

Registered number: 0729746
Charity number: 212744

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018



WR
Whittingham Riddell
chartered accountants

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

Trustees

Rod Aspinwall
John Brown
Richard Carpenter
Veronica Cossons
Katie Foster
Jennifer Joy
Jon King
Kate Mayne
Malcolm Monie, Hon Secretary (resigned by rotation 28 October 2017)
Kirsten Mould, Chairman
Roger Owen (appointed 28 October 2017)
Adrian Platt (appointed 28 October 2017)
Alan Salt, Hon Treasurer
Howard Thorne
Andrew Whyte
Daniel Wrench

Company registered number

0729746

Charity registered number

212744

Registered office

193 Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6AH

Company secretary

Jennifer Joy

Chief executive officer

Colin Preston

Independent auditors

Whittingham Riddell LLP, Belmont House, Shrewsbury Business Park, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6LG

Bankers

HSBC, 33 High Street, Shrewsbury, SY1 1SL

Solicitors

McKenzie Law, Dogpole House, 14 Dogpole, Shrewsbury, SY1 1EN

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

The Trust remains in a healthy state in terms of how it manages its business affairs and more importantly how it continues to receive the support and engagement of so many volunteers supporters, local communities and members of the public. However the challenges to wildlife in Shropshire only increase. Since 1985 to the current day through the work of the Trust and the knowledgeable efforts of so many wildlife recorders a decline in plant species diversity across 69% has been recorded. The story is the same with respect to our rivers with almost 90% not in favourable condition. Wildlife Sites, those locally important sites monitored by the Trust, show those in favourable condition being 34%.

Pressure continues to mount with housing development by 2031 due to increase across Telford and Wrekin and Shropshire Council areas by 46,000. A number in excess to that already within the County town of Shrewsbury. Hence the Trust needs to raise its game rising to the new challenges and opportunities presented by such a significant increase.

The consequences of modern food production still presents the biggest threat to wildlife but also the opportunity to reverse past downward trends. The Trust has employed four farm advisers in partnership with Severn Trent Water which has already enabled 170 positive engagements with local farmers. Added to ongoing Trust work on its reserves and on Wildlife Sites over 200 farmers in the County have been actively worked with.

One of the biggest challenges within the agriculture sector is the current rise in nitrogen and related air emissions caused primarily by the expansion in intensive chicken rearing. The Trust is beginning to explore how solutions to this problem might be found involving research programmes with local Universities and the utilisation of its links with the local farming community.

Flood and water management overlap with the Trusts agricultural work. Over the past year over £2m worth of capital works has been implemented to improve the County's rivers including the installation of over 150 woody debris dams in Corvedale which not only provide enhanced wildlife habitat but also significantly reduce downstream flooding. The Trust is pleased to be looking to extend this work throughout Shropshire with Shropshire Council and the Environment Agency.

In a more urban setting the fourth year of Love Your River Telford was completed which has continued to reduce pollution in to the towns streams and rivers through the identification of sewer misconnections with the help of local schools, community groups and businesses. This particular initiative was honoured to receive recognition as the Innovation Category winners of the Environment Agency UK Rivers Prize.

The scale and public concern with respect to development in Shropshire has focused the Trust to begin to think about more creative and innovative ways in ensuring new building is good for wildlife. Also that green corridors for wildlife are maintained and enhanced in our towns. The Trust in 1994 fought to ensure Telford's Green Network was enshrined in its local plan and this battle still goes on to day. In Telford the Trust supports the Telford Greenspace Partnership made up of over 20 local community groups who stand up for their local wild places. In Shrewsbury the Trust has been active in ensuring that 'Natural Shrewsbury' is one of four priorities for the town working with Shrewsbury Business Improvement District (BID) to achieve this as part of the 'Big Town Plan'.

At an operational level 2017/18 has seen some significant achievements. Possibly the most notable is the full commencement of the BogLIFE initiative with partners Natural England and Natural Resources Wales. Securing around £6m from EU LIFE funding and the Heritage Lottery Fund 144 acres of raised bog have already been restored around Fenns and Whixall and the Trust has directly acquired 104 acres of adjacent land including a heavily polluted former scrap yard. The latter is well on the way to being restored.

In 1996 the Trust started on another landscape scale scheme, entitled 'Back to purple', which sought to mend the habitat breaks along the line of The Stiperstones through heathland restoration and land acquisition. This has carried on today and will continue to do so, with around 50 acres of conifers being removed adjacent to Nipstones Rock.

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There has been good news in relation to certain species. The Trust's Otter Project has monitored a gradual increase in numbers and the good news of previous years with respect to pine marten discovery in South Shropshire has continued with more photographic and sighting evidence. The Curlew Appeal, run with Shropshire Ornithological Society, has also made significant progress in monitoring and protecting of this endangered bird within the Clee Hill and Severn Vyrnwy confluence areas.

All the work of the Trust is underpinned by people. The 11000 members give a mandate for all of its work while the 14 local groups and Branches undertake many events and activities in their local communities. Over the year over 540 volunteers have regularly given their time to help manage the reserves, the Trust visitor centres, wildlife garden, assist with young people groups and fundraising.

The wildlife garden group based from the Shrewsbury headquarters is comprised of range of abilities including volunteers with Asperger's, Downs syndrome, a range of learning disabilities and mental health issues.

A volunteer who had to give up work due to ill health spent four months volunteering with us and is now back in full time work.

The 'Feed the Birds' project which matches vulnerable and socially isolated individuals with volunteers able to visit and help look after birds in their gardens has meant that a previously vulnerable and lonely elderly woman with dementia has not only developed a trusting relationship with the Feed the Birds volunteer but is now on the radar of the social care and health team. She now has regular care and visits from other services. Her home is safer and there has been a measurable improvement in the quality of her life.

The work with local businesses is also significant. Currently 73 corporate supporters provide practical and financial help ranging from help on Trust nature reserves to direct financial support for local schools work in Oswestry. In 2017/18 business sponsorship was worth over £50,000. The Trust was proud that three of the four finalists for the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce Business in Community were Wildlife Trust corporate partners (Beaumont Financial, Bridgnorth Aluminium and CLEAR).

Focus on young people also has continued greatly supported by the BIG Lottery and the Growing Confidence initiative which has just completed its second year. Aimed at 11-25 year olds this provides scope to encourage the young Darwin's of the future and has supported young people with learning challenges working at Fordhall Farm near Market Drayton, specialist training and related wildlife study with the Field Studies Council and broad range of projects with local schools and youth groups. Across its entire young people work the Trust had direct contact with 28% of all Shropshire schools which have provided hands on experiences for 1,000 children under 15 years and 300 between 16-18 years of age. This investment in the future is the real priority for the Trust if the challenges of the next 10 years or more are to be met. It is these young people that will be the future farmers and developers and the ones making the choices as to where to live and what to buy in the supermarkets. Actions that directly impact on local wildlife.

