

REGISTERED NUMBER: 729746 (England and Wales)

Financial Statements

for the year ended

31 March 2011

for

Shropshire Wildlife Trust

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for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

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Shropshire Wildlife Trust
(a Company limited by guarantee)

Company Information
for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

TRUSTEES AND DIRECTORS

All members of the Council of trustees
are directors of the company

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Director
Development Manager
Conservation Manager
People and wildlife Manager
Finance Manager

Colin Preston
John Hughes
Jan Mckelvey
Helen Trotman
Helen Gilmour

REGISTERED OFFICE:

193 Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6AH

REGISTERED NUMBER:

729746

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER:

212744

AUDITORS:

Nicklin LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Church Court
Stourbridge Road
Halesowen
West Midlands
B63 3TT

BANKERS:

HSBC
33 High Street
Shrewsbury
SY1 1SL

SOLICITORS:

Turnbull Garrard
24 The Crescent
Town Walls
Shrewsbury
SY1 1TJ

Shropshire Wildlife Trust
(a Company limited by guarantee)

Report of the Board of Directors
for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

The directors and trustees have pleasure in presenting their Report together with the audited accounts of the company for the year ended 31 March 2011. Shropshire Wildlife Trust is a registered charity number 212744 and is a company limited by guarantee. The company number is 729746 and it is registered in England.

THE TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Shropshire Wildlife Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' 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 of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for the year. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently,
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP,
- make judgements and 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,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which 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 hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

GOVERNING DOCUMENT

The company is governed by Memorandum and Articles of Association, and was incorporated as a company limited by guarantee on 12th July 1962.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The principal activity of the company in the year under review was that of a wildlife charity. The major objects of the company are

For the public benefit to safeguard and enhance biodiversity (meaning the variety of life in all its forms, levels and combinations, including ecosystem diversity, species diversity and genetic diversity), and sustainability (meaning to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs) and in particular

- 1 to undertake and promote the conservation of wildlife species and their habitats including the maintenance, restoration and creation of such habitats,
- 2 to promote public understanding of, support of and involvement with the natural world, and
- 3 to advance knowledge by research and recording

Shropshire Wildlife Trust has a vision of an environment rich in wildlife for everyone. Its mission is to rebuild biodiversity and engage people with their environment. Our aim is to be the most active and influential wildlife champion.

Our OBJECTIVES are.

To stand up for wildlife and the environment
To create and enhance wildlife havens
To inspire people about the natural world
To foster sustainable living

Underpinned by operational objectives:-

To be widely recognised and respected for our role and work
To grow our resources for action and advocacy
To co-operate effectively throughout the Wildlife Trust movement

OVERVIEW

The past year has been a time of significant change. Financial pressures have been experienced and external organisations that have traditionally worked closely with the Trust, particularly those in the public sector, have seen unsettling disruption and a reduction in size and capacity. This has had a knock on effect, increasing demands placed on the organisation in terms of public queries, resource pressures and operational opportunities and threats.

Pressures on the wildlife of Shropshire continue to grow as indicated through survey and research activity on Wildlife Sites and selected farmland birds. The Trust has evidence that Wildlife Sites (sites of county importance for wildlife) continue to disappear at around 2% per annum and well over 25% are declining in quality. The farmland bird survey results indicate depressing trends showing that lapwing, curlew and snipe, while still surviving on Trust managed sites, are on a downward spiral that could see their extinction as breeding birds in the county within the next five years.

The need for the living landscape approach to retain, restore and recreate large areas of high quality habitat accessible to wildlife and people as advocated by The Wildlife Trusts has never been so essential and urgent.

A living landscape

Despite alarming trends, significant advances have been achieved. The acquisition of Catherton Common has helped stabilise habitat decline around the Titterstone Cleve Hill and has received warm support and interest from surrounding landowners and community interests. The Trust has been instrumental in helping to form the Cleve Hill Partnership that has aspirations to improve the management and community engagement on Cleve Hill Common and its surroundings.

At the opposite end of the county a huge shot in the arm was received when the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) agreed, subject to final business plan approval, to support a five year programme within the Meres and Mosses. Working with partners, the project will raise the profile of the area and better protect many of the unique species and habitats that are found in this part of north Shropshire and its borders.

With support from the Shifting Sands project, HLF and the Northern Marches Leader Local Action Group a community Meres and Mosses Day incorporating the Trust's Annual General Meeting was held at Ellesmere College and over 100 members enjoyed the chance to discover the wonderful wildlife of this special landscape. Excursions were arranged to explore the area on foot, by boat and trailer ride. Creative activities for families were provided at Wood Lane nature reserve.

A two year project in the Oswestry Hills on both sides of the English/Welsh border has received funding (from Heritage Lottery Fund on the Shropshire side) focusing on key butterfly habitats and species, including pearl bordered fritillaries. We will be working with Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust and Butterfly Conservation.

Funding from the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership Leader Local Action Group has supported the implementation of management works on The Hollies nature reserve, further ecological survey work and new access routes at Catherton Common, a survey of the veteran trees at Brook Vessons and a new cattle crush for Rhos Fiddle. Interpretation and restoration work at Blakemoorgate has been carried out as part of the Once upon a hill project and woodland sculptures were commissioned at The Ercall.

