



Avon Wildlife Trust

Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2016

Registered Charity 280422

Registered Company 1495108

*Securing **wildlife** - Inspiring **people***

Avon Wildlife Trust
is a company member of
Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts
South West Wildlife Trusts
South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited
and **Bristol Natural History Consortium**



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The AWT Group

The Annual Report and Financial Statements refer to 'the AWT Group'. This term is used to include Avon Wildlife Trust and Folly Farm Centre Limited. Further details about the Trust's subsidiary and related companies are given on page 12-13.

Welcome

Welcome to Avon Wildlife Trust's Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ending on 31 March 2016.

2015 was one of the busiest years the Trust has ever had. Not only was it our 35th anniversary year and Bristol European Green Capital 2015, it was also the first year of our new 5-year plan, Our Vision 2015 – 2020. The Trust rose to these challenges, turning them into creative opportunities that have delivered significant benefits in the local area and enhanced the Trust's profile.

Our Vision 2015 – 2020 was launched in the last financial year and set out an ambitious plan to enable nature to recover on a grand scale. One year on, we have projects running in all five landscape scale areas, all of which demonstrate how the Trust works in decades, with visions of achieving real benefits for wildlife for the longer term. We are also working on two connectivity projects: B-Lines and My Wild City, creating corridors for wildlife across the region.

B-Lines is an ambitious plan for helping our bees, butterflies, hoverflies and other pollinating insects which was launched by the Trust and Buglife in March 2015. The project is now well under way, creating wildflower-rich corridors across the countryside, connecting the region's best wildlife sites from the Cotswolds to the Mendips, and from our towns and cities to the countryside

The My Wild City campaign was launched to mark Bristol's year as European Green Capital, in partnership with the University of Bristol and Bristol City Council. It aims to enable people in Bristol and across the West of England area to take action for wildlife in their own communities. This complements an important part of our strategy, which is to show people the value of nature and support them reconnecting to nature for their own wellbeing.

In celebrating the Trust's 35th anniversary, we were also able to celebrate its role as the first urban Wildlife Trust. We were involved in developing a Nature Rich cities strand within the Festival of the Future City Bristol 2015 Summit, and following on from this, we will be working with four other urban wildlife trusts to share best practice for urban conservation.

The Trust's leadership in the development of the West of England Partnership is now bearing fruit in the designation of a Nature Improvement Area and the production of ecosystem-services maps to help inform future planning. We will continue to influence policy-makers to value nature and its importance to human health and wellbeing through creating more green infrastructure alongside development, and investing more in the ecological networks that provide us with clean air, clean water, flood defences and much more.

The Trust is a collective movement, and its achievements result from the contributions of its members, supporters and volunteers who are concerned about the loss of our natural world, and are inspired to take action to support the Trust's work.

At the conclusion of this financial year, the Trust's Chief Executive Bevis Watts left after three and a half years of transformative leadership. He is succeeded by Ian Barrett, who looks forward to leading Avon Wildlife Trust and working closely with all our supporters and partners as we move ahead with our 2015–2020 vision.



Ian Barrett
Chief Executive



Rosamund Kidman Cox
Chair, Board of Trustees

Report of the Trustees

The Trustees of Avon Wildlife Trust are pleased to submit their Report on the Trust, together with its Financial Statements, for the year ended 31 March 2016. The Report Covers pages 2-16 and also constitutes a Strategic Report in accordance with the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Directors Report) Regulations 2013.

Review of the year

The Trust has achieved most of its major objectives and targets for the year – a collaborative achievement through the efforts of our members, volunteers and staff and the invaluable support of our funders and partners.

Highlights include:

Creating ecological networks

We achieved progress in all five landscape-scale areas, with landmark achievements ranging from work on our new reserve in the Avon Gorge to the establishment of a partnership to restore coastal flood plain and grazing marsh.

We demonstrated the importance of connectivity in our B-Lines work, creating wildlife-rich corridors across the landscape in the Chew Valley and Cotswolds.

We took our place as Programme Partner in Bristol European Green Capital 2015, which was also the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the Trust as the first urban Wildlife Trust.

My Wild City was launched as our central campaign for the year, with a vision of inspiring people to work together to make Bristol into a nature reserve, linked with wildlife corridors.

Our pioneering eco-maps for My Wild City form a blueprint to show how wildlife can be brought back to every city.

Inspiring people and communities to care for nature

My Wild City has involved countless people in citywide activities and practical action for wildlife, with themes including My Wild Street, My Wild School and My Wild Cathedral.

Our new nature reserve Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock has become the focus of a new volunteer group and community events and has significantly raised the Trust's profile.

We concluded our three-year Communities and Nature Programme, in which we worked with more than 15,000 people, all from communities and groups who had not traditionally accessed wildlife activities.

We were awarded funding for a five-year Natural Estates project, which will involve young people in improving green spaces and gardens on six housing estates across Avon and Gloucestershire.

A citizen-science survey to monitor the decline of the hedgehog was launched, encouraging people to report sightings and offering advice on how to improve gardens and school grounds for hedgehogs and wildlife.

The Festival of Nature in June attracted a large attendance at the Trust's area, where free wildlife garden starter kits were distributed and more than 250 students attended on the schools day.

Championing the value of nature

We continue to play a prominent role in the West of England Partnership (WENP), and together we delivered a successful event exploring health and nature links in Bristol 2015's healthy cities week.

Through WENP we are central to discussions on the development of the Natural Capital Trust, which would disperse mitigation monies associated with new development in the West of England.

We have also been working through WENP to promote the inclusion of the B-Lines maps and other ecological network maps within the Joint Spatial Plan.

Five urban Wildlife Trusts – Avon, London, Lancashire, Sheffield and Birmingham – are developing a joint project, funded by Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, to share best practice for urban conservation.

We supported the development of a Nature-Rich Cities strand within the Festival of the Future City Bristol 2015 Summit.

About the Trust

What we are

Avon Wildlife Trust is a local environmental charity with 16,656 members.

Its mission is to conserve the natural environment in the Avon area for public benefit.

The Trust is the largest locally-based environmental conservation charity in the Avon area, and the only one dedicated to conserving the whole range and diversity of local wildlife, including all species of plants and animals, together with the habitats and natural landscapes that support and sustain them.

The Trust has a dual legal status as a registered company regulated under company law, and as a registered charity regulated under charity law. It is governed for public benefit by a Board of Trustees.

The Trust is part of the national federation of 47 Wildlife Trusts, which jointly cover the whole British Isles and have more than 800,000 members.

The Trust is committed to good practice in fundraising and is voluntarily following the Code of Fundraising Practice (now overseen by the new Fundraising Regulator).

What we do

Our vision is to enable nature to 'recover on a grand scale'. This represents a significant change in approach to wildlife conservation, from trying to protect what we have left, to one off large-scale habitat restoration and recreation for the benefit of wildlife and people.

Given the scale and pace of loss of nature and wild spaces, reversing the decline in biodiversity is a huge challenge, especially in our region, which has one of the fastest-growing human populations in the UK.

The Trust (both individually and collectively with the Wildlife Trusts) is therefore stepping up its response and finding new ways of working to increase our impact.

Our goals

Our three goals over the next five years to make this vision a reality are to:

- create ecological networks through landscape-scale habitat management and enhancement;
- inspire people and communities to care for nature;
- champion the value of nature.

Achieving our goals

We will deliver our goals at two levels:

1. We will focus most of our effort within five landscape-scale areas prioritised for their conservation need and their potential for community engagement. Each area also offers valuable ecosystem services, such as the provision of clean drinking water, flood alleviation, absorptions of greenhouse gases, pollination services and health and wellbeing.
2. We will work to create connecting corridors for wildlife across the region.

Both will be supported by generic work at a West-of-England-wide scale, such as reserve management and education.