The year in numbers:

- 60,000 tyres removed from a derelict scrap yard on Fenns and Whixall National Nature Reserve
- 104 acres of land purchased extending Fenns and Whixall NNR
- 544 volunteers have donated 18500 hours of their time in support of SWT
- 65,000 visitors have visited Trust visitor centres
- 350,000 individuals have visited Trust nature reserves
- 28% of the County schools have actively engaged with SWT
- 11,000 members
- 73 local businesses have practically or financially supported the Trust
- Over 200 farmers have actively engaged with SWT
- 150 woody debris dams have been installed in Corvedale reducing flood risk downstream
- 98 Wildlife Site owners offered advice
- 11 Pine Martens spotted in South Shropshire

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

Structure, Governance and Management

The report set out on pages 2 to 21 equates to a Strategic report and Directors' report as required by sections 414 and 415 of the Companies Act 2006 and has been prepared in accordance with Part 15 of this Act.

The Council have adopted the provisions of the Charities SORP (FRS 102) – Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) in preparing the annual report and financial statements of the charity. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011 and the charitable company's articles of association.

Governing document and constitution

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

Organisation structure of the charity

The Council of Trustees, which has up to fourteen members, governs the work of the charity, sets strategic direction and holds the management to account for day to day operational matters.

All members of the Trust are eligible to seek election to the Council at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) limited to 2 terms of 4 years.

One-fifth of Council members stand down each year on rotation and new Council members are elected at the Trust's Annual General Meeting (AGM) in the autumn. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer are elected at the first meeting of Council following the AGM and serve one-year terms.

At the Trust AGM in October 2017, two new Trustees were elected and one Trustee was re-elected. New Council members are given a detailed induction programme and they are invited to join the standing committees to become familiar with the Trust and its work, as well as participate in other key meetings such as away days, volunteer meetings, and programme development discussions.

Structure, strategy and policy setting

Council determines the strategy of the Trust through a five year strategic plan which was updated in 2016-17 onwards. The strategy is available in full to download from the Trust's website and is produced as a summary for members as required. Council is supported by four Committees: Finance Committee, Personnel Committee, Land Management Committee and Communications Committee.

Staffing

Council appoints the Chief Executive Officer and supports the appointment process for members of the Senior Leadership Team. Council is responsible to further the objectives of the Trust as set out in the articles of association. The focus of the Council's work is on setting and reviewing the strategic direction for the Trust, on monitoring its delivery of agreed targets and to ensure that the income and expenditure of the Trust and its property and assets are managed appropriately. In practice, this translates into giving the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Leadership Team clear strategic objectives for the Trust which have demonstrable outcomes for wildlife in the county, and ensuring that the Trust's financial affairs are managed appropriately.

The pay of the Senior Leadership Team is reviewed annually by the Personnel Committee each February in line with all staff.

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Newly appointed Trustees will receive a full induction to the Trust in a similar way to new employees.

The Chief Executive Officer reports to the Chairman of Trustees. The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the day to day running of the Trust and has delegated powers of authority approved by the Council. The Chief Executive Officer delegates decision making powers through the Senior Leadership Team into the organisation.

Wider Network

Shropshire Wildlife Trust is a partner in the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (RSWT), an independent charity which acts as an umbrella group for the 47 local Wildlife Trusts. RSWT is incorporated by Royal Charter to promote conservation and raise and manage funds for environmental programmes throughout the UK.

Objectives and Activities

1. Our objectives:

Shropshire Wildlife Trust's Charitable Objects are:

The Objects 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:

- a. to undertake and promote the conservation of wildlife species and their habitats including the maintenance, restoration and creation of such habitats;
- b. to promote public understanding of, support of and involvement with the natural world; and
- c. to advance knowledge by research and recording

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when setting the objectives.

Shropshire Wildlife Trust is a member of the Wildlife Trust partnership comprising 47 individual charitable Trusts covering every part of the UK. Together the partnership is the largest voluntary organisation dedicated to protecting wildlife and wild places wherever they occur in the countryside, in towns and cities and at sea. It is supported by more than 850,000 members, including over 150,000 junior members and its expert staff is aided by a formidable workforce of more than 39,000 volunteers. It manages 2,300 nature reserves, covering 90,000 hectares and over 200 marine and coastal sites.

Shropshire Wildlife Trust has 11,000 members, around 544 active volunteers, 14 Branches and Friends Groups helping to drive forward its work, and nature reserves covering over 1,000 hectares in 40 locations throughout the county.

Our activities have a strong evidence base which it is aimed to add to at every possibility.

2. Our beliefs:

The vision of the Trust for Shropshire in fifty years (as defined in consultation with SWT members during the period 2012-2014) is to see a county rich in wildlife, deeply valued by all who live here; wildlife valued not only for itself but also for the contribution it makes to society and the economy.

The Trust wishes to see a natural environment that is safeguarded yet dynamic, a resilient place where all can enjoy a sustainable future, recognising that the economy depends on the environment.

The vision is underpinned by three objectives:

Restore Shropshire's species and habitats to levels that are safe and sustainable.

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Ensure that Shropshire's natural environment is sufficiently resilient to pollinate crops and provide clean, manageable water in the face of climate change.

Reconnect the people of Shropshire with their natural environment, to value and enjoy.

This vision compliments The Wildlife Trust vision laid out in the Development Strategy 2017-22.

3. A living landscape for Shropshire:

A living landscape affords a whole new way of living. It provides for sustainable and prosperous local economies, beautiful landscapes, abundant wildlife and clean water. A living landscape reduces flooding and soil erosion, allows wildlife to flourish and supports a successful rural economy.

The living landscape of Shropshire is a mosaic of different land uses where people and wildlife don't simply co-exist but thrive and flourish.

4. Achieving the vision

As part of the Wildlife Trust Movement SWT has agreed a Strategic Development Strategy for the period 2018-23. This outlines how the Trusts will act to achieve our vision.

SWT will act directly to protect and sustain wildlife and wild places, and to create and strengthen nature networks, by owning and looking after wild places so they are rich in wildlife for generations to come. The Trust will seek to achieve this by;

Inspiring people to connect with wildlife and wild places.

Enabling people to act for wildlife.

This alone is not enough so beyond this SWT will seek to lead by showing the way, demonstrating what's possible and by inspiring, empowering and enabling those around us.

To achieve its vision the Trust intends to bring wildlife and the natural world firmly into the centre of public, corporate and political life, so that closer contact with the natural world and a stronger connection with it can help address some of society's most pressing needs. It aims to do this by;

- a. Ensuring a wildlife rich world contributes to the health and wellbeing of our society.
- b. Putting a wildlife rich natural world at the heart of education and learning for all.
- c. Making it normal for all housing, commercial and infrastructure development to contribute positively to nature's recovery.
- d. Making farming a positive force for nature's recovery.
- e. Placing wildlife rich catchments and ecological solutions centre-stage in flood risk and drought management.
- f. Restoring and maintaining soils as the foundation of sustainable food production and long term carbon storage-particularly in peatlands.
- g. Shifting the basis of the economy so that it fully reflects the true value of a healthy natural environment.

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Governance and Operations

As a charity – and as an employer – we need to manage ourselves responsibly, ensuring we have sufficient income to deliver our Strategic Goals whilst keeping overheads to the minimum through effective operation and governance.

We will work to sustain and grow our membership, in parallel with developing sustainable income streams from the public and local businesses. Our fundraising and marketing will be integrated and inventive to maximise return on investment.