Continued efforts are being made on the River Severn which along most of its length in Shropshire is of Wildlife Site status. Working in partnership with the Wildlife Trusts along its course from its source in the Welsh hills to the Severn Estuary, a coordinated programme of works is emerging. Habitat creation, incorporating pools and scrapes, at Holly Banks nature reserve near the confluence of the Severn and Vyrnwy, was carried out by the Environment Agency.

The Lapwing Meadows project, a joint venture with Natural England, Environment Agency and the RSPB, completed its final phase this year and exceeded its targets by creating over 50ha new wetland and improving the condition of 250ha of existing wet grassland for waders. At least 10 new Higher Level Scheme applications were prepared for submission to Natural England and several well attended training events were held for local farmers and landowners on the Weald Moors north of Telford and at Baggy Moor south of Ellesmere.

Keeping the unique green network of the Telford and Wrekin area intact is a challenging priority. We have continued negotiations with the Borough of Telford & Wrekin to formalise a joint working arrangement to manage their Wildlife Sites and have come close to agreeing terms to take over management of Lightmoor Wildlife Site.

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Report of the Board of Directors (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

The Trust has campaigned successfully for the extension of Granville Local Nature Reserve and has provided the Secretariat for the Wrekin Forest Partnership and has coordinated volunteer and interpretation activity in the Wrekin Forest with support from Shropshire Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund and Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership Leader Local Area Group. There were improvements to geological interpretation as well as many well attended events such as the popular horse-logging days.

We received support from members of The Business Environmental Support Scheme for Telford (BESST) network and the newly formed Telford Wildlife Forum has its 2011 programme of events generously sponsored by Ricoh UK Products.

Standing up for wildlife

Considerable emphasis is placed on regional and national working within the Wildlife Trust movement to support and influence issues such as housing and development targets and the ongoing campaign to protect the marine environment. This year has seen close working with Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust with shared staff and resources.

The Wildlife Trusts as a movement have been involved with the pending Natural Environment White Paper. It is hoped that this will provide a framework to reverse many of the negative trends which have resulted in habitat and species decline. We were encouraged by Professor John Lawton's speech at the West Midlands Biodiversity Conference when the author of the advisory report underpinning the White Paper declared the need for The Wildlife Trusts to take the lead in habitat restoration.

Shropshire Wildlife Trust was active in opposing the proposal to sell off the Forestry Commission estate which would have affected key sites such as Eastridge Forest, Haughmond Hill, Mortimer Forest and the Wyre Forest. By holding public meetings and web consultations the Trust has helped to coordinate a strong Shropshire response in terms of protecting these woodlands for wildlife and people alike.

The Government announcement to include Wildlife Sites as a statutory measure requiring monitoring by local authorities is welcomed. As noted above, trends have been monitored using slender resources; it is hoped in the coming year that more direct help for Wildlife Site owners can be provided.

People and wildlife

Without the efforts and commitment of over 400 regular volunteers the Trust could not achieve a large proportion of its activities. The support of over 10,000 members gives a strong voice to our campaigns.

The Trust is reliant on the energy and efforts of its Branches and affiliated groups that now number 13 and are spread throughout the county. The Friends of Pontesford Hill was particularly active in fundraising to secure the lease of Pontesford Hill adjacent to Earls Hill nature reserve. Despite raising a considerable sum of money acquisition was not possible, but the Trust and Friends are now working with the new owner.

The Branches help to promote our message and raise vital funds; members of the Ludlow Branch (Jane Cullen, Tricia Steynor and Anne Hunter) organised the High Variety evening where proceeds of £1,418 were divided between Whitcliffe Common and Catherton Common and the £548 income from the Oswestry Hills Seven Wonders walk was split between Severn Hospice and the Trust. It is hoped to make the latter an annual event.

Whitchurch Branch received a grant from the Big Lottery Fund Awards for All programme to manage Greenfields Local Nature Reserve and the Water Vole group received a grant for training from the Clive Tate Fund.

Over 150,000 visits were made to our nature reserves, 22,000 people visited our visitor centre in Shrewsbury. In 2011 the Trust ran the Darwin Festival which, along with other Trust events in February half-term week, attracted 2,000 people. The Telford Access to Nature programme ran 30 environmental arts events for over 1,000 individuals. This year the number of families engaged in Trust activity showed an increase of 450%.

Corporate volunteering days have been very popular this year and are supported by regular volunteers in particular Pete McKeon and Peter Taylor, as well as the Wrekin Forest volunteers.

The Carillion Natural Habitats Fund enabled us to improve habitats at Dawson's Rough in Shawbury and Wood Lane for dragonflies in conjunction with Carillion and RAF Shawbury staff; we also provided environmental educational activity for school children and local communities.

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Report of the Board of Directors (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

Across Shropshire a significant amount of work is carried out with schools through the formal education system. The number of contacts with young people was in excess of 4,000, many of these were repeat contacts with added value for the young people involved. 259 teachers from local schools were trained by Trust staff in environmental education techniques, flora and fauna identification and developing school grounds for wildlife.

The Shifting Sands project enabled the Trust to develop workshops and resources for use at Wood Lane with secondary school pupils, as a result the number of secondary visits to the site this year has shown an increase of 340%.

The success of the 'Wrekin World of Writing' project ensured that the Trust continues to deliver John Muir Awards to children in Telford. Telford Culture Zone was keen for the Trust to work with Birmingham Repertory Theatre, another of their partners, so the Secret Garden project was created which has provided an opportunity for the Trust to work with environmental artists, storytellers and performance artists in local schools. Telford Culture Zone has also supported the Trust in working with two schools during a 'wildwoods' week of outdoor education.