Our five priority areas are:

1. Gordano Valley and Ridges
2. Avon Gorge and Downs
3. North Somerset Levels
4. Cotswolds
5. Chew Valley

To achieve our goals, we will:

- look after and improve our existing wildlife sites, increasing their size where possible;
- restore and create new areas for wildlife;
- join up wildlife sites through corridors or via green 'stepping stones';
- increase the wildlife value of the wider landscape;
- extend the reach and impact of our engagement with people in both urban and rural areas;
- work with partners to champion the value of nature and provide evidence to show that investing in our natural capital can help create a strong and sustainable economy and society.

Create ecological networks through landscape-scale habitat management and enhancement

Over the next five years and beyond, we will create coherent and resilient ecological networks at a landscape scale for people and wildlife so that threatened species can flourish and degraded ecosystems can be restored. In each of our priority areas we will deliver five practical actions:

1. Maintain and improve our current wildlife habitats and sites.
2. Increase their size where possible.
3. Restore and create new areas for wildlife.
4. Join them up – through continuous corridors or via green 'stepping stones'.
5. Increase the wildlife value of the wider landscape.

Inspire people and communities to care for nature

Securing a future rich in wildlife is Avon Wildlife Trust's vision, one which also brings huge benefits to society. Central to our strategy for achieving that vision is engaging people in our work.

The Trust's work and presence in urban areas has been vital in communicating what we are working to achieve in the surrounding countryside, and for securing the resources to do so. We also need to engage rural communities and enable them to take local action to enable nature to recover on a grand scale. Convincing everyone of the relevance of our work and of nature's value to their everyday lives and the communities in which they live is key.

Champion the value of nature

Avon Wildlife Trust will work with partners to champion the value of nature and provide evidence to show that investing in our natural capital can help to create a strong and sustainable economy and society. Our goal is to ensure that consideration of nature is embedded in all political, economic and planning processes, and the value of nature to society is widely understood and accounted for.

Why we do it

These goals were set out in the strategy document *Our Vision 2015–2020*, which was launched last year establishing new strategic goals for the Trust over the next five years. We want to enable nature to 'recover on a grand scale', moving away from the traditional approach of wildlife conservation – trying to protect what we have left – towards more ambitious, large-scale habitat creation and restoration for the benefit of wildlife and people. Given the scale and pace of the loss of nature and wild spaces, this will be a huge challenge, especially in our region, which has one of the fastest-growing human populations in the UK. This is why we must step up our response and find new ways of working to increase our impact.

Charitable purpose

The purpose of the Trust is *"to advance the environmental protection and improvement for wildlife in the area formerly known as the County of Avon"*.

Our vision

The Trust's vision is to enable nature to 'recover on a grand scale'.

The Trust will deliver this vision by working towards three goals for 2015–2020 to:

- create ecological networks through landscape-scale habitat management and enhancement
- inspire people and communities to care for nature
- champion the value of nature

Our values

The Trust is committed to the following values and principles:

- Acknowledging the exceptional **importance of wildlife and the natural environment** to the health and sustainability of the planet's climate and eco-systems
- Promoting the crucial **social and economic benefits** provided by wildlife and the natural environment to the health and wellbeing of the human population
- Enhancing **social inclusion** by promoting opportunities for all members of the community to take part in the Trust's work and activities
- Delivering the Trust's objectives by working as far as possible through **partnerships** with other organisations and community groups
- Promoting opportunities for **volunteering** and developing the skills, interests and personal development of its volunteers
- Taking pride in the Trust's role as a **community enterprise** created by and responsible to its members
- Fostering a culture of **innovation, inspiration and creativeness** in its own internal working to create a visionary and dynamic Trust
- Demonstrating **openness and transparency** to all its external audiences, partners and customers
- Seeking to operate at all times with total **probity**, in support of **ethical trading**, and **minimising its own carbon footprint**

Public benefit

All the Trust's activities are undertaken to provide a healthy living world for the benefit of the public. The Trust runs an extensive programme of public events, activities and services. The Trust actively works to ensure that these are accessible to the widest range of people, and that they can gain information about them through a variety of media.

Many of our events and activities are available free, and in those cases where a charge is made (for example, to cover necessary costs), the charge is kept to a reasonable minimum. The Trust also encourages free public access to its extensive network of nature reserves, although at a few of these reserves, access has to be restricted in numbers or at certain times of the year because of the sensitivity of the wildlife.

Formal membership of the Trust is open to anybody. There is a minimum annual subscription payable for membership, and this has been kept at a low level to facilitate access to membership for all. Many members generously choose to contribute more than the minimum, when they are able to do so.

Area of operation

The Trust was set up in 1980 to operate throughout the newly created County of Avon. The County ceased to exist in 1996, but the Trust's geographical area of operation remains unchanged and is now administered by the four unitary councils of Bath & NE Somerset, Bristol City, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire. The area is now referred to in many official circles as the West of England, but is called Avon in this report.

Principal activities

The Trust:

- Manages 1,130 hectares of key wildlife sites as nature reserves.
- Runs a successful environmental-learning centre at Folly Farm.
- Promotes programmes to safeguard or strengthen the representation and extent/distribution of priority species and habitats native to Avon.
- Campaigns to protect and promote wildlife, and to maximise the social and economic benefits of the natural environment and the environmental services that it provides.
- Encourages and supports wildlife-friendly practices by land managers.
- Provides enrichment opportunities for the general public by helping people to learn about and enjoy wildlife and to develop special interests in the natural environment.
- Enables people to make a positive contribution to wildlife conservation, both by direct action and by reducing the environmental impact of their behaviour.
- Provides opportunities for people to acquire skills and experience that enhance their personal development and employability.

Our impact in 2015/16

Creating ecological networks

Our vision is to enable Nature to 'recover on a grand scale' through landscape-scale habitat management and enhancement

The first year of delivering the new strategy has seen significant progress in all five of the Trust's priority areas, which are

1. Gordano Valley and Ridges
2. Avon Gorge and Downs
3. North Somerset Levels
4. Cotswolds
5. Chew Valley

Progress has also been made with the **connectivity work** delivered across Bristol through My Wild City, and across the West of England through the B-Lines project. B-lines will create wide strips of wildflower-rich grasslands, linking existing wildlife areas through a network of pollinating-insect pathways across the wider landscape.

Within the five priority areas, work is continuing on the new nature reserve in the **Avon Gorge and Downs** – Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock – a landmark initiative for the Trust. The brownfield site (a five-hectare former sports ground next to Bristol's Portway) has been transformed into an inspiring nature reserve, connecting up wildlife habitat in the Avon Gorge and furthering the Trust's wider vision to create wildlife corridors across Bristol. The reserve has also raised the Trust's profile, re-establishing a reputation in Bristol and promoting the My Wild City campaign, which was launched to mark the Trust's involvement in Bristol European Green Capital 2015.

In the **Chew Valley**, we have extended our B-Lines work, providing advice and training to landowners to create and restore habitat. A DEFRA-funded Payment for Ecosystems Services (PES) pilot project in the Winford Brook catchment has now concluded. We now hope to implement a PES project in the Chew Valley and use the learning from the project to facilitate similar mechanisms elsewhere.

Our work in the **Cotswolds** has also benefitted from the West of England B-Lines project. We secured a Biffa Award grant to progress the B-Line route, which will link the limestone grasslands of the Mendip Hills with those of the Cotswolds. The Trust is also working to increase Trust presence in the Bath area.

On the **North Somerset Levels and Moors** we secured funding through Wessex Water's Partner's Programme for landscape-scale habitat restoration. This has enabled the Trust to set up a new partnership to restore coastal-flood-plain and grazing marsh in two of our priority areas. Over the

next five years we will work to integrate flood management and sustainable-farming practices, with best-practice management for biodiversity.