Grants – whether from trusts, agri-environment schemes or other grant-giving bodies - are essential for us to continue our conservation and community engagement work. We will keep abreast of changes in the major grant schemes at all times and seek to develop sustainable long-term funding streams from third parties.

Our operations need to be efficient to make the most of our assets within the context of a slowly-recovering economy and increasing pressure on individual and public finances. We will develop and manage our people and other assets responsibly and cost-effectively, within the relevant legal frameworks. We will ensure our governance is appropriate for a charity of our size and explore all opportunities for leveraging knowledge and skills in from outside, whether through advice, expertise or shared services.

FUTURE PLANS

Meres and Mosses

Improve the public understanding of and the welcome to the Meres and Mosses

To build habitat links across the countryside

Help empower the farming and landowning community to manage the Meres and Mosses landscape sustainably

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
N Shropshire visitor engagement	Develop an activity strategy for key Meres & Mosses sites
Carbon capture project	Deliver the Defra-funded carbon capture project in Shropshire, Cheshire and Staffs
Beaver reintroduction	Secure funding for beaver release trials in Shropshire and Cheshire
Restoration of Lowland Raised Bog Habitat	Complete remediation work on former scrapyard site and restore majority of site to semi-natural habitat.

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The Stiperstones to Earls Hill

To conserve and expand existing high quality habitat
Seek to create habitat corridor links reconnecting the landscape
Improve the quality and integrity of our nature reserves

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Stepping Stones	Work on the development of the Stepping Stones project, leading to submission of a major lottery bid
Conservation Grazing	Invest in local conservation grazing initiative to enable development of new markets and expansion of sites

The Clun Forest

Conserve and expand existing high quality habitat
Seek to create habitat corridor links reconnecting the landscape
Improve the quality and integrity of our nature reserves

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Pine martens	Extend the scope of pine marten conservation across the Marches
Wild Marches	Develop a Wild Marches project with Herefordshire and Radnorshire WTs
Farmer Engagement	Deliver management advice and training to landowners through the Facilitation Fund
Curlew Conservation	Locate, protect and monitor curlew nests in the Clun Forest (co-ordinating effort with Facilitation Fund above.)
Ecological Network mapping	Trial mapping of natural capital assets and ecological network links in Clun Forest to model potential new subsidy schemes

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The River Severn catchments

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Partnership activity	<p>Shropshire Middle Severn CaBA Hosting – broaden & consolidate membership [50 members]. Support SWT representation at CaBA across Shropshire.</p> <p>ST Catchment Partnership – 4 SWT Agricultural Advisors jointly delivering STEPS & FAPoCW – contract period till end March 2019.</p> <p>Marches Blue Business Award with LEP, BESST, MMBEN, EA.</p>
Projects	<p>Freshwater First ERDF Project Year 2 – 8 sites [of 18]</p> <p>Slow the Flow Shropshire project 2018 – 2021 Corvedale – NFM delivery</p> <p>Shropshire Otter Project [on-going core activity]</p>
Engagement	Shropshire River Hub – web based network to engage Shropshire People in their water environment.
Campaigns	<p>Love your Magnificent Severn 2018 4 High Profile events during Summer long campaign – plastics in rivers</p>
Project Pipeline	<p>Freshwater First ERDF Extension</p> <p>Water Environment Grant bids – 1. Love your rivers Telford 5 2. Newport Canal SSSI 3. Invasive Non-native species</p> <p>Wild Marches Crayfish project/s</p> <p>Blists Hill Canal eco-heritage project</p> <p>Severn Canoe Trail</p>

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Telford and Wrekin

To reconnect local communities with the whole of Telford's green network
To work within and support a growing community driven approach for the care of Telford's green infrastructure empowering local people to save and enhance their local sites.
To restore and retain the quality of local sites and nature reserves

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
The Wrekin & Ercall	Secure resources to upgrade the Forest Glen and beyond
The Wrekin Forest	Work with partners to resolve some of the key issues identified within the Wrekin Forest
Health & Wellbeing	Work with Telford & Wrekin Council on initiatives using nature as a route to health
Celebration of local sites	Support TWC in designation of Lightmoor Local Nature Reserve as part of 'Telford at 50' celebrations
Telford Green spaces	Evaluate with TWC how we assess green spaces of borough

By 2023 we aim to:

- Taken a proactive approach to managing the 'sustainable growth' of a projected 15,000 new homes
- Developed projects which tackle inequalities in 'health and wellbeing'
- Engaged community groups in the protection of the land around the Western Fringe
- Designated Lightmoor as a Local Nature Reserve with its own active 'Friends Group'
- Established long term relationships with 20% of Primary Schools in the area

Our 10 year vision is to have created a vibrant network of community groups who are advocates for local green spaces, helping us to deliver health and well-being initiatives across the Borough. We will have expanded the protected area around the Wrekin Forest and improved visitor facilities through the upgrading of infrastructure and the provision of a focal point for information.

Clee Hills

To retain and expand existing high quality habitat

To sustain traditional farming that helps deliver a diverse and connected countryside

To improve the quality and integrity of our nature reserves through an approach based on gentle leadership.

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Curlew Conservation	Locate, protect and monitor curlew nests in the Clee Hills, working with local community wildlife group volunteers and landowners

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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The Oswestry Hills

The Trust will aim to have a comprehensive network of linked sites many within its ownership or under its management where Wildlife Site protection is maintained and clear wildlife corridors exist across the area. The Oswestry Hills will be a key area of national importance for its butterfly and botanical populations.

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Grazing	Work with Treflach Farm to develop a sustainable grazing project as a model for use elsewhere
Llynclys Quarry	Secure long-term lease for Llynclys Quarry and complete any site establishment works
Site management	Review management continuity of sites

Shrewsbury and Market Towns

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Redwing Fields	Develop and deliver a resident engagement plan to run alongside the management of the on-site habitat
Other developments	Use the Redwing Fields case study to secure further biodiversity-positive engagement with developers including Weir Hill (Taylor Wimpey and Persimmon Homes)
The Mount	Examine with partners the potential acquisition and future management.
Ludlow	Continue to engage with Whitcliffe Common related matters including potential development of Mortimer Forest
Ludlow ctnd	Develop Wild Marches Living Landscape jointly with Herefordshire Wildlife Trust and Radnorshire Wildlife Trust
Shifnal	Joint initiative with Shifnal Town Council re Woodland LNR
Newport	Develop Trust greenspace activities with Branch and relevant partners

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Evidence, Data and Policy

The Trusts needs to ensure its actions, priority setting and achievements are based on a sound evidence base, commensurate with available resources.