In 2010/11 we had four Future Jobs Fund trainees on six month placements, two worked as reserves assistants, one as a visitor centre assistant and one was employed as a communications assistant.

Through the Life Stones project we have inspired young journalists at Mary Webb School in Pontesbury and other community groups to compile interviews and stories about Shropshire for publication on our website. We worked closely with Natural England to produce our first QR code trail across the Stiperstones. We continue to explore new media and event formats to inform the wider public of Trust activity and messages.

Several good friends of the Trust have died this year, including Joan Brown of our Bridgnorth Branch, Tony Crone, former secretary of the Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club and Eric Thomas, former Honorary Secretary of the Trust. They will be missed.

Thanks

The Trust was supported by various bequests, gifts and donations. We received legacies from Mr C Bayliss, Miss JC Bell, Mrs E Cairns, Miss EM Hill and Mr BRW Fowler and in memoriam donations from the families of Mrs R Beard; Mr T Crone, Mr B Davies, Mr B Elliot, Mrs M Goode, Mrs S Lane, Mrs A Langford, Mr A Maclaren, Mr Massey and Mr E Thomas.

In addition to donations from speaking engagements we had donations from CTC Shropshire, Hanwood Cub Scouts, New College Telford and from a sponsored walk by residents of Rodington and Withington.

We wish to thank the many individuals and groups that have supported the work of the Trust over the past year in so many different ways. The various roles of staff, members and volunteers all contribute to the success of the organisation. Volunteers worked as trustees, on branch committees, in the HQ garden, on practical conservation tasks and as wardens on reserves, surveying and data recording, in schools and with young people, at events and in administration.

We would be quite unable to achieve our aims without the generous support of a host of donors, funding bodies and companies that have provided both cash and help in kind over the past year.

Thanks are due to the following donors: supporters of the Pontesford Hill Appeal, Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club, The Daniell Charitable Trust, The Jean Jackson Charitable Trust, Ludford Park Meadow of Remembrance, Millichope Foundation, Muller Dairy, Whitley Animal Protection Trust, Woodpeckers Trust.

We could not survive without the support of Biffaward, Carillion Natural Habitats Fund, Defra, Environment Agency, Forestry Commission, Friends of Whitcliffe Common, Heritage Lottery Fund, Montgomeryshire Wildlife Trust, Natural England, Northern Marches Leader Local Action Group, RSPB, Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts, Severn Gorge Countryside Trust, Shropshire Council, Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership Leader Local Action Group, Telford and Wrekin Council, Telford Culture Zone, Tudor Griffiths Environmental Fund, Wild Flower Society, Woodland Trust.

The following assisted with help in kind: Butterfly Conservation, Cap Gemini, Environment Agency, Muller Dairy, RAF Shawbury, Ricoh UK Products Ltd, Shropshire Environmental Data Network, Shropshire Sailing Club, Tudor Griffiths Group, Veolia Environmental Services.

The Directors consider that the state of the company's affairs is satisfactory. There have been no important events affecting the business of the company since the year end, and the Directors do not expect any significant changes in the type of volume of business to be carried out in the future.

Shropshire Wildlife Trust
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Report of the Board of Directors (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The results of operations for the year to 31 March 2011 are as set out in the Statement of Financial Activities. The company is limited by guarantee and does not pay dividends.

SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

The company has one wholly-owned subsidiary company, Shropshire Wildlife Trading Company Ltd, a retailing company which started trading on 1 February 1991 but which has been dormant throughout the current and previous years and has no net assets.

FIXED ASSETS

Acquisitions and disposals of fixed assets during the year are recorded in the Notes to the Accounts.

DIRECTORS

All members of the Council of Trustees of the trust are directors of the company. No director has any beneficial interest in the trust, and none receives any remuneration for their services. During the year the following persons were directors of the company:

Paul Bell
John Box
John Brown
Veronica Cossons
David Currant
Peter Deans
David Green
John Harrison
Brian Hogbin
Malcolm Monie
Kirsten Mould
John Pope (resigned 16 November 2010)
Jacqui Seymour
John Sudd
Ian Trueman

ORGANISATION

The members appoint the Council of Trustees at the Annual General Meeting, and the Council then appoints President, Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary at its first meeting. The Council may delegate any of their powers to committees consisting of such member or members of council as they think fit.

Council sets strategy through the Development Plan and it delegates implementation to the Director, staff and subsidiary committees. There are three subsidiary committees, Members' Forum, Finance Committee and Personnel Committee.

FINANCIAL RESERVES POLICY

It is the policy of the charity to maintain unrestricted funds, which are the free reserves of the charity, at a level which equates to a minimum of six months' unrestricted expenditure. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration and support costs. This is considered adequate in view of the close link between direct charitable expenditure and incoming resources.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The trustees have examined the major strategic, business and operational risks which the charity faces and confirm that systems have been established to enable regular reports to be produced so that the necessary steps can be taken to lessen these risks.