In the **Gordano Valley** work has now been completed to install 'invisible fencing' at our Walton Common nature reserve to enable grazing cattle help restore this SSSI grassland, which has diminished by 30% in the past 50 years. Significant contractor and volunteer resources cleared scrub across the common, which has now been entered into Natural England's Higher Level Stewardship to enable restoration works over the next 10 years.

My Wild City was launched to coincide with the Trust's role as Programme Partner in Bristol European Green Capital 2015. It aims to make Bristol a nature-rich city by working with communities across the city, helping them to create green corridors so that wildlife can move easily around the city. The project was planned around new maps which identify the areas in each neighbourhood where there are opportunities to improve woodland and grassland habitat for wildlife. The maps allow people to zoom right down to their own street and garden level. They show the best places to connect habitats by linking gardens, passageways and other green spaces. It has been a very successful campaign with its vision of transforming Bristol into a nature reserve, capturing the public imagination and delivering on the first and second of the Trust's strategic goals.

Other key impacts

- We carried out a wide range of maintenance and management tasks across our reserves with the help of volunteers. This included dry-stone walling, improving pathways, repairing fences and gates, carrying out wildlife surveys and monitoring.
- Two years' funding was secured to run the **Coronation Meadows** Project at Folly Farm, taking green hay from the flower-rich meadows at the top of the reserve to spread on one of the less diverse fields closer to buildings.
- In **Prior's Wood** the Trust has been providing aftercare to 3,000 new trees planted there in 2014/15. Trust volunteers have been thinning the former tree nurseries established here by the Tyntesfield Estate in the 1980s.
- **Tickenham Hill** – Capital works including fencing, coppicing and scrub clearance have been completed to enable grazing over a larger area
- Works at **Blake Pools** by the Environment Agency raised the sea wall that protects Kingston Seymour and Congresbury along the river Yeo. It is hoped that more pools will be created in the area as spoil for the wall is dug from surrounding farmland, and these will

provide good habitats for breeding birds.

- At **Bathampton Meadow**, the Trust worked with Kier Construction to improve the flood-storage capacity of the site to help protect the city of Bath from flooding. The artificial Oxbow Lake has had the build-up of deposited silt removed to allow the flow of water from the River Avon into the reserve.

- **Portbury Wharf** nature reserve ceased to be managed by the Trust on 31 December 2015 when funding was withdrawn and North Somerset Council took over the management of the reserve. Over the eight years of the Trust's management, a great deal of habitat restoration was carried out, and Portbury Wharf provides a critical link from the Severn Estuary to the Gordano Valley's wetlands.

"We need a step-change in our approach to wildlife conservation, from trying to hang on to what we have, to one of large-scale habitat restoration and recreation, underpinned by the reestablishment of ecological processes and ecosystem services, for the benefits of both people and wildlife."

Sir John Lawton, Making Space for Nature

Inspiring people and communities

- Projects with schoolchildren included a programme of activities with eight Bristol Primary Schools, focussing on the decline of the hedgehog and demonstrating to children how they can take action for wildlife in their school grounds. We also secured a contract from Bristol 2015 to deliver My Wild City classroom sessions in 116 primary schools across Bristol.
- Spawn to be Wild (funded by Bristol Water) worked with 270 pupils from 4 schools in Bristol, including a fieldtrip to Blagdon Lake to release the eels. The project was presented with a Bronze Green Apple Environment Award at the Houses of Parliament.
- The learning team delivered education sessions at Says Court Solar Farm (funded by Westerleigh Parish Council) to 150 pupils from two local primary schools to teach them about the need for renewable energy, the impact of the installation on the local environment and the measures being put in place to aid wildlife
- The Trust's learning team ran holiday clubs for Bristol children to encourage young people to explore the natural world. Clubs were based at Feed Bristol and Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock
- Portbury Wharf Nature Bugs programme was successful in engaging local families including visits to Priors Wood & Folly Farm. Wild Play

sessions were provided through Easter holidays for local residents to learn about wildlife habitats, and a filming project on the reserve was delivered with pupils from St Peter's school.

- The Folly Farm Centre offers residential stays and day visits for school children of all ages, from reception children to A-Level students, with curriculum-linked programmes for all ages. In the 2015/16 year 71 school groups visited the learning centre, a total of 2,727 pupils, of which 2,281 came on a day visit and 446 on a residential stay
- The Wild Schools Film Challenge involved more than 1,000 pupils from 30 schools, and 32 films were submitted for the competition. In partnership with Rolls Royce, we held a celebratory event for the winning schools, with around 120 children and parents attending. Film-making kit boxes are available for all schools in the Avon area to borrow
- The Festival of Nature in June was themed as My Wild City and attracted a large attendance at the Trust's area, where free wildlife garden starter kits were distributed. More than 250 students attended on the schools day.
- A Citizen Science survey to monitor the decline of the hedgehog was launched, encouraging people to report sightings and offering advice on how to improve gardens for hedgehogs and wildlife.
- We have produced a city-wide hedgehog strategy and swift strategy with other local conservation organisations. Links with JLL property company will facilitate retrofitting 16 swift boxes, 6 bat boxes and 6 house sparrow boxes to their buildings.
- Bristol Cathedral has agreed to run a My Wild Cathedral stream with events supported by the Trust. This will encourage the congregation to take action for wildlife.
- Bristol West MP Thangam Debbonaire made a commitment to support the Wild City project by helping to engage landowners within her constituency, such as Network Rail.
- Feed Bristol delivered a high-profile Seed Swap event in March (attended by 500 people) and a green woodworking sculpture day.
- The Trust worked with BANKSY's team to provide them with reeds and rushes for Dismaland in Weston-super-Mare. This provided an alternative way of promoting our land-management and exciting members.
- An average of 362 volunteers supported us each month during 2015/16, equating to an average of 707 days per month.

"No one will protect what they don't care about and no one will care about what they haven't experienced"

Sir David Attenborough

Champion the value of nature

The Trust works with partners to champion the value of nature, and provide evidence to show that investing in our natural capital can help to create a strong and sustainable economy and society.

The value of nature to society must be widely understood and accounted for.

We are working to influence the health and wellbeing agenda as part of this goal, and in October, through the West of England Partnership (WENP) we delivered a successful event as part of Bristol's 2015's **Healthy Cities Week**. This brought together senior health professionals to explore the links of health to nature, and advocated increase social prescribing and more consideration of green infrastructure in urban development. We also featured in a BBC *Inside Out West* documentary exploring these issues. The event has created a potential platform for further engagement with the health sector at a senior level.

In November 2015 the Trust supported the development of a Nature Rich Cities strand within the **Festival of the Future City Bristol 2015 Summit**. One day was dedicated to the question of 'Can Cities Be Nature Rich?' and we helped secure the attendance of Chris Baines and Tony Juniper.

Following this event, Lancashire Wildlife Trust came on a study visit to the Trust with a view to adopting the **My Wild City** branding as the start of it becoming a national 'urban wildlife conservation' programme. We continue to discuss this with Lancashire and RSWT, as part of the development of a strong national identity for urban wildlife work.

Through the West of England Nature Partnership (WENP) we have continued to be central to discussions on the development of the **Natural is Capital Trust (NCT)**, which would centrally disperse mitigation monies associated with new development in the West of England, as well as broker Payment for Ecosystems Services (PES) relationships. The concept has gained significant support, and Natural England is keen to run it as a national pilot here. It has also been included in the West of England Devolution bid. If successful, the NCT could facilitate much greater investment in ecological networks to secure ecosystem services rather than ad hoc mitigation around individual developments.

Through **WENP**, we are improving environmental evidence for decision making by mapping ecological

networks and ecosystem services for a State of Environment Report.