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Evidence Base	Produce 'state of nature report' for Shropshire to support Environmental Strategy produced by the Shropshire Local Nature Partnership
	Monitor condition of a representative sample of Local Wildlife Sites in the wider countryside through local volunteer survey groups
	Complete collection of priority habitat data on Trust reserves to feed into long-term monitoring trends.
Curlew Conservation	Co-ordinate county-wide effort to halt decline in curlew populations by supporting nest protection, community wildlife surveys and raising awareness through Appeal campaign.
Marches Nature Partnership	Play a significant role in the launch of the environmental strategy
Government	Actively engage in the current Government's consultation on the future of agriculture and the National Policy Planning Framework
Farming	Implement an innovative farmers group to assist in policy development
Reporting	Produce a State of Nature report and enhanced environmental network map of the County working closely with appropriate partners
Planning	Refine and update Living Landscapes statements and continue to campaign for enhanced protection for and more Local Nature Reserves

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River Severn Catchment

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Partnership activity	<p>Annual Work Programme 2018-19</p> <p>Shropshire Middle Severn CaBA Hosting – broaden & consolidate membership [50 members]. Support SWT representation at CaBA across Shropshire.</p> <p>ST Catchment Partnership – 4 SWT Agricultural Advisors jointly delivering STEPS & FAPoCW – contract period till end March 2019.</p> <p>Marches Blue Business Award 2017 with LEP, BESST, MMBEN, EA.</p>
Projects	<p>Freshwater First ERDF Project Year 2 – 8 sites [of 18]</p> <p>Slow the Flow Shropshire project 2018 – 2021 Corvedale – NFM delivery</p> <p>Shropshire Otter Project [on-going core activity]</p>
Engagement	Shropshire River Hub – web based network to engage Shropshire People in their water environment.
Campaigns	Love your Magnificent Severn 2018. 4 High Profile events during Summer g campaign – plastics in rivers
Project Pipeline	<p>Freshwater First ERDF Extension</p> <p>Water Environment Grant bids – 1. Love your rivers Telford 5 2. Newport Canal SSSI 3. Invasive Non-native species</p> <p>Wild Marches Crayfish project/s</p> <p>Blists Hill Canal eco-heritage project</p> <p>Severn Canoe Trail</p>

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Volunteers, branches and affiliated groups

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Branches, Friends and affiliated groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Further develop the staff & branch / group link roles so long term sustainability of groups is achieved• Update and issue the branch protocol 2018/19• Continue to support / work with Telford Green Space Partnership• Clarify the format of the Trust's relationship with Wrekin Forest Volunteers• Provide an annual summary of the status of our groups for Council• Ensure good communication is maintained & organise the annual branch forum (autumn) and branch and local groups spring forum
Volunteers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Combine the volunteer strategy / policy / procedures into a simple, workable document that helps all staff see their role• Develop 'local champions' initiative (by geographical areas) that pairs staff with volunteers to harness the wealth of local knowledge /community interest• Continue to produce and promote volunteer opportunities supporting Trust need (focus on visitor facilities, education, early years, events, branch development)• Support existing and recruit new ambassadors to expand the reach of the programme (in particular Telford)• Continue to manage the speaker diary• Coordinate the Feed the Birds trial and evaluation. Consider future funding if appropriate

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Natural Childhood (0-11 years) and Growing Confidence (11-25 years)

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Natural childhood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek approval for a 5 year natural childhood business plan and begin to implement • Generate an income of £15,250 from schools and £1,858 from Birthday parties • Apply to the AONB conservation fund to expand the Shropshire Hills Wildlife Watch network • Set up a partnership with Shropshire uniformed groups that includes a 'Go Wild' badge
Growing Confidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene a working group to agree the 5 -10 year vision for our work with young people (incl placement plan) • Further develop the alternative curriculum offer and aim to be delivering in 2 secondary schools • Develop a wilderness club model for 16-18 years in college education • Secure £10K of corporate sponsorship for our work with 11-25 yr olds • Set up the Trusts social enterprise and bursary fund

Events and Visitor Services

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Events	A North Shropshire focus with targeted events around Alderford, Wood Lane and the Boathouse aimed at membership recruitment and retention.
Furbers site and surrounding areas	Employ consultants re interpretation plans and business opportunities

Membership

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Proportional Annual targets for newly appointed membership officer for HWT and SWT	950 new members (600 in Shropshire) average annual value is £50 1 new member every 4hrs F2F 1 new member every 2hrs D2D
Membership events	New approach being developed re retention and recruitment around events
Cross border cooperation	Joint working with Herefordshire Wildlife Trust

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Corporate and Business Development

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Corporate membership	Review the corporate membership offer to ensure that corporate members receive best value for their contribution and that the scheme reflects Trust values Ensure the membership continues to grow with a target of 60 members by 2023 (35 at the end of 2017/18)
Meres & Mosses Business Environment Network	Develop MMBEN through its independent steering group with a target of 100 members by 2023 (42 at the end of 2017/18) Deliver high quality networking events that contribute to the sustainability of Shropshire's landscape
Marches Business Environment Networks	Work with the Marches LEP, Marches LNP, BESST and Herefordshire Business Futures Forum to develop a corporate sustainability umbrella across the Marches area
live well work well	Have met the Telford & Wrekin Council targets for wellbeing engagement by the end of the 2017-2019 project and secure further funding to continue delivery
Legacies	Increase the rolling average legacy income by 10% year on year through implementing closer relationships with legacy givers and a series of targeted events

Communications and Marketing

Priority Actions for 2018/19	
Website	Implement and develop a new website using the platform developed by TWT
Social media	Extend our social media reach on existing platforms (Twitter & Facebook) and new platforms Pinterest
Comms review	Implement findings from the communications review and develop campaigns working with Clear Design

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

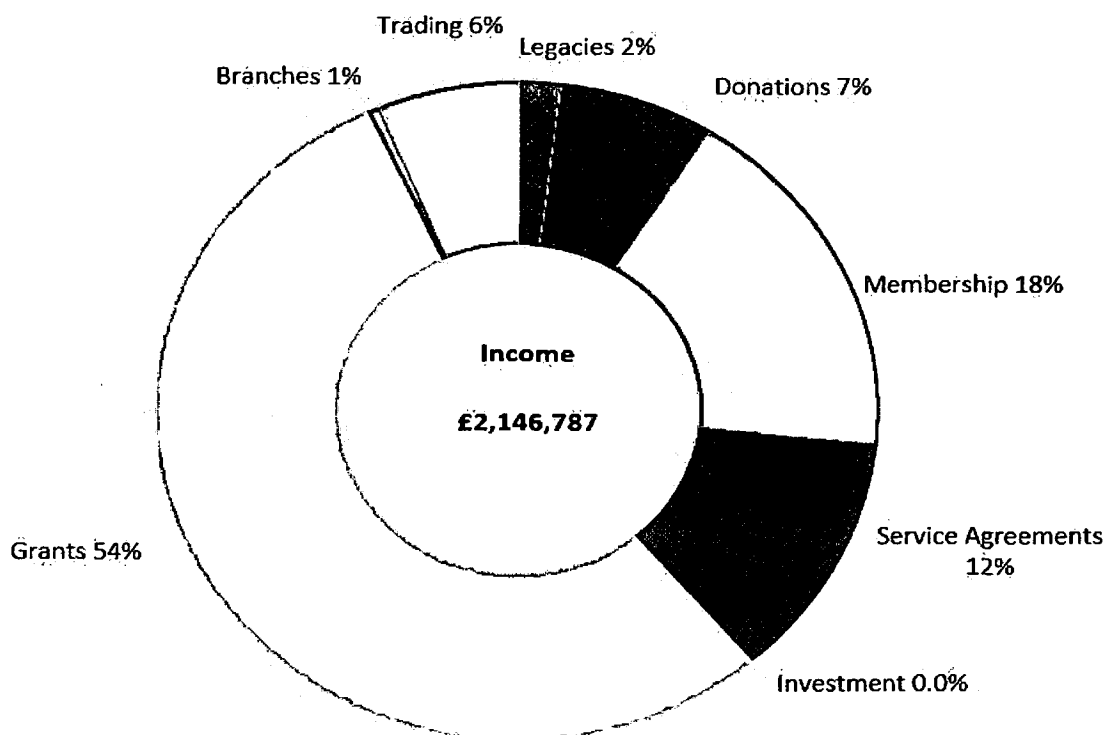
Financial Review

Financial Summary

The Trust saw an overall surplus of £36k on the year compared to a £9k deficit in 2016-17.