METHODS FOR APPOINTMENT OF NEW TRUSTEES

The Trust has implemented a skills audit identifying the key qualities required with regards to its governance and regularly reviews this in relation to Trustees in post. The Trust actively seeks new Trustees where they would bring additional expertise that would be of benefit. Trustees retire after four years, they are then eligible for re-election for one more term but are not then eligible for re-election for a period of one year. Trustees stand down at the Annual General Meeting and, as appropriate, are eligible for re-election by the Membership along with new candidates. All new Trustees are provided with literature guiding them as to their duties and appropriate introductory meetings are held.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

A rolling five year Development Plan is updated annually and includes strategic objectives, five year aspirations and detailed annual work programmes and budgets. Management accounts are considered monthly by the Senior Management Team and on a quarterly basis by the Finance Committee. The work programme is reviewed fully twice yearly against set targets by the Council of Trustees. They also consider detailed areas of performance at quarterly meetings, at a Members' Forum involving wider voluntary involvement and on field visits as necessary. Detailed measures of success achieved are disclosed in the paragraphs above describing different areas of work.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The following five year targets are defined in the Development Plan and are influenced by partnership working with other Wildlife Trusts working at the regional and UK levels.

The Development Plan is underpinned by the living landscape concept. With the country facing unprecedented economic uncertainty and pressures for energy generation, food production and housing, there is a risk that we overlook the very basis of our economy and our society – the natural environment upon which this all depends.

Climate change presents nature with a whole new challenge; and the wrong response to climate change will create still more problems. Currently there is scant legislative provision for proactive restoration of ecosystem health or for stimulating the creation of new habitats on a significant scale.

The living landscape is a recovery plan for nature to help create a resilient and healthy environment rich in wildlife and providing ecological security for people. The principles of achieving a living landscape are:

- Retain and restore existing areas of high quality habitat. these are the reservoirs that will restock our depleted landscapes
- Recreate habitat in countryside, towns and villages where it has been lost
- Reconnect habitat via corridors and stepping stones
- Reconnect people with nature for happier, healthier lives

The work plan is broken down into large areas with specific targets, our overall objective is to improve the quality and integrity of our nature reserves and to sustain traditional farming helping to deliver a diverse and connected countryside.

- Improve public awareness and understanding of the environmental importance of the Meres and Mosses
- Help empower the farming and landowning community to manage the Meres and Mosses landscape sustainably
- Physically link Fenns and Whixall Mosses and Wem Moss National Nature Reserves through acquisition or management agreement
- Devise a spatial plan targeting land management, farmer advice and land acquisition for the Meres and Mosses area
- Deliver the Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership Scheme by 2017 and have developed a clear exit strategy
- Develop Wood Lane as a centre of excellence for formal education and life long learning
- Have secured conservation management mechanisms/agreements along the entire Stiperstones ridge
- Have secured a practical and deliverable 'green corridor', plan to link the Stiperstones with the Long Mynd and key sites on the Welsh border eg Corndon and Roundton Hills
- Link work in the Severn/Vyrnwy confluence to similar initiatives up and downstream
- Influence decision makers to manage floodplains to favour biodiversity
- Clearly quantify and be able to promote the ecosystem benefits of an agreed River Severn catchment spatial plan
- Work with local authority, business and community interests to establish a new structure for the care of Telford's green infrastructure
- Have agreed all outstanding Local Nature Reserve designations within the Borough of Telford and Wrekin
- Establish a Telford office base and double Trust membership to 2,000 households
- Conserve and expand existing high quality habitat in the Clee Hills and Teme Valley
- Extend Catherton Common nature reserve through acquisition or management agreement of Clee Hill Common land
- Promote Catherton Common as a premier regional nature reserve managed through community co-operation
- Have agreed habitat corridors between Rhos Fiddle, Lower Shortditch Turbary and Masons Bank in the Clun Forest
- Scope and develop the living landscape approach in the Oswestry Hills, Tern Valley and all market towns

Standing up for wildlife - to influence land use and management policy encouraging integration of social, economic and environmental benefits to Shropshire

- Provide data gathering and management systems linked to the Shropshire Biodiversity Action Plan
- Ensure that our nature reserves are in appropriate agri-environment schemes and are in favourable condition
- Ensure we have sound evidence to support our campaigning work and use our nature reserves as demonstration sites for 'best practice' habitat management or restoration techniques
- Foster sustainable living and understand and minimise the carbon footprint of the Trust
- Agree an approach to conserving and monitoring Wildlife Sites
- Be represented on a range of county and regional advisory groups and committees
- Target decision makers with well documented evidence in relation to our objectives

People and wildlife - inspiring people about the natural world

- Raise awareness and understanding of the benefits of a wildlife-rich environment for everyone
- Implement the young people plan to inspire children, young people and families
- Support people at all ages between 1-25 years on an 'engagement journey'
- Promote and deliver a family membership product
- Deliver a formal education program that meets customers' needs and raises unrestricted income
- Engage, face to face, with 6,500 children and young people annually
- Support a network of branches and affiliated groups to increase the range of quality opportunities for people of all ages to experience, increase knowledge of and act for nature
- Deliver high quality events to raise profile, recruit new members, retain existing supporters and to promote the living landscape concept
- Help branches and affiliated groups to contribute to an integrated programme of events
- Conduct market research to inform future programmes
- As an organisation, respect and recognise the huge contribution of our volunteers
- Have a core team of committed volunteers that mentor others, campaign and recruit on behalf of the Trust
- Increase the capacity of staff in all areas to work with volunteers and to improve the volunteer experience
- Provide a training programme with an excellent reputation to increase the knowledge and skills of volunteers
- Have strong links to other voluntary organisations for sharing best practice