We are also working to promote the inclusion of all this evidence including the B-Lines maps and State of Environment maps within the **Joint Spatial Plan (JSP)**, which has been under consultation by the four unitary authorities. Our aspiration is that areas for ecological restoration are cited in the plan, and we intend that the maps will inform decision-making, highlighting what ecosystem services exist and what might be lost through development. The Trust has advocated use of the Natural Capital Trust to facilitate this.

Other key impacts

- The **Folly Farm Wellbeing Garden** has become established as a learning hub for volunteers and visiting groups, which include clubs for the elderly and disabled people.
- The Trust is a partner in the **Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership**, which published the Bristol Avon Catchment Plan. This outlines the key challenges facing the water environment across the whole of the Bristol Avon Catchment, and identifies the strategic actions that are required to address these challenges moving forwards.
- We are also involved in a Wessex Water initiative to measure and reduce the quantity of **pharmaceuticals** entering the waste-water system. The project aims to focus on education programme re safe disposal of medicine, alongside a nature intervention programme to help move people away from drug-based treatments.
- The Catchment Partnership has also produced maps that look at whole catchments and highlight areas where the catchment is failing, for example, the **Water Framework Directive Targets**. These maps are complementary to the State of Environment maps.
- Five urban wildlife trusts – Avon, London, Lancashire, Sheffield and Birmingham – are developing a joint project, funded by Esmée Fairbairn Foundation to share **best practice for urban conservation**. This relationship has been strengthened by discussions at the Nature-Rich Cities day.
- The Trust is playing a key role on the board of **Bristol Green Capital Partnership** and is central to discussions of how the natural environment forms part of its forward vision for Bristol and the West of England.

Thank you

The work of the Trust would simply not be possible without public support. This support comes in many forms and from many sources – in volunteer time, through subscriptions and donations, and through direct funding. This is hugely encouraging, and the Trust is very grateful for the levels of commitment and generosity. It is not possible to acknowledge all the donors, and so the following is a summary.

Volunteers

We received 8,484 days of volunteer time over the past year, in which an average of 362 volunteers supported us each month. This contribution is vital to delivery of the work of the Trust, our volunteers are active across all areas, from practical action on nature reserves to working with children, and disadvantaged communities, as well as donating time to help in the office, give talks, assist at events and distribute magazines.

We are also grateful to the Trust's Local Group volunteers, who raise funds and organise events in their local areas. While the number of 'traditional' groups is diminishing, they remain a group of people who do a great deal to support the Trust. **Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock** local group was represented for the first time at the annual Local Group Conference, and we hope that more new groups, like this one, will emerge, with a focus on local practical projects.

Volunteers have played a vital role in the Trust since its inception 35 years ago, and we continue to value their contribution to the ongoing success of our vital work for wildlife and people.

In financial terms, volunteer time equates to the value of approximately £476k. This means that the Trust benefits from increased capacity and impact of approximately 60 per cent. Volunteers play such an important role. Without them we would achieve a fraction of what we do to protect wildlife and inspire people.

The Trust values this support and where possible provides training, structured work experience and opportunities for volunteers to develop their careers.

Financial and In-kind support

We are grateful to all our supporters from Lottery funders, charitable trusts, businesses, councils and the Trust's own local groups, as well as those who offer support through expertise or services. This includes Bristol City Council, who lease offices at a token peppercorn rent, allowing the Trust to spend more on conservation, learning and community projects.

Members continue to be our single biggest source of revenue through subscriptions, donations, appeals and fundraising events. A regular fundraiser is Jan Barkworth, who opens her garden each year to raise funds for us.

It is also always touching, however sad the news, to receive gifts in memoriam and legacies. During the last year, we received nine gifts in memoriam, and bequests from Norman Cook, Margaret Gunning, Margaret Irish, Gladys Horner and Naomi Grant.

Our thanks also go to our business members Rolls Royce, Wessex Water, HAB Housing, Burleigh Portishead, Chorus IT and Sharp Business Systems.

AWT Local Groups (<i>various</i>)	Environment Agency	Quartet Community Foundation
Basil Brown Charitable Trust	Ernest Kleinwort Trust	Rolls-Royce plc
Biffaward	Garfield Weston Foundation	RSWT SDRC
Big Lottery Fund	Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership	Sobell Trust
Bristol City Council	Kew Gardens	South Gloucestershire Council
Bristol Naturalists Society	Linbury Trust	Triodos Bank
Bristol Green Capital Challenge Fund	Medlock Charitable Trust	Verdon Smith Family Charitable Settlement
Bristol Water plc	Natural England	Vine House Farm
Buglife	Nature Picture Library	Viridor Credits Environmental Company
Cory Environmental Trust	North Somerset Council	Wessex Water
Duchy of Cornwall	People's Postcode Lottery	Western Power Distribution
Ecotricity	Persimmon Homes plc	Woodland Trust

Financial review

Overview

Total funds for the AWT Group (see page 18) has decreased by £9k (£24k in 2014/15). Unrestricted income continued to be a challenge but the year finished with a surplus of £146k due to legacies receivable.

Restricted income of £514k was below expenditure of £669k in the year, resulting in a reduction in restricted funds of £155k.

Key financial factors:

- **Donations and legacies** (see note 1) – This income increased from £730k to £776k a 6% increase for the year. Of this the membership subscription income increased by 6.5% to £537k from £504k, representing 31% of unrestricted income in the year. Grants and donations were down from £162k to £38k but legacies increased from £57k to £201k.

Membership income is key to the stability of the organisation, when other income streams can be both fluctuating and unpredictable in timing and value.

- **Income from Charitable Activities** (note 2) remained steady at £1,049k compared to £1,055k in the previous year. Continued progress was made in establishing more of the Trust's nature reserves in long-term management agreements.

Contributions to overheads continued from our conservation and community projects.

Income from learning activity was increased in 2015/16 at £136k (2014/15 £59k) and included secondment of a member of the team to Bristol 2015. School visits to Folly Farm and Portbury Wharf as well as learning projects delivered both in schools and on nature reserves continued.

Ecological consultancy income decreased to £66k (2014/15 £157k) because these activities merged into **WildService** from 1 October 2015.

- **Expenditure** (note 4) - Folly Farm Centre Limited trading expenditure increased slightly to £348k from £338k. Expenditure on raising funds increased from £286k to £341k in the year, reflecting the increased activity, and expenditure on charitable activities remained steady at £1,585k compared to £1,580k in the previous year.
- **Folly Farm Centre Limited** (note 5) – had a busy year increasing sales from £412k to £457k and generating a profit of £45k (£12k in 2014/15).

The increase in sales of 11% (2014/15 16%) was due to growth in both the wedding and education sectors. Cost of sales increased to £121k (£113k in 2014/15) and overheads increased by 1% to £291k (£288k in 2014/15) as a result of cost savings on premises costs and general overheads. Rent paid to AWT was £40k.

All operational areas of the business continue to be developed with a view to achieving a balance of activities throughout the year and a broad income base. The Directors are confident that further growth can be achieved, and feedback from the Centre's customers has continued to be extremely positive, with many repeat bookings and delivering high-quality learning activities and courses in close partnership with Avon Wildlife Trust, its parent company.

- **WildService** is the ecological consultancy joint venture with Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and has generated a contribution of £7,648.
- **Balance Sheet** (Page 19) – The Trust continues to have a strong overall asset position. Heritage assets at the year-end were £5.7m (£5.8m at 31 March 2015). The net current asset position of the group has strengthened to £815k at 31 March 2016 (£683k at 31 March 2015).
- **Restricted Funds** – The Trust has many restricted funds as shown in Notes 15 and 16. These funds represent either revenue funding for ongoing projects, appeal funds or fixed assets held by the Trust. At 31 March 2016 the value of these funds was £5.7m (£5.9m at 31 March 2015). The deficit on the Folly Farm Development Project remains at £170k at 31 March 2016. The Trustees will prioritise the clearing of this deficit in the medium term (see Note 16).
- **Cash Flow** – The receipt of legacies and donations continues to support cash flow.