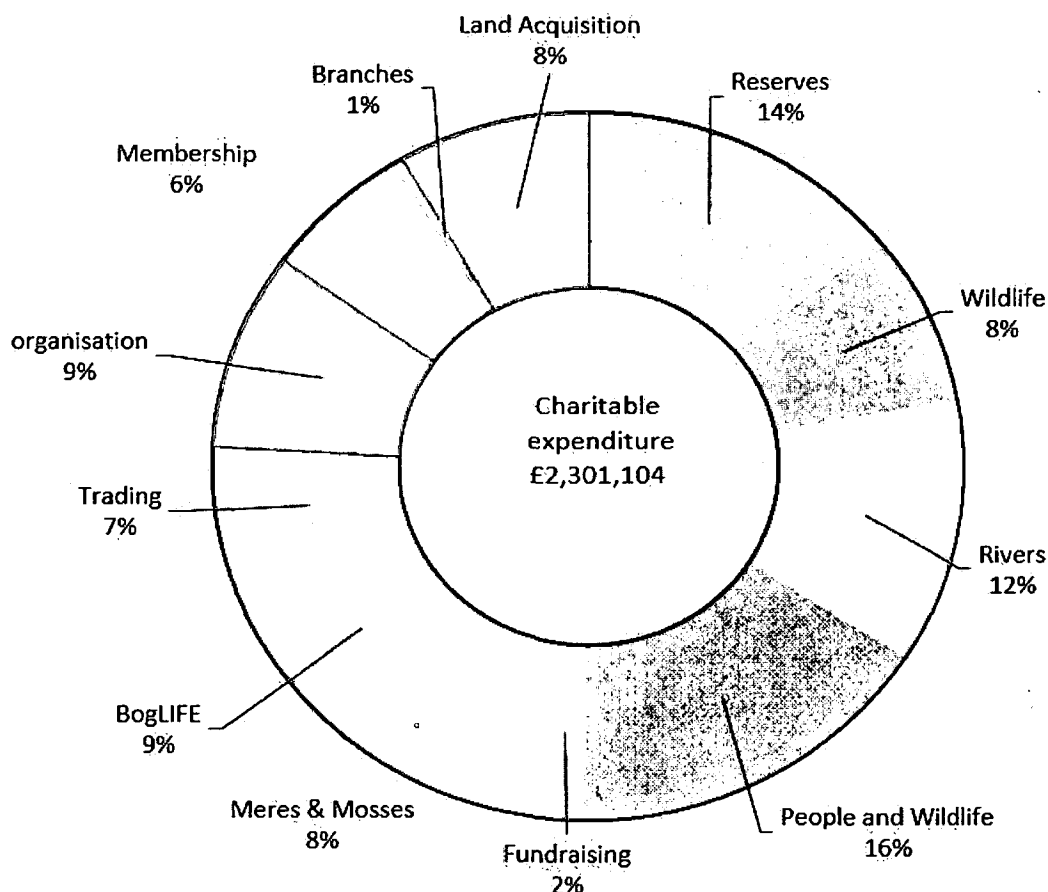
The Restricted funds balance is £2,423k and the unrestricted funds balance is £326k.

Restricted funds are funds which the Trust has a legal obligation to use only for the specific purpose for which they were donated. These funds cannot therefore be used to fund the general operations of the Trust outside those specific purposes. Designated funds have been set aside by the Trust for specific purposes.



SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018



Financial Reserves policy

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

- Enable it to take advantage of unanticipated opportunities to further the aims of the Trust, for example by the purchase of land which may become available.
- To provide adequate working capital to carry out projects for which funds have been granted by external bodies, but for which those funds are payable only after expenditure has been incurred.
- To provide a reserve to cover short-term payment of essential costs, such as staff salaries, in the event of an unanticipated shortfall in funds.
- To meet any legal obligation on the Trust to meet any future costs.

Financial Reserves holdings

Total reserves at the end of the year amounted to £2.75m although available reserves totalled £326k (£345k: 2016-17), representing an amount equivalent to approximately three months running costs for the organisation.

Free reserves amounted to £218k (£222k:2016-17), representing an amount equivalent to approximately two months running costs for the organisation.

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

Grants and Donations

Beaumont Financial Planning
Befesa
BIG Lottery
George Cadbury Fund 'B'
Cadbury Trust
Cap Gemini
Charities Trust
Daniell Charitable Trust
DEFRA
Environment Agency
European Regional Development Fund
Garfield Weston
Heritage Lottery Fund
Jean Jackson Charitable Trust
Liverpool JMU
Millichope Foundation
Morrison Foundation
Natural England
Restored Earth Clarity
Rowlands Trust
The Rivers Trust
Sainsbury's
Severn Trent Water
Shropshire Hills AONB Partnership
Southern Gees Trust
Sylvia Adams
Telford and Wrekin Council
Tesco Bags of Help
Tudor Griffiths Environmental Fund
Veolia Environmental Trust
Whitley Animal Protection Trust
Wildflower Society
WREN

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

We would also like to acknowledge financial support from Bruton Knowles, Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club, CJ Wildbird Foods, Denso Manufacturing, Friends of Pontesford Hill, Friends of Whitcliffe Common, Grocontinental, Pearce Environmental, Scottish Power, Shropshire Council, Warwickshire Wildlife Trust, Vine House Farm and our corporate members.

Legacies and gifts in memoriam

In Memoriam bequests and funeral donations were received from the friends and families of George Allen, Richard Barrett, Kim Dodwell, Sally Garrington, Elizabeth Mary Harding, Mr McCarter, John McGuinness, Bob Kirby, Philippa Lightfoot on behalf of her parents, Stacey Neil and Andrew Tullow. Legacies from Dorothy Dutton, Margaret Gill, Frank Gribble, Sigrid Gotting Row, and, Joyce Thomas.

The following assisted with donations of time and help in kind:

ESI Consulting, Hafren Water, The Business Environmental Scheme for Telford (BESST), Mervyn Evans, Ricoh UK Products Ltd, Tudor Griffiths Group, The Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership Board consists of: Butterfly Conservation, Canal and Rivers Trust, Cheshire Wildlife Trust, Cheshire East Council, Environment Agency, Harper Adams University, Natural England, RSPB and Shropshire Council. Additional support was given by the M&M BEN (Business Environment Network) and under M&M Wetland Landscape Partnership Summerfield Developments Viridor Credits Ltd

This report was approved by the Trustees on 18.07.18 and signed on their behalf by:



Kirsten Mould
Chair



Alan Salt
Treasurer

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Shropshire Wildlife Trust (the 'Charity') for the year ended 31 March 2018 set out on pages 24 to 44. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2018 and of its 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 Charities Act 2011.