Recognition and respect - to be widely recognised and respected for our role and work

- Obtain market intelligence and adopt a strategic approach to segmenting and targeting our supporter base
- Develop a coherent brand and implement a communication strategy that recognises our broad range of audiences

Resources - to sustain and expand our work

- Maximise income from grant aiding bodies, matching our development plan objectives with funders' requirements
- Promote ecological consultancy activity via a joint approach with Worcestershire and Radnorshire Wildlife Trusts
- Increase membership to 3% of the county's population and reduce overall membership lapse rates to 8%
- Develop close relationships with corporate members by offering volunteering and sponsorship opportunities
- Develop legacy and major donor campaigns and an annual appeals programme
- Create a welcoming visitor centre that showcases what we are doing for Shropshire's wild places and wildlife and helps our visitors to explore, enjoy and protect them
- Develop our reputation as an attractive events venue and run high quality seasonal events
- Promote the sale of responsibly sourced goods

Organisation and Governance

- Ensure we have appropriate internal policies and pursue best practice in all our work
- Ensure that our governance and staffing best meets our organisational needs
- Maintain an effective and positive office work space for staff and volunteers
- Ensure that we comply with all legal duties, are cost effective and that we focus on our strategic aims

Shropshire Wildlife Trust
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Report of the Board of Directors (continued)
for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

INVESTMENT POLICY

In accordance with the Trustees' custodianship objectives the financial assets are largely invested in secure bank deposits in order to achieve the best rate of return compatible with that security

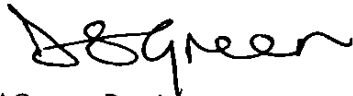
STATEMENT AS TO DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

So far as the directors are aware, there is no relevant audit information (as defined by section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the company's auditors are unaware, and each director has taken all the steps that he or she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself or herself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the company's auditors are aware of that information

AUDITORS

A resolution for the Re-appointment of Nicklin LLP as auditors to the company will be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Green', written over a horizontal line.

David Green – Director

Date 19 July 2011

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Trustees of
Shropshire Wildlife Trust
(a Company limited by guarantee)

We have audited the financial statements of Shropshire Wildlife Trust for the year Ended 31 March 2011 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities).

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and regulations made under section 44 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and its trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditor

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 2, 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.

The trustees have elected for the financial statements to be audited in accordance with the Charities Act 1993 rather than the Companies Act 2006. Accordingly we have been appointed as auditors under section 43 of the Charities Act 1993 and report in accordance with section 44 of that Act.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involved obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed, the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees, and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Report of the Directors to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on the financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 March 2011, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, in the year then ended, and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to smaller entities, and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report of the following matters where the Charities Act 1993 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion

- the information given in the Report of the Directors is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements, or
- the charitable company has not kept adequate accounting records, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns, or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.


NICKLIN LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Church Court
Stourbridge Road
Halesowen
West Midlands
B63 3TT

Date

22nd July 2011

Shropshire Wildlife Trust
(a Company limited by guarantee)

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total funds 2011 £	Total funds 2010 £
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE					
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income	3	493,877	22,413	516,290	449,023
Activities for generating funds	4	56,459	-	56,459	58,479
Investment income	5	14,423	-	14,423	7,768
Incoming resources from charitable activities	6	255,451	327,572	583,023	544,205
Total incoming resources		<u>820,210</u>	<u>349,985</u>	<u>1,170,195</u>	<u>1,059,475</u>
Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds					
Costs of generating voluntary income	7	150,917	-	150,917	137,700
Fundraising trading cost of goods sold and other costs	8	7,648	-	7,648	7,554
Charitable activities	9	518,937	352,024	870,961	699,617
Governance costs	10	<u>69,327</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>69,327</u>	<u>69,681</u>
Total resources expended		<u>746,829</u>	<u>352,024</u>	<u>1,098,853</u>	<u>914,552</u>
Net income for the year		<u>73,381</u>	<u>(2,039)</u>	<u>71,342</u>	<u>144,923</u>
Net movement in funds		73,381	(2,039)	71,342	144,923
Balances brought forward At 1 April 2010		<u>472,871</u>	<u>1,737,100</u>	<u>2,209,971</u>	<u>2,065,048</u>
Balances carried forward At 31 March 2011		<u>546,252</u>	<u>1,735,061</u>	<u>2,281,313</u>	<u>2,209,971</u>

The notes form part of these Financial Statements

Shropshire Wildlife Trust
(a Company limited by guarantee)

Balance Sheet
31 March 2011

		2011		2010	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS:					
Tangible assets	12		1,615,566		1,613,283
CURRENT ASSETS:					
Stock		9,068		11,436	
Debtors	13	132,805		116,719	
Branch net assets		11,242		9,003	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>809,050</u>		<u>657,449</u>	
		962,165		794,607	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>296,418</u>		<u>197,919</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS:			665,747		596,688
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES:			<u>2,281,313</u>		<u>2,209,971</u>
FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds	15		546,252		472,871
Restricted funds	15		<u>1,735,061</u>		<u>1,737,100</u>
Total Funds			<u>2,281,313</u>		<u>2,209,971</u>

For the year ending 31 March 2011 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies. However an audit is required in accordance with section 43 of the Charities Act 1993

Directors' responsibilities

- The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476,
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts

These Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime and with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008)

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:



David Green – Director

Approved by the Board on 19 July 2011

The notes form part of these Financial Statements

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2005), the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008) and the Companies Act 2006

The statement of financial activities (SOFA) and balance sheet represent the results and financial position of the parent company. The subsidiary undertaking, Shropshire Wildlife Trading Company Limited, has not been included since, as indicated in the trustees' report, that company has now no net income or net assets. It is therefore considered not material to the group and has been excluded as permitted by paragraph 383 of the SORP.