Financial Reserves

The Group's free unrestricted reserves decreased to £425k at 31 March 2016, from £448k at 31 March 2015 (see Note 16). A new designated fund was established for opportunities and development of the Trust's strategy. The Trustees reviewed the reserves and decided that unrestricted (or free) reserves should aim to be maintained at three months' cover of Revenue and Core expenditure rather than a fixed-target value and based upon the 2016/17 budget, this requirement would be £425k.

Looking ahead

Our Vision 2015–2020 is the Trust’s published plan for protecting nature and inspiring people across the West of England. It sets out our goals for the next five years.

Our vision

Our vision is to enable nature to ‘recover on a grand scale’. This represents a significant change in approach to wildlife conservation, from trying to protect what we have left, to one off large-scale habitat restoration and recreation for the benefit of wildlife and people.

Given the scale and pace of loss of nature and wild spaces, reversing the decline in biodiversity is a huge challenge, especially in our region, which has one of the fastest-growing human populations in the UK. The Trust (both individually and collectively with the Wildlife Trusts) is therefore stepping up its response and finding new ways of working to increase our impact.

Our goals

Our three goals over the next five years to make this vision a reality are to:

- create ecological networks through landscape-scale habitat management and enhancement;
- inspire people and communities to care for nature;
- champion the value of nature.

Achieving our goals

We will deliver our goals at two levels:

1. We will focus most of our effort within five landscape-scale areas prioritised for their conservation need and their potential for community engagement. Each area also offers valuable ecosystem services, such as the provision of clean drinking water, flood alleviation, absorptions of greenhouse gases, pollination services and health and wellbeing.
2. We will work to create connecting corridors for wildlife across the region.

Both will be supported by generic work at a West-of-England-wide scale, such as reserve management and education.

Our five priority areas are:

1. Gordano Valley and Ridges
2. Avon Gorge and Downs
3. North Somerset Levels
4. Cotswolds
5. Chew Valley.

To achieve our goals, we will:

- look after and improve our existing wildlife sites, increasing their size where possible;
- restore and create new areas for wildlife;
- join up wildlife sites through corridors or via green ‘stepping stones’;
- increase the wildlife value of the wider landscape;
- extend the reach and impact of our engagement with people in both urban and rural areas;
- work with partners to champion the value of nature and provide evidence to show that investing in our natural capital can help create a strong and sustainable economy and society.

We will continue to drive the agenda of the West of England Nature Partnership and seek to influence regional economic development, spatial planning and health and wellbeing strategies.

We look forward to working more closely with all our supporters and partners to move ahead with these plans and deliver our vision.



Brown’s Folly by Nicole Daw

The AWT Group

Avon Wildlife Trust has legal interests in a number of related companies. For reporting and accounting purposes, one of these related companies (Folly Farm Centre Limited) is included with the Trust in what is called 'the AWT Group'.

Folly Farm Centre Limited

This company is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Trust, formed to run the award-winning residential environmental-learning, conference and events centre developed on the Trust's property at Folly Farm, which includes a stunning 250-acre nature reserve. During 2015/16, the company achieved a turnover of £457k (2014/15 – £412k).

The conference facilities are attracting customers from the public, private and voluntary sectors, including: Baby Sensory, Ineo Life, Apetito, and the University of Bristol.

The Trust continues to develop the range of residential and day-learning courses at primary, secondary, further and higher levels using the Centre.

As well as the opportunities that the Centre provides for promoting environmental messages, the Centre buildings were designed as a demonstration of sustainable development, including use of rainwater harvesting, biomass and solar energy, and reed-bed sewage treatment.

The Centre has won a number of awards, received national, regional and local media attention. The enthusiastic feedback and repeat bookings are evidence of the Centre's success, and the Trustees are confident that the Centre will continue to be a profitable venture, as well as helping the Trust to reach and influence new audiences.

Related Companies

Wholly owned company

The Trust set up a subsidiary company in 2008: **Folly Farm Centre Limited**, registered company 6538712. The Trust has control and sole ownership of this company. During 2008/9 the company took on a lease of the newly completed Centre buildings at Folly Farm from the Trust, and now operates the Centre under the terms of a trading agreement with the Trust. There is a Board of seven directors including at least two Trustees (currently three) and the Chief Executive of the Trust.

Associated company

During the year the Trust merged its ecological consultancy activities with those of Gloucestershire Wildlife Management Limited in a joint venture company trading as **WildService**. The merger of the two

consultancies will enable WildService to deliver a wider range of services to meet the needs of construction, development, conservation and land-based business sectors.

The Trust acquired a 49% share of **Gloucestershire Wildlife Management Limited, trading as WildService**, registered company 2284477. The company was established in 1988.

The principal activity of the company is the promotion and supervision of conservation projects. There is a Board of seven directors including at least two representatives of each Trust and the Chief Executive of each Trust.

During 2015/16, the company achieved a turnover of £274k (2014/15 £99k). The company will gift aid available profits to its parent undertakings in equal proportions.

Connected company

The Trust is a member, can appoint one trustee to the Board of the Bristol Natural History Consortium (BNHC) registered charity 1123432, and is registered company 06472186.

The company was set up in 2008 to replace the unincorporated association of organisations that had operated under the same name since 2003.

The Trust has a place on the BNHC Board with the other two company members, Bristol Zoo Gardens and Wildscreen.

The activities of the Consortium are taken forward by a Steering Group representing the partners of the Consortium, which also includes the BBC Natural History Unit, the Universities of Bristol and West of England, Defra, the National Trust, Natural England, Bristol City Council and the RSPB.

The primary aims of the Consortium are to promote public interest in the natural world and to encourage the development of improved techniques of communication about the natural world. It does this through three main activities:

- staging an annual Festival of Nature in Bristol involving over 200 organisations and visited free by more than 20,000 visitors;
- promoting an annual Communicate conference with international participation; and
- delivering outreach educational activities, such as BioBlitz.

The Trust contributes to the core costs of BNHC (£5,000 in 2015/16). See note 10 for further financial details.

Jointly owned companies

The Trust is a corporate member of the **Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts** (RSWT), incorporated by Royal Charter and registered charity 207238, formed and owned by a federation of the 47 Wildlife Trusts covering the UK.

The Trust contributes to the operating costs of RSWT £28,930 (2014/15 £26,990) in return for representation of the Trust's interests at European, UK and England levels and for the promotion of co-operation and best practice between the Wildlife Trusts nationally. The Trust has a say in RSWT's strategy and management through regional representatives on RSWT's two highest decision-making bodies (Council and Forum) but remains entirely independent in terms of its own governance.

The Trust is also a company member of **South West Wildlife Trusts** (SWWT), a charitable company (registered charity 1094746, registered company 4417769) owned by seven Wildlife Trusts in the SW region. The Trust contributes to the operating costs of SWWT £13,000 (£9,000 in 2014/15) in return for representation of the Trust's interests at the South West regional level and for the promotion of joint programmes and best practice between the Trusts regionally. The Trust is directly represented on the SWWT Board by its Chair and Chief Executive, but again it remains entirely independent in terms of its own governance.

South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited (SWWFL)

The Trust is also a member of South West Wildlife Fundraising Limited (SWWFL), a company limited by guarantee, company number 8529465. SWWFL exists to provide membership recruitment services to members of SWWFL (and other Wildlife Trusts, at the discretion of the SWWFL directors).

The Trust became one of the original members on incorporation of SWWFL, together with Devon Wildlife Trust, Dorset Trust for Nature Conservation Limited, Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust, Somerset Wildlife Trust and Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. Later, in 2013/14 Worcestershire Wildlife Trust also became a member of SWWFL.