Basis for opinion

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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.

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

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 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 Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the Trustees' report is inconsistent in any material respect with the financial statements; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; 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.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Charity 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 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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

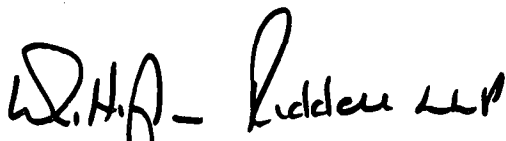
We have been appointed as auditor under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

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 Auditors' 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 located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 its trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Whittingham Riddell LLP

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

Belmont House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG

Date:

9 August 2018

Whittingham Riddell LLP are eligible to act as auditors in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
INCOME FROM:					
Donations and legacies	2	583,658	-	583,658	403,692
Charitable activities	3	408,201	1,088,459	1,496,660	1,308,979
Other trading activities	4	66,419	-	66,419	70,115
Investments	5	50	-	50	3,445
TOTAL INCOME		1,058,328	1,088,459	2,146,787	1,786,231
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Raising funds	4	235,015	-	235,015	242,221
Charitable activities	7	796,296	1,032,196	1,828,492	1,540,807
Other expenditure	8	47,011	-	47,011	12,362
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6	1,078,322	1,032,196	2,110,518	1,795,390
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		(19,994)	56,263	36,269	(9,159)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(19,994)	56,263	36,269	(9,159)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:					
Total funds brought forward		345,679	2,366,242	2,711,921	2,721,080
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		325,685	2,422,505	2,748,190	2,711,921

The notes on pages 27 to 44 form part of these financial statements.

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 0729746

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2018

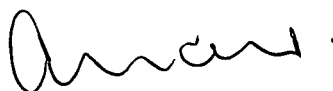
	Note	£	2018 £	£	2017 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12		2,257,355		2,114,576
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	13	16,852		14,336	
Debtors	14	376,301		227,180	
Cash at bank and in hand		267,294		539,579	
		<u>660,447</u>		<u>781,095</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(169,612)</u>		<u>(183,750)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>490,835</u>		<u>597,345</u>
NET ASSETS			<u>2,748,190</u>		<u>2,711,921</u>
CHARITY FUNDS					
Restricted funds	16	2,422,505		2,366,242	
Unrestricted funds	16	325,685		345,679	
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>2,748,190</u>		<u>2,711,921</u>

The Charity's financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The Trustees consider that the Charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act. However, an audit is required in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of financial statements.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 18.07.18 and signed on their behalf, by:

Kirsten Mould, Chairman

The notes on pages 27 to 44 form part of these financial statements.

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018

	Note	2018 £	2017 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	18	(83,456)	(62,120)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Proceeds from the sale of tangible fixed assets		3,000	7,000
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(191,829)	(177,744)
Net cash used in investing activities		(188,829)	(170,744)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(272,285)	(232,864)
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		539,579	772,443
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	19	267,294	539,579

The notes on pages 27 to 44 form part of these financial statements.

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair' view. This departure has involved following the Charities SORP (FRS 102) published on 16 July 2014 rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

Shropshire 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.

1.2 Company status

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

The Charity was incorporated in England, United Kingdom.

1.3 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.

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 costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.4 Income

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

For legacies, entitlement is taken as the earlier of the date on which either: the Charity 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 when 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 Charity has been notified of the executor's intention to make a distribution. Where legacies have been notified to the Charity, or the Charity is aware of the granting of probate, and the criteria for income recognition have not been met, then the legacy is treated as a contingent asset and disclosed if material.

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the Charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the Charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the Charity which is the amount the Charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

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

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.5 Expenditure

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

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters.

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the Charity's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Charity apportioned to charitable activities.

1.6 Going concern

There are no material uncertainties that exist that would doubt the preparation of these financial statements under the going concern basis.

1.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised.

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account.

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold property	-	not provided
Motor vehicles	-	25% on cost
Fixtures and fittings	-	25% on cost
Improvements to property	-	10% on cost

1.8 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.9 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.10 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.11 Cash at Bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

1.13 Financial instruments

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

1.14 Pensions

The Charity operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the Charity to the fund in respect of the year.

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.15 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments 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 Charity 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.

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
Donations	151,003	-	151,003	32,117
Legacies	40,049	-	40,049	8,635
Membership Subscriptions	379,634	-	379,634	352,345
Income from Branches	12,972	-	12,972	10,595
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total donations and legacies	583,658	-	583,658	403,692
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total 2017	379,968	23,724	403,692	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
A Living Landscape	35,730	67,289	103,019	303,211
Standing up for Wildlife	65,630	75,890	141,520	360,766
People and Wildlife	24,370	222,234	246,604	197,942
Meres and Mosses	40,187	106,284	146,471	344,325
Green Gym	-	-	-	63,450
BOG Life	35,041	424,650	459,691	-
Charitable Retail Sales	41,180	-	41,180	39,285
Rivers	110,741	192,112	302,853	-
Planning Searches	14,780	-	14,780	-
Other Charitable Income	40,542	-	40,542	-
	<u>408,201</u>	<u>1,088,459</u>	<u>1,496,660</u>	<u>1,308,979</u>
<i>Total 2017</i>	<u>422,480</u>	<u>886,499</u>	<u>1,308,979</u>	

4. TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
Charity trading income				
Retail fundraising sales	24,749	-	24,749	19,642
Room hire and other	41,670	-	41,670	50,473
	<u>66,419</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,419</u>	<u>70,115</u>
Net income from trading activities	<u>66,419</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>66,419</u>	<u>70,115</u>

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
Investment income	50	-	50	3,445
<i>Total 2017</i>	3,445	-	3,445	

6. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY EXPENDITURE TYPE

	Staff costs 2018 £	Depreciation 2018 £	Other costs 2018 £	Total 2018 £	Total 2017 £
Expenditure on raising voluntary income	219,275	-	15,740	235,015	242,221
Costs of generating funds	219,275	-	15,740	235,015	242,221
A Living Landscape	141,245	-	119,859	261,104	319,537
Standing up for Wildlife	60,376	-	82,933	143,309	249,212
People and Wildlife	177,508	-	170,913	348,421	261,756
Meres and Mosses	56,993	-	154,128	211,121	319,089
Green Gym	-	-	-	-	47,414
Charitable Retail Sales	95,020	-	55,193	150,213	24,725
Rivers	113,106	-	152,931	266,037	-
Other Charitable Expenditure	132,162	46,050	16,308	194,520	319,074
Planning Searches	27,750	-	9,654	37,404	-
BOG Life	14,028	-	202,335	216,363	-
Charitable activities	818,188	46,050	964,254	1,828,492	1,540,807
Other expenditures	-	-	47,011	47,011	12,362
	1,037,463	46,050	1,027,005	2,110,518	1,795,390
<i>Total 2017</i>	<i>1,012,990</i>	<i>34,971</i>	<i>747,429</i>	<i>1,795,390</i>	