The charity has adapted the Companies Act formats to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities.

(b) Company status

The charity is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the trustees named on page 5. In the event of the company being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the company.

(c) Fund accounting

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

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

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

Assets are transferred from restricted to unrestricted funds if there is a surplus when the conditions attached to the original income have been met and the donor does not require a repayment.

Endowment funds represent those assets which must be held permanently by the charity, principally investments. Income arising on the endowment funds can be used in accordance with the objects of the charity and is included as unrestricted income. Any capital gains or losses arising on the investments form part of the fund. Investment management charges and legal advice relating to the fund are charged against the fund.

(d) Incoming resources

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

Subscriptions are included on a receipts basis.

Legacies are included when received or when receipt is considered certain and the values can be reliably measured.

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

(e) Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with use of the resources.

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(f) Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost on a straight line basis over their expected useful economic lives at the following annual rates:

Land and buildings	Not depreciated
Freehold improvements	25% on cost
Computer equipment	33% on cost
Other plant and equipment	25% on cost
Motor vehicles	25% on cost

(g) Stock

Stock is included at the lower of cost and net realisable value

(h) Pensions

The Trust contributes to defined contribution pension schemes on behalf of its employees. Contributions are charged in the Statement of Financial Activities as they are paid. The assets of the schemes are held separately from the Trust in independently administered funds.

2 OPERATING SURPLUS

The operating profit is stated after charging

	2011 £	2010 £
Depreciation - owned assets	19,820	18,129
Auditors' remuneration	<u>5,442</u>	<u>4,475</u>
Directors' emoluments and other benefits etc	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

3 VOLUNTARY INCOME

	2011 £	2010 £
Members' subscriptions	266,376	262,530
Donations	46,712	150,025
Legacies	196,389	32,630
Income from branches	<u>6,813</u>	<u>3,838</u>
	<u>516,290</u>	<u>449,023</u>

4. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	2011 £	2010 £
Retail sales – fundraising sales	12,640	12,923
Room hire and other	<u>43,819</u>	<u>45,556</u>
	<u>56,459</u>	<u>58,479</u>

5 INVESTMENT INCOME

	2011 £	2010 £
Bank interest	<u>14,423</u>	<u>7,768</u>
	<u>14,423</u>	<u>7,768</u>

6 INCOMING RESOURCES FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2011	2010
	£	£
Capital grants received	1,625	147,718
A living landscape	222,230	126,441
Standing up for wildlife	117,207	105,092
People and wildlife	175,982	106,520
Branch projects	2,365	1,622
HQ Reception	10,987	3,188
Development	5,210	1,000
Organisation	21,755	25,163
Retail sales – chantable sales	<u>25,662</u>	<u>27,461</u>
	<u>583,023</u>	<u>544,205</u>

7 COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME

	2011	2010
	£	£
Membership recruiting	41,277	38,269
Services to members including newsletter costs	46,101	45,494
Marketing and development costs	57,236	50,621
Branch activity	<u>6,303</u>	<u>3,316</u>
	<u>150,917</u>	<u>137,700</u>

8 FUNDRAISING TRADING: COST OF GOODS SOLD AND OTHER COSTS

	2011	2010
	£	£
Retail costs – fundraising sales	<u>7,648</u>	<u>7,554</u>
	<u>7,648</u>	<u>7,554</u>

9 COSTS OF CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2011	2010
	£	£
Direct charitable activities		
A living landscape	281,907	193,949
Standing up for wildlife	149,377	140,792
People and wildlife	196,309	124,841
Branch projects	292	1,622
Retail costs – chantable sales	15,527	16,053
Development	<u>41,037</u>	<u>38,929</u>
	<u>684,449</u>	<u>516,186</u>

Support Costs

	2011	2010
	£	£
HQ Reception	73,797	69,741
Support services	<u>112,715</u>	<u>113,690</u>
	<u>186,512</u>	<u>183,431</u>
Total	<u>870,961</u>	<u>699,617</u>

Shropshire Wildlife Trust
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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

10 **GOVERNANCE COSTS**

	2011 £	2010 £
Staff costs	21,694	21,357
Legal and professional costs (including Audit)	5,917	6,705
Office costs	41,392	41,295
Depreciation of equipment	324	324
	<u>69,327</u>	<u>69,681</u>

11 **TOTAL STAFF COSTS**

	2011 £	2010 £
Wages and salaries	517,344	443,941
Social security costs	44,372	38,132
Pension costs	24,049	20,791
	<u>585,765</u>	<u>502,864</u>

The average monthly numbers of employees during the year is as follows	2011	2010
Charitable activities	28 5	27
Management and administration	4	4
	<u>32 5</u>	<u>31</u>

Many of above work part-time, the full time equivalents was 22 5 (2010 19 5). No employee earned over £60,000. The numbers shown above do not include members of the Board of Directors, none of whom receive any remuneration or expenses.