The Trust has the right to appoint up to two directors to the SWWFL board. Each member has committed to loan the company £33k of which £22k was provided in 2013/14 and a further £11k in 2014/15. The first repayment of £11k was received in June 2016. The Company provided membership recruitment services to the Trust totalling £107k in the year (2014/15 £93k).

AWT governance

Legal status

The Trust has dual legal status as a registered charity under the Charities Act 2011 and as a registered company limited by guarantee under the Companies Act 2006.

Constitution

The governing instrument of the Trust is its Memorandum and Articles of Association. This can be amended only by special resolution at a General Meeting of Trust members.

Governance

The governing body of the Trust is the Board of Trustees, which meets every three months to deal with regular business, with occasional extra meetings to address strategic or special matters. This body has full responsibility for the strategic development and direction of the Trust, and takes all decisions on matters of Trust policy.

The constitution of the Trust provides for a maximum of 14 Trustees – up to seven elected directly by Trust members at the AGM, and up to seven appointed by the Trustees, to ensure an appropriate balance of skills, experience and representation on the Board. Trustees serve a one-year term initially; further terms by election or appointment are for three years. The Board can also co-opt Trustees to fill any vacancy between AGMs.

During 2015/16, the Board was supported by two Committees (Governance and Finance), and by the Health, and Safety Group. The Board also occasionally set up short-term task groups to look at specific issues and policy areas.

The Committees have a specified membership of Trustees and operate within terms of reference, remits, rules and specific limits of delegated authority approved directly by the Board. The Board receives the minutes of every meeting of the Committees and task groups. The Management Groups have a specified membership of key senior staff, who operate within the same strict framework as the Committees. In addition to receiving the minutes of every Management Group meeting, the Board also receives a report at least annually from each group.

Trustee training and development

On taking up office, every trustee meets the Chair, Chief Executive, and relevant senior managers for induction to the workings and activities of the Trust. They are given a copy of the Governance Handbook, which contains such material as the Trust's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the terms of reference of the committees, role descriptions for trustees and officers of the Trust and statements about trustee responsibilities and the roles of Trustees and staff.

They are invited to serve on committees and task groups according to their skills, experience and aptitude. The Board actively promotes trustee development in various ways including site visits and working sessions with staff and outside advisers.

Risk management

The Board has in place the following infrastructure for minimising and managing risk to the Trust:

- A **Risk Policy**.
- A detailed **Risk Register** for delivering the policy, identifying key potential risks, with a set of control mechanisms and delivery actions.
- Operational delivery and review of the plan by the **Management Team** involving the Chief Executive and all of the senior managers. For example, a Health and Safety self-audit was started during the year, and this will result in an action plan of development activity.
- A **lead person** for each individual risk to ensure that the most appropriate people in the organisation are directly involved in assessing control mechanisms, identifying delivery and remedial action, and reviewing performance.
- An **annual reporting and monitoring** process to the Board, and to relevant external audiences through this report.

The principal risk faced by the Trust in the immediate future is the impact of the current post-Brexit economic climate on securing funding to achieve our ambitious strategy, our ability to secure unrestricted income and requirements for building maintenance at Folly Farm, Feed Bristol and Jacobs Wells Road.

Management

Delegation

The Chief Executive has delegated authority from the Board for the overall development, management and operations of the Trust within the strategic framework

and policies set by the trustees. There is a description of this delegation in the Governance Handbook, together with delegation procedures in the Trust Handbook setting out clear limits of authority at different levels for the Chief Executive and other staff to act for the Trust or commit expenditure.

Management Team

The Chief Executive is supported by four Directors responsible for teams of staff focusing on:

- Delivery Programmes,
- Fundraising, Membership & Communications,
- Folly Farm and
- Finance & Resources.

The Chief Executive and the four Directors comprise the Management Team, which meets regularly and drives forward the delivery of the Trust's Annual Plan. Through the Chief Executive, the Management Team has delegated authority for dealing with all operational matters within the policy framework set by the Board.



Staffing

At the end of 2015/16, the Trust and its subsidiary company were employing 43 paid staff, 25 full-time and 18 part-time. Staff are actively involved in the development and delivery of key aspects of the Trust's work through virtual teams (groups drawn from different teams and different levels within the staff structure).

Internal communications within the Trust are promoted in various ways including: a web-based Trust Handbook accessible internally and remotely by staff, a monthly staff forum, and a co-worker forum to air issues and put forward ideas to the Management Team. There are also strategy and team-building days to discuss key issues and develop ideas for the Annual Plan and the longer-term development of the Trust.

Compliance

This Report has been prepared in compliance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, and the Trustees confirm that they have had regard to the guidance on Public Benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

The Report also constitutes a Directors' Report as required by Section 415 of the Companies Act 2006 and has been prepared under the exemptions conferred by Part 15 of this Act. In addition, the Report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (2005 as amended) issued by the Accounting Standards Board and the Charity Commission.

Statement of the Board's responsibilities

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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

The Trustees confirm that as far as they are aware at the time of approving our annual report:

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

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

The members of Board who were in office on the date of approval of these financial statements have confirmed, as far as they are aware, that there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware. Each of the members of Board have confirmed that they have taken all steps that they ought to have taken as members of Board in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

The Report of the Members of Board, were approved by the Board on 8 September 2016 and signed on their behalf:

Chair R Kidman Cox Date 8/9 2016

Rosamund Kidman Cox

Secretary C G M Gillard Date _____ 2016

Cecile Gillard

General information

As at 31 March 2016

AVON WILDLIFE TRUST

is a registered charity in England and Wales and a registered company limited by guarantee. The Trust was established on 2 May 1980 and formally registered as a charity on 10 July 1980.

REGISTERED CHARITY

Number 280422

REGISTERED COMPANY

Number 1495108

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS AND REGISTERED OFFICE

32 Jacobs Wells Road
Bristol BS8 1DR

PATRONS	Lord O'Hagan
PRESIDENT	Simon King
VICE PRESIDENTS	Mark Carwardine
	Mike Dilger
	Philippa Forrester
	Kevin McCloud

TRUSTEES

The following Trustees served on the Trust's Board throughout 2015/16 except as noted:

Rosamund Kidman Cox - Chair	Dr Steve Nicholls - Deputy Chair
Cecile Gillard - Secretary	Katharine Finn - Treasurer
Anthony Brown	Martin Brasher
Lesley Freed	Professor Jane Memmott
Alan Dorn	Dilys Huggins
Professor Justin Dillon	Nigel Morrison
Lorna Fox	

KEY PERSONNEL

Dr Bevis Watts	- Chief Executive (to 31 March 2016)
Ian Barrett	- Chief Executive (from 11 April 2016)
Jane Davis	- Director of Finance & Resources
Dr Lucy Rogers	- Director of Delivery Programmes
Andrew Lund-Yates	- Centre Director at Folly Farm Centre Limited
Sarah Moore	- Director of Fundraising, Membership & Communications

SOLICITORS

Burges Salmon LLP	Osborne Clarke	Wards Solicitors	Bond Dickinson	TLT
Narrow Quay House	2 Temple Back East	52 Broad Street	3 Temple Quay	One Redcliff St
Narrow Quay	Temple Quay	Bristol	Temple Back East,	Bristol
Bristol BS1 4AH	Bristol BS1 6EG	BS1 2EP	Bristol	BS1 6TP
			BS1 6DZ	

AUDITORS

Hollingdale Pooley
Bramford House
23 Westfield Park
Bristol
BS6 6LT

BANKERS

Bank of Scotland	Co-operative Bank	NatWest Bank plc	Triodos Bank NV	CAF Bank	Virgin Money
Community Banking	Olympic House	The Mall	Deanery Road	25 Kings Hill	Unit 2
PO Box 10	Olympic Court	Clifton	Bristol	Avenue	Transom House
38 St Andrews	Montford Street	Bristol	BS1 5AS	Kings Hill	Victoria Street
Square	Salford M5 2QP	BS99 5AJ		West Malling	Bristol
Edinburgh EH2 2YR				Kent ME19 4JQ	BS1 6AH

Independent auditor's report

We have audited the Financial Statements of Avon Wildlife Trust for the year ended 31 March 2016, which comprise the Group **Statement of Financial Activities**, the Group **Balance Sheet**, the Parent **Balance Sheet**, and the related Notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)(effective 1 January 2015).