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

7. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
A Living Landscape	192,761	68,343	261,104	319,537
Standing up for Wildlife	33,698	109,611	143,309	249,212
People and Wildlife	123,555	224,866	348,421	261,756
Meres and Mosses	-	211,121	211,121	319,089
Green Gym	-	-	-	47,414
Charitable Retail Sales	150,213	-	150,213	24,725
Rivers	77,484	188,553	266,037	-
Other Charitable Expenditure	164,901	29,619	194,520	319,074
Planning Searches	37,404	-	37,404	-
BOG Life	16,280	200,083	216,363	-
	<u>796,296</u>	<u>1,032,196</u>	<u>1,828,492</u>	<u>1,540,807</u>
<i>Total 2017</i>	<u>650,218</u>	<u>890,589</u>	<u>1,540,807</u>	

8. OTHER EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
Retail costs - fundraising sales	47,011	47,011	12,362
	<u>47,011</u>	<u>47,011</u>	<u>12,362</u>
<i>Total 2017</i>	<u>12,362</u>	<u>12,362</u>	

9. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

	2018 £	2017 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: - owned by the charity	46,050	34,971
	<u>46,050</u>	<u>34,971</u>

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration (2017 - £NIL).

During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2017 - £NIL).

During the year, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2017 - £NIL).

SHROPSHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

10. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

The Auditor's remuneration amounts to an Audit fee of £7,225 (2017 - £6,950).

11. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2018 £	2017 £
Wages and salaries	908,157	880,707
Social security costs	70,662	69,724
Other pension costs	58,644	62,559
	<u>1,037,463</u>	<u>1,012,990</u>

The average number of persons employed by the Charity during the year was as follows:

	2018 No.	2017 No.
Charitable activities	44	43
Management and administration	5	5
	<u>49</u>	<u>48</u>

Average headcount expressed as a full time equivalent:

	2018 No.	2017 No.
Staff members	38	37

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

During the year the key management personnel received in total emoluments of £328,155 (2017: £307,367).

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property and land £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 April 2017	1,990,598	72,446	150,863	88,376	2,302,283
Additions	158,964	64	32,821	-	191,849
Disposals	-	-	(3,020)	-	(3,020)
At 31 March 2018	<u>2,149,562</u>	<u>72,510</u>	<u>180,664</u>	<u>88,376</u>	<u>2,491,112</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2017	-	30,670	133,557	23,480	187,707
Charge for the year	-	6,305	18,212	21,533	46,050
At 31 March 2018	<u>-</u>	<u>36,975</u>	<u>151,769</u>	<u>45,013</u>	<u>233,757</u>
Net book value					
At 31 March 2018	<u>2,149,562</u>	<u>35,535</u>	<u>28,895</u>	<u>43,363</u>	<u>2,257,355</u>
At 31 March 2017	<u>1,990,598</u>	<u>41,776</u>	<u>17,306</u>	<u>64,896</u>	<u>2,114,576</u>

13. STOCKS

	2018 £	2017 £
Goods for resale	<u>16,852</u>	<u>14,336</u>

14. DEBTORS

	2018 £	2017 £
Trade debtors	109,307	84,632
Other debtors	266,755	140,531
Prepayments	239	2,017
	<u>376,301</u>	<u>227,180</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

15. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2018 £	2017 £
Trade creditors	79,207	86,816
Other taxation and social security	-	250
Other creditors	83,098	87,977
Accrued expenses	7,307	8,707
	<u>169,612</u>	<u>183,750</u>

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

	Balance at 1 April 2017 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2018 £
Unrestricted funds					
General Funds - all funds	<u>345,679</u>	<u>1,058,328</u>	<u>(1,078,322)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>325,685</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2017 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2018 £
Capital Reserve Fund (Landholdings)	1,851,596	-	(29,619)	190,586	2,012,563
Reserves Appeal Fund including Wrekin appeal	6,603	-	(3,000)	-	3,603
Stiperstones	112,546	-	(10,300)	-	102,246
Pontesford Hill	50,354	-	(7,356)	-	42,998
Bwlytai Woods	5,051	-	-	-	5,051
Rowe Farn	-	4,500	(4,500)	-	-
Catherton Common Appeal	1,500	-	(1,500)	-	-
BogLIFE	-	424,650	(200,083)	(190,586)	33,981
Butterfly Appeal	14,018	-	-	-	14,018
Badger Vaccination Appeal	4,557	-	-	-	4,557
Wildlife sites	54,070	22,250	(57,356)	-	18,964
Darwin's Garden appeal	12,183	-	(2,183)	-	10,000
John Muir Award	1,298	-	(1,298)	-	-
Meres and Moses HLF	82,002	106,284	(188,286)	-	-
Jean Jackson Charitable Trust	50,680	-	(8,000)	-	42,680
Bergum Wood Appeal	-	6,494	(6,494)	-	-
Whitchurch Branch	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Curlew Appeal	-	23,292	(5,000)	-	18,292
Green Gym	13,782	20,000	(25,345)	-	8,437
Grazing Pilot	12,000	-	-	-	12,000
Pine Marten appeal	9,972	2,042	(4,509)	-	7,505
Wild Career Choice	-	15,492	(15,492)	-	-
Growing Confidence	20	-	-	-	20
Growing Confidence	-	176,650	(176,650)	-	-
John Muir Award AONIB	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Sylvia Adams Charitable Trust	-	10,000	(10,000)	-	-
Tesco Whitchurch Wildlife Watch	-	3,000	-	-	3,000
AONB Wildlife Sites	-	3,309	(3,309)	-	-
Rivers Project Love Your River Telford	-	79,000	(79,000)	-	-
Furbers appeal	18,344	45,295	-	-	63,639
Whixall Bird Hide Appeal	1,417	250	-	-	1,667
Fairfields appeal	(30,345)	10,000	-	-	(20,345)
Restored Earth Clarity	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Queensway Fields Forever	5,000	-	(5,000)	-	-
Cadbury - New Works	5,000	5,000	-	-	10,000
Communications	10,000	-	(10,000)	-	-
Freshwater First	-	96,005	(96,005)	-	-
Alcoa Tree Planting	4,993	-	(4,993)	-	-
Tesco - Darwins Garden	2,868	2,500	(5,368)	-	-
Alcoa Wrekin Rocks	20,663	-	(20,663)	-	-
Big Lottery - Merefest	9,835	-	(9,835)	-	-
Tesco - Wooly Workers	4,566	2,000	(6,566)	-	-
Tesco - Enchanted Ercall	4,124	2,000	(6,124)	-	-
Tesco - Wonderful Whitcliffe	7,957	3,000	(6,486)	-	4,471
Tesco - Wrekin View John Muir	1,875	625	(2,500)	-	-

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Tesco - Woodlands Homes	1,000	255	(1,255)	-	-
Tesco - Feed the Birds	5,663	359	(6,022)	-	-
Wildchild Garden	50	-	(50)	-	-
Rivers Marches LEP Feasibility	-	8,800	(8,800)	-	-
Rivers Tesco Otter Project	-	3,807	(249)	-	3,558
Our Garden Heritage - HLF	-	8,600	-	-	8,600
	<u>2,366,242</u>	<u>1,088,459</u>	<u>(1,032,196)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,422,505</u>
Total of funds	<u>2,711,921</u>	<u>2,146,787</u>	<u>(2,110,518)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,748,190</u>

