £nil) from a trustee.

NOTES FORMING PART OF THE GROUP FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020 CONTINUED

30. Comparative group statement of financial activities (including the group income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 March 2019

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds	Total £
Income from:	_	_	_
Donations and legacies Charitable activities Other trading activities Investments	610,957 159,121 82,794 34,503	174,659 1,555,984 -	785,616 1,715,105 82,794 34,503
Total	887,375	1,730,643	2,618,018
Expenditure on:			
Raising funds: Costs of generating members subscriptions/voluntary income Cost of goods sold and other costs	144,629 70,148	-	144,629 70,148
Investment management fees Charitable activities	2,640 655,450	1,733,445	2,640 2,388,895
Taxation charge	5,397	-	5,397
Total	878,264	1,733,445	2,611,709
Net gains on investments	3,204	-	3,204
Net income/(expenditure)	12,315	(2,802)	9,513
Gross transfers between funds	37,649	(37,649)	-
Net income/(expenditure) before Other recognised gains and losses	49,964	(40,451)	9,513
Other recognised losses			
Gains on revaluation of fixed assets	2,090	-	2,090
Net movement in funds	52,054	(40,451)	11,603