12 **TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Land and buildings	Fixtures and fittings	Motor vehicles	Totals
	£	£	£	£
COST:				
At 1 April 2010	1,579,743	53,727	57,529	1,690,999
Additions	-	22,103	-	22,103
Disposals	-	<u>-15,557</u>	-	<u>-15,557</u>
At 31 March 2011	<u>1,579,743</u>	<u>60,273</u>	<u>57,529</u>	<u>1,697,545</u>
DEPRECIATION:				
At 1 April 2010	-	30,558	47,158	77,716
Charge for year	-	16,363	3,457	19,820
Disposals	-	<u>-15,557</u>	-	<u>-15,557</u>
At 31 March 2011	-	<u>31,364</u>	<u>50,615</u>	<u>81,979</u>
NET BOOK VALUE:				
At 31 March 2011	<u>1,579,743</u>	<u>28,909</u>	<u>6,914</u>	<u>1,615,566</u>
At 31 March 2010	<u>1,579,743</u>	<u>23,169</u>	<u>10,371</u>	<u>1,613,283</u>

Shropshire Wildlife Trust
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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

13 DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2011 £	2010 £
Trade debtors	35,639	19,763
Other debtors	62,223	83,881
Prepayments	<u>34,943</u>	<u>13,075</u>
	<u>132,805</u>	<u>116,719</u>

14 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2011 £	2010 £
Trade creditors	80,442	29,692
Other creditors and deferred income	194,439	140,554
Tax and social security	2,450	13,393
Accrued expenses	<u>19,087</u>	<u>14,280</u>
	<u>296,418</u>	<u>197,919</u>

The movement in Other creditors and deferred income represents:

	2011 £	2010 £
Balance at 31 March 2010	140,554	123,755
Less Released in the year	(147,306)	(195,652)
Add Income deferred in year	<u>201,191</u>	<u>212,451</u>
Balance at 31 March 2011	<u>194,439</u>	<u>140,554</u>

15 **STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

	1 Apr 2010 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	31 Mar 2011 £
Endowment fund Capital reserve	1,566,044	1,625	5,994		1,561,675
Restricted income funds					
Reserves appeal fund	9,930	-	-	-	9,930
A living landscape Stiperstones Nipstone, The Hollies, Earls Hill and Pontesford Hill	55,177	-	10,000	67,073	112,250
A living landscape The Hollies	43,006	3,480	3,109	(43,377)	-
A living landscape Earls Hill	12,823	-	-	(12,823)	-
A living landscape Pontesford Hill	-	12,886	2,013	(10,873)	-
A living landscape LSD Turbary/ Rhos Fiddle	1,663	-	-	-	1,663
A living landscape Bwlytai Woods	5,081	-	30	-	5,051
A living landscape Nature Reserves Appeal	13,855	-	2,280	-	11,575
A living landscape Catherton Common Appeal	11,975	6,047	5,000	-	13,022
A living landscape ALSF Catherton Common	-	3,000	3,000	-	-
A living landscape AONB SDF Cleve Hills	-	1,800	1,800	-	-
A living landscape Wem Moss	-	5,904	5,904	-	-
A living landscape Reserved for Nature	-	26,263	26,263	-	-
A living landscape Once upon a Hill	-	50,000	50,000	-	-
A living landscape Explore More of the Wrekin Forest	-	1,114	1,114	-	-
A living landscape Wrekin Forest	17,546	4,625	4,625	-	17,546
A living landscape ALSF Ercall Exposed	-	2,500	2,500	-	-
A living landscape AONB SDF Wrekin Forest	-	2,804	2,804	-	-
Standing up for wildlife Lapwing and meadow birds	-	7,500	7,500	-	-
Standing up for wildlife Regional Initiative	-	30,471	30,471	-	-
Standing up for wildlife WM Biodiversity Partnership Projects	-	45,485	45,485	-	-
People and wildlife Wood Lane Project	-	27,480	27,480	-	-
People and wildlife Wood Lane Development	-	4,461	4,461	-	-
People and wildlife ALSF Shifting Sands	-	33,375	33,375	-	-
People and wildlife Shropshire Council Darwin Festival	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
People and wildlife Canllion Natural Habitats	-	5,000	5,000	-	-
People and wildlife Telford Culture Zone/ Birmingham Rep – Tom's Secret Garden	-	1,650	1,650	-	-
People and wildlife HLF Life Stories	-	11,527	11,527	-	-
People and wildlife HLF Meres and Mosses	-	38,622	38,622	-	-
People and wildlife Leader Meres and Mosses	-	11,791	11,791	-	-
Development Leader Reserved for Nature	-	3,210	3,210	-	-
Whitchurch branch Greenfields Project	-	2,365	16	-	2,349
	<u>1,737,100</u>	<u>349,985</u>	<u>352,024</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,735,061</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

15 **STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)**

	1 Apr 2010	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31 Mar 2011
Designated funds	9,991	120	5,373	-	4,738
General reserve	330,000	-	-	-	330,000
Revenue surplus	132,880	820,090	741,456	-	211,514
Total unrestricted funds	<u>472,872</u>	<u>820,210</u>	<u>746,829</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>546,252</u>
Total funds	<u>2,209,971</u>	<u>1,170,195</u>	<u>1,098,853</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,281,313</u>

Restricted Funds

The Capital Reserve Fund is the total of grants received for purchase of land and capital items. The expenditure on the fund is amortisation of grants.