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	<i>Balance at 1 April 2016 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 March 2017 £</i>
Designated funds - prior year					
Designated funds - all funds	1,927	-	-	(1,927)	-
	<u>1,927</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,927)</u>	<u>-</u>
General funds - prior year					
General Funds - all funds	372,545	876,008	(904,801)	1,927	345,679
	<u>372,545</u>	<u>876,008</u>	<u>(904,801)</u>	<u>1,927</u>	<u>345,679</u>
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>374,472</u>	<u>876,008</u>	<u>(904,801)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>345,679</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2018**

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Restricted funds

	Balance at 1 April 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2017 £
Capital Reserve Fund (Landholdings)	1,851,596	-	-	-	1,851,596
Reserves Appeal Fund	7,930	-	(6,000)	-	1,930
Stiperstones	117,496	6,300	(11,250)	-	112,546
Pontesford Hill	62,211	15,939	(27,796)	-	50,354
Bwlytai Woods	5,051	-	-	-	5,051
Nature Reserves Appeal	5,925	-	(2,000)	-	3,925
Catherston Common Appeal	6,500	-	(5,000)	-	1,500
Wrekin Appeal	5,748	-	(5,000)	-	748
Butterfly Appeal	14,018	-	-	-	14,018
Badger Vaccination Appeal	4,557	-	-	-	4,557
Wildlife sites	52,000	63,110	(61,040)	-	54,070
Darwin's Garden appeal	12,183	-	-	-	12,183
John Muir Award	1,298	3,000	(3,000)	-	1,298
Meres and Moses HLF	94,000	172,947	(184,945)	-	82,002
Jean Jackson Charitable Trust	81,370	15,000	(45,690)	-	50,680
Restoring the Moses and Marches	-	68,607	(68,607)	-	-
Whitchurch Branch	1,000	-	-	-	1,000
Wild Career Choice	-	18,726	(18,726)	-	-
Green Gym	786	60,200	(47,204)	-	13,782
Grazing Pilot	12,000	-	-	-	12,000
Pine Marten appeal	10,940	8,584	(9,552)	-	9,972
Prees Heath	-	13,500	(13,500)	-	-
Growing Confidence	-	155,359	(155,339)	-	20
Rivers Project	-	137,041	(137,041)	-	-
Furbers appeal	-	18,344	-	-	18,344
Whixall Bird Hide Appeal	-	1,417	-	-	1,417
Fairfields appeal	-	26,496	(56,841)	-	(30,345)
Restored Earth Clarity	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Queensway Fields Forever	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Cadbury - New Works	-	5,000	-	-	5,000
Communications	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
Furbers Bog Life	-	6,227	(6,227)	-	-
Alcoa Tree Planting	-	10,224	(5,231)	-	4,993
Tesco - Darwins Garden	-	7,500	(4,632)	-	2,868
Alcoa Wrekin Rocks	-	31,892	(11,230)	-	20,662
Big Lottery - Merefest	-	9,835	-	-	9,835
Tesco - Woolly Workers	-	6,000	(1,434)	-	4,566
Tesco - Enchanted Ercall	-	6,000	(1,876)	-	4,124
Tesco - Wonderful Whitcliffe	-	9,000	(1,043)	-	7,957
Tesco - Wrekin View John Muir	-	1,875	-	-	1,875
Tesco - Woodlands Homes	-	1,000	-	-	1,000
Tesco - Feed the Birds	-	6,050	(386)	-	5,664
Wildchild Garden	-	50	-	-	50
	<u>2,346,609</u>	<u>910,223</u>	<u>(890,590)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,366,242</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Total of funds	2,721,081	1,786,231	(1,795,391)	-	-	2,711,921
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SUMMARY OF FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

	Balance at 1 April 2017 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2018 £
General funds	345,679	1,058,328	(1,078,322)	-	325,685
	345,679	1,058,328	(1,078,322)	-	325,685
Restricted funds	2,366,242	1,088,459	(1,032,196)	-	2,422,505
	2,711,921	2,146,787	(2,110,518)	-	2,748,190

SUMMARY OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	Balance at 1 April 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Balance at 31 March 2017 £
Designated funds	1,927	-	-	(1,927)	-
General funds	372,545	876,008	(904,801)	1,927	345,679
	374,472	876,008	(904,801)	-	345,679
Restricted funds	2,346,609	910,223	(890,590)	-	2,366,242
	2,721,081	1,786,231	(1,795,391)	-	2,711,921

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The Capital Reserve Fund is the total of rants received for purchase of land and capital items.

All other restricted funds in the Statement of Funds are balances from specific fundraising or grants awarded. These will be spent as specified on the projects and sites intended. All restricted income and expenditure has been spent in accordance with each grant fund and claimed accordingly.

Land at Whixhall was purchased in 2017 as part of the programme of works with European funding in partnership with Natural England. Additional funding has been secured from The Heritage Lottery fund and this together with appeal funds for Furbers scrapyard and the Whixhall Bird Hide will ensure the entire programme will be completed over the next 4 years.

The appeal for Curlews started in 2017 and continues, we are working in partnership with other organisations to help stop the decline in Curlews.

The Meres and Mosses Landscape Partnership Scheme funded by Heritage Lottery, The Environment Agency, Befesa, Liverpool John Moores University and Manchester Metropolitan University completed the 5 year programme in September 2017.

The Wildlife sites programme to improve sites in the county continued with funding from The Jean Jackson Charitable Trust, The Millichope Foundation and Whitley Animal Protection Trust.

The Rivers programme has developed to such an extent that it has now been separated out from Living Landscapes and Standing up for Wildlife and is reported independently. European Funding has been secured for the Freshwater First programme in partnership with Telford and Wrekin Council, Canal and Rivers Trust and Shropshire Council. We have also secured funds for Farming Advisers across 3 counties from Severn Trent Water, other Rivers projects have been funded by The Environment Agency, Severn Rivers Trust.

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £
Tangible fixed assets	107,793	2,149,562	2,257,355
Current assets	378,562	281,885	660,447
Creditors due within one year	(160,670)	(8,942)	(169,612)
	<u>325,685</u>	<u>2,422,505</u>	<u>2,748,190</u>

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17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS (continued)

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2017 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2017 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2017 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	123,979	1,990,597	2,114,576
Current assets	405,450	375,645	781,095
Creditors due within one year	(183,750)	-	(183,750)
	<u>345,679</u>	<u>2,366,242</u>	<u>2,711,921</u>

18. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2018 £	2017 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	36,269	(9,159)
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	46,050	34,971
Increase in stocks	(2,516)	(5,051)
Increase in debtors	(139,065)	(71,180)
Decrease in creditors	(24,194)	(11,701)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(83,456)</u>	<u>(62,120)</u>

19. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2018 £	2017 £
Cash in hand	267,294	539,579
Total	<u>267,294</u>	<u>539,579</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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20. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 March 2018 the total of the Charity's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2018 £	2017 £
Amounts payable:		
Within 1 year	11,790	9,742
Between 1 and 5 years	27,080	16,541
Total	<u>38,870</u>	<u>26,283</u>

21. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 March 2018.