An appeal was made for funds to allow the purchase of Ossmere as a Trust reserve, the purchase failed as the vendor accepted a higher offer, the balance of £5,000 was placed in a Reserves Appeal Fund to allow a more rapid response to such an opportunity in the future. £40,000 was received from the winding up of Shropshire Conservation Development Trust and £24,700 was used to partly finance the acquisition of Rhos Fiddle in 2001. £10,467 was used to part-fund the purchase of Holly Banks.

A living landscape

Donations for the *Back to purple* Appeal were first received in 1999 and Brook Vessons was purchased in 2001, a public appeal was made in order to purchase Nipstone Rock in 2006. A grant from the Tubney Fund was awarded to acquire and manage the site. Further works are underway to restore the sites and to progress the *Back to purple* initiative.

Funds were received from Tubney Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund and public appeal for the purchase and future management of The Hollies, part of the Stiperstones.

A public appeal was run to acquire and manage an extension to the Earls Hill reserve, grants were received from the Countryside Agency and Heritage Lottery Fund.

An appeal to purchase Pontesford Hill was unsuccessful, the surplus on the appeal has been transferred to the Stiperstones Living Landscape along with the balances of the above restricted funds.

Lower Short Ditch Turbary is managed as a unit with nearby Rhos Fiddle reserve.

Mrs Gledhill donated Bwlytai Woods and made a donation of £5,000, the Friends of Bwlytai Woods made a donation.

An appeal to raise money for projects on the Nature Reserves took place in 2007.

Catherston Common in the Clee Hills was purchased with the aid of a public appeal, Defra's Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund, Biffaward and the Jean Jackson Charitable Trust. Site survey, interpretation, celebration events and liaison with commoners has taken place and Shropshire ALSF and the Shropshire Hills AONB Sustainable Development Fund supported this.

Funds were received from Defra to remove scrub from Wem Moss National Nature Reserve.

Funds were received from the Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership Leader Local Action Group for the Reserved for Nature project, for interpretation and restoration work at Blakemoorgate as part of the Once upon a Hill project on the Stiperstones National Nature Reserve and the Explore More of the Wrekin Forest project.

A section of The Wrekin came on the market in 2004 and a public appeal was run to raise funds for its purchase, the acquisition did not happen but additional monies were raised to purchase and restore Forest Glen which was landscaped. Further interpretation and wildlife surveys were carried out as part of continuing work with the Borough of Telford & Wrekin, Shropshire ALSF, Shropshire Hills AONB and landowners to implement the Wrekin Forest Conservation Plan.

15 **STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)**

Standing up for wildlife

In 2009 we commenced a joint lapwing and meadow project with Natural England and RSPB and passed on funds received from the Jean Jackson Charitable Trust.

The Regional Initiative is managed on behalf of the six Wildlife Trusts in the West Midlands Government region. Funding was received from Natural England and other partners to manage projects on behalf of the West Midlands Biodiversity Partnership.

People and wildlife

The Wood Lane project is funded by the Landfill Communities Fund using contributions from the Tudor Griffiths Group in Ellesmere, school groups and individuals visit the former sand and gravel workings where there are teaching and public hides.

The Shifting Sands project funded by Defra's Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund has developed the Wood Lane site and produced a lesson plan for secondary schools.

Shropshire Council sponsored the Darwin Festival at our visitor centre in Shrewsbury and Darwin's haunts in the county.

The Canillon Natural Habitats Fund funded the black darter and the beautiful demoiselle project in Shawbury.

The Tom's Secret Garden project at Birmingham Repertory Theatre was funded by the Telford Culture Zone.

The Heritage Lottery Fund is funding the Life Stories project to interpret the Shropshire living landscape.

The Meres and Mosses development project is being jointly funded by Heritage Lottery Fund and the Northern Marches Leader Local Action Group, further support has been obtained from Muller Dairy.

Development

The Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership Leader Local Action Group Reserved for Nature project part funded interpretative banners and displays.

Branches

Whitchurch branch received a grant from the Big Lottery Fund *Awards for All* scheme for improvements to Greenfields Local Nature Reserve.

Unrestricted funds:

Designated funds

A wildlife projects fund was set up in memory of Clive Tate who died in 2006. He was the Trust's first employee and later worked as a volunteer winning us many supporters. The Hilda Murrell and Reg Harrison summer forum and Leighton Fund are also designated funds, it was agreed by Council to combine these three funds into one. The fund is used to support specialist wildlife groups in the county by providing small grants to finance their volunteer-led conservation activity. To date, £11,270 has been grant aided.

General reserve

A general reserve has been created, whereby it is hoped to build up financial reserves for unforeseen possibilities amounting to approximately six month's core running costs.

Shropshire Wildlife Trust
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Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2011

16 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Tangible fixed assets £	Net current assets £	Total £
Restricted funds	1,615,566	119,495	1,735,061
Designated funds	-	4,738	4,738
Other unrestricted funds	-	541,514	541,514
Total	1,615,566	665,747	2,281,313

17 PENSION COSTS

Pension contributions paid by the Trust on behalf of its employees amounted to £24,049 (2010 £20,791)