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND AUDITOR

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement (page 15), the trustees (who are also Directors of the 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.

We have been appointed auditors under the Companies Act 2006 and section 151 of the Charities Act 2011, and report to you in accordance with those Acts. 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 involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the Financial Statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that those Statements are free from material mis-statements, 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 Annual Report to identify any material inconsistencies with the audited Financial Statements. If we become aware of any apparent material mis-statements 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 Group's and the parent company's affairs as at 31 March 2016 and of the Group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)(effective 1 January 2015); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.


OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the Financial Statements are prepared is consistent with the Financial Statements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

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

- the parent charitable company has not kept adequate and sufficient accounting records, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the Financial Statements of the parent charitable company are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.


PHILIP BARRY FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

Date 16/04/2016

HOLLINGDALE POOLEY

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
Bramford House
23 Westfield Park
Clifton
Bristol BS6 6LT

Consolidated statement of financial activities

for the year ended 31 March 2016


	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2016 £	Total funds 2015 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and legacies	1	775,767	-	775,767	729,619
Charitable activities	2	535,131	514,115	1,049,246	1,054,641
Other trading activities			-		
Folly Farm Centre Limited trading		423,903		423,903	382,654
Fundraising including local groups		4,629		4,629	6,481
Other income	3	4,751	-	4,751	7,639
Total		1,744,181	514,115	2,258,296	2,181,034
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds			-		
Folly Farm Centre Limited trading	4	347,681		347,681	338,470
General fundraising		341,626		341,626	286,149
Charitable activities	4 & 15	916,740	668,952	1,585,692	1,580,826
Other expenditure		-	-	-	-
Total	4	1,606,047	668,952	2,274,999	2,205,445
Net Income / (expenditure)		138,134	(154,837)	(16,703)	(24,411)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains:					
Net contribution from Associated Company	10	7,648	-	7,648	-
Net movement in funds		145,782	(154,837)	(9,055)	(24,411)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		584,583	5,899,056	6,483,639	6,508,050
Total funds carried forward	16	730,365	5,744,219	6,474,584	6,483,639

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

Consolidated and charity balance sheets

at 31 March 2016		Restated		Restated	
		Group 2016	Group 2015	Charity 2016	Charity 2015
	Note	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	7	38,876	50,896	31,636	37,925
Heritage assets	8	5,727,140	5,828,120	5,727,140	5,828,120
Investments	10	-	-	50	1
Total fixed assets		5,766,016	5,879,016	5,758,826	5,866,046
Current assets					
Stocks		1,543	15,700	-	13,219
Debtors	11	547,650	529,185	515,137	537,509
Cash at bank and in hand		643,634	545,710	524,922	493,487
Total current assets		1,192,827	1,090,595	1,040,059	1,044,215
Liabilities					
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due within one year	12	378,301	407,140	203,087	287,560
Net current assets		814,526	683,455	836,972	756,655
Creditors:					
Amounts falling due after one year	13	61,220	71,699	61,220	71,699
Provisions	14	44,738	7,133	44,738	7,133
Total net assets		6,474,584	6,483,639	6,489,840	6,543,869
The funds of the charity					
Unrestricted funds - designated	16 & 17	193,000	-	193,000	-
Unrestricted funds - general	16	537,365	584,583	552,571	644,812
Unrestricted funds - investments	10	-	-	50	1
		730,365	584,583	745,621	644,813
Restricted funds	15	5,744,219	5,899,056	5,744,219	5,899,056
Total funds	16	6,474,584	6,483,639	6,489,840	6,543,869

These accounts were approved by the Board on 8 September 2016

 Chair
R Kidman Cox

 Secretary
C M Gillard

Consolidated cash flow statement

for the year ended 31 March 2016

		Group		Group	
	Note	2016	2016	2015	2015
		£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities			132,154		186,890
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Purchase of property, plant and equipment					
- Fixed Assets	7	(9,104)		(17,274)	
- Heritage Assets	8	(3,647)		(13,954)	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities			(12,751)		(31,228)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Loan advance to Related Company		-		(11,000)	
Repayment of borrowings		(21,479)		(31,119)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(21,479)		(42,119)
Cash and cash equivalents					
Increase / (decrease) in cash & cash equivalents during the year			97,924		113,543
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period			545,710		432,167
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period			643,634		545,710

Net movement in funds

for the year ended 31 March 2016

	2016	2015
	£	£
Net movement in funds	(9,055)	(24,411)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges – Fixed Assets	21,124	14,984
Depreciation charges – Heritage Assets	104,627	103,992
(Increase) / decrease in work in progress	14,157	(6,687)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	(18,465)	12,519
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(17,839)	117,360
Increase / (decrease) in provisions	37,605	(30,867)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	132,154	186,890

The notes on pages 22 to 35 form part of these accounts

Accounting Policies

For the year ended 31 March 2016

a) BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Charity Commission Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by 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 Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (effective 1 January 2015).

In preparing these accounts, the trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 the restatement of comparative items was required. At the date of transition, no material restatements were required.

The Trustees confirm that the Charity is a public benefit entity.

b) GROUP ACCOUNTS

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Balance Sheet consolidate the financial statements of the charity and its subsidiary undertakings. The result of the subsidiaries are consolidated on a line by line basis.

The charity has availed itself of Paragraph 4(1) of Schedule 1 of the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and adapted the Companies Act formats to reflect the special nature of the charity's activities. No separate SOFA has been presented for the charity alone as permitted by Section 509 of the Companies Act 2006 and paragraph 397 of the SORP.

As most of the income from the subsidiary companies is transferred to the Trust the view taken is that there is no significant difference between the Group and Company figure. The subsidiaries are accounted for separately for management control purposes.

c) FUND ACCOUNTING

Funds held by the charity are:

Unrestricted funds – these funds can be used for any of the charity's purposes.

Restricted income funds – these funds have been given to the Trust for a particular purpose to be used in accordance with the wishes of the donor.

Designated funds – these funds are set aside by the Trustees for specific purposes.

d) INCOMING RESOURCES

Legacy income is included in the accounts when the amount due can be quantified with reasonable probability and the timing of the receipt is known.

Incoming resources in the form of donated assets have been included in the SOFA at a reasonable estimate of their value,

taking into account the market value of the assets and comments made by the donor.

Grants receivable are accounted for when there is sufficient information to enable the claim to be made or the claim has been made and there is clear indication to suggest the claim will be met.

Volunteer help

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

Membership income

Membership income is taken to the Statement of Financial Activities over the life of the subscription, taking into account the type of membership involved.

Incoming resources

Income from investments, Gift Aid and deeds of covenant is included gross, and is accounted for when it is receivable or the charity's right to it becomes legally enforceable. Provision has been made for the Income Tax claimable at the year end.

e) RESOURCES EXPENDED

are recognised in the period in which they are incurred and include attributable VAT that cannot be recovered.

Membership recruitment fees are billed in the year of recruitment, but are charged in the SOFA over three years to match the income generated.

General overheads

Resources expended are allocated to the particular activity where the cost is clearly identifiable as relating to that activity. General overheads are apportioned to activities in proportion to the staff costs related to each area of activity.

Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged to the SOFA as incurred over the term of the lease.

f) TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS AND DEPRECIATION

Depreciation is calculated to write down the cost of all fixed assets, other than freehold land, by equal instalments over their expected useful lives. The periods (in years) generally applicable are:

• Freehold & Leasehold property	50
• Improvements to nature reserves	10-50
• Office equipment and office improvements	5
• Motor vehicles	2.5-5
• Computers	4

g) STOCK

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net-realizable value.

h) PENSION COSTS

Pension costs are charged on the basis of amounts due for the year (see note 19).

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2016

1. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds 2016 £	Total funds 2015 £
Membership income	536,854	-	536,854	503,860
Grants and donations	38,020	-	38,020	162,458
Legacies	200,893	-	200,893	56,995
Income from costs recharged	-	-	-	6,306
Total	775,767	-	775,767	729,619

2. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funding £	Restricted funding £	Total funds 2016 £	Total funds 2015 £
DELIVERY PROGRAMMES				
Management of nature reserves	204,879	63,981	268,860	397,976
Biodiversity projects	-	451	451	35,441
Living Landscapes programme	5,380	77,752	83,132	83,894
My Wild City	2,090	65,421	67,511	-
Local Partnership working	38,796	-	38,796	33,093
Consultancy	65,724	-	65,724	156,501
Learning	132,729	3,150	135,879	59,100
Communities – Our Environment Our Future	13,297	46,941	60,238	-
Other community projects	16,760	38,045	54,805	14,296
My Wild Child	-	30,000	30,000	-
Communities and Nature project	7	67,808	67,815	87,748
Feed Bristol project	44,099	61,745	105,844	87,606
Folly Farm learning activities	-	6,000	6,000	20,000
	523,761	461,294	985,055	975,655
PORTBURY WHARF NATURE RESERVE	11,370	52,821	64,191	78,986
Total	535,131	514,115	1,049,246	1,054,641

3. Other income

	Unrestricted funding £	Restricted funding £	Total funds 2016 £	Total funds 2015 £
Other income including interest received	4,751	-	4,751	7,639

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

4. Summary analysis of expenditure

	Folly Farm Centre Limited Trading £	Raising funds - General £	Charitable activities £	Support & Governance £	Total funds 2016 £	Total funds 2015 £
Staff costs (Note 6)	129,087	114,147	798,888	-	1,042,122	1,005,207
Conservation & Nature Reserves	-	-	465,862	-	465,862	564,399
Fundraising, advertising and publications	8,627	187,009	2,119	-	197,755	160,539
Folly Farm Centre development	-	-	97,125	-	97,125	78,401
Depreciation	10,065	-	-	11,059	21,124	14,984
Legal & professional fees	3,415	-	-	23,131	26,546	24,201
Partnership working	-	-	-	50,054	50,054	44,767
Premises costs	72,732	-	-	77,708	150,440	113,116
Office & administration	123,755	12,181	-	78,976	214,912	194,096
Governance	-	-	-	9,059	9,059	5,735
Subtotal	347,681	313,337	1,363,994	249,987	2,274,999	2,205,445
Reallocate Support & Governance		28,289	221,698	(249,987)	-	-
Total	347,681	341,626	1,585,692	-	2,274,999	2,205,445

Total resources are stated after charging:

	Total funds 2016 £	Total funds 2015 £
Auditors' remuneration		
- Audit	9,250	9,250
- Other services including tax advisory	2,474	2,774
Depreciation	21,124	14,984
Amounts payable under operating leases	3,540	3,540

5. Trading subsidiaries

The Trust is the beneficial owner of shares in one wholly owned subsidiary, Folly Farm Centre Limited, a company incorporated in the UK and joint owner of an associated company, Gloucestershire Wildlife Management Limited (trading as WildService). The Trust did not expend any funds in obtaining these interests.

Folly Farm Centre Limited

The purpose of the subsidiary is to operate the restored buildings at Folly Farm, which are owned by the Trust, as an environmental learning, conference and events venue. Commercial activities include the hosting of day and residential conferences, meetings and social functions. In addition, the Centre provides school, youth, adult and specialist courses, both daily and on a residential basis to further the Trust's charitable purpose by inspiring people about wildlife.

The company continued to pay rent to the Trust for use of the buildings and adjoining area, and any profits generated by the company will be transferred as a charitable donation to the Trust. This income will provide an additional source of unrestricted income that the Trust can apply to projects and activities in furtherance of its charitable purpose. A summary of the results of Folly Farm Centre Limited is shown below:

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the period ended on 31 March 2016	2016 £	2015 £
Turnover	456,804	412,055
Cost of sales	(121,138)	(112,665)
Gross profit	335,666	299,390
Overheads and administration	(290,642)	(287,696)
Operating profit/(loss)	45,025	11,694
Interest received	-	-
Interest payable and similar charges	-	-
Profit/(loss) for the financial period	45,025	11,694

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 March 2015	2016 £	2015 £
Fixed assets	7,241	12,972
Net current liabilities	(22,445)	(73,200)
Total assets less current liabilities	(15,204)	(60,228)
Creditors falling due after more than one year	-	-
Total	(15,204)	(60,228)
Capital and reserves		
Called-up equity share capital	1	1
Profit and loss account	(15,205)	(60,229)
Total	(15,204)	(60,228)

There are four legal contracts in place between Avon Wildlife Trust and Folly Farm Centre Limited:

- Under a **Lease** dated 1 April 2009, the Trust leases the buildings and some of the adjoining land at Folly Farm to Folly Farm Centre Limited. The Lease runs from 1 July 2008 to 1 July 2018, and rent is payable to the Trust from 1 July 2010. Rent payable in the 2015/16 year amounted to £40k.
- Under a **Debenture** dated 1 April 2009 the Trust has a floating charge over the assets of Folly Farm Centre Limited as security for the agreed loan facility.
- A **Trading Agreement** between the Trust and Folly Farm Centre Limited was completed on 29 May 2009 setting out a framework for how the trading subsidiary can operate and for inter-company transactions and charges. This is reviewed and updated periodically.

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

6. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	2016	2015
	£	£
GROUP		
Wages and salaries	913,233	886,511
Employers' national insurance	72,096	63,751
Pension costs	34,834	33,185
Other staff costs	21,959	21,760
	<u>1,042,122</u>	<u>1,005,207</u>

The trustees were not paid nor did they receive any other benefits from the charity or its subsidiaries in the year (2015 £Nil). Expenses were reimbursed to the Trustees during the year £13 (2015 £13).

The key management personnel of the parent charity, The Trust, comprise of the senior management team. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the Trust were £210,496 (2014/15 £220,876).

The key management personnel of the AWT Group comprise of the senior management team of the Trust and that of its wholly owned subsidiary Folly Farm Centre Limited. The total employee benefits of the key management personnel of the AWT Group were £263,057 (2014/15 £270,605). One employee earned between £70k and £80k in the year (2015: between £60k and £70k).

The average number of employees in the AWT Group, based on full-time equivalents and analyses by function, was:

	2016	2015
Delivery programmes	17.3	19.2
Support staff	11.1	9.1
Folly Farm Centre Ltd	5.0	5.3
Total	<u>33.4</u>	<u>33.6</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

7. Tangible fixed assets

	Office improvements £	Office equipment & machinery £	Motor vehicles £	Computers £	Total £
GROUP					
Cost					
At 1 April 2015	5,940	83,045	90,023	111,143	290,151
Additions	-	4,333	-	4,771	9,104
Disposals	-	(40,578)	(15,326)	(77,782)	(133,686)
At 31 March 2016	5,940	46,800	74,697	38,132	165,569
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2015	5,940	68,960	69,600	94,755	239,255
Charge for year	-	9,697	5,214	6,213	21,124
Disposals	-	(40,578)	(15,326)	(77,782)	(133,686)
At 31 March 2016	5,940	38,079	59,488	23,186	126,693
Net book value					
At 31 March 2016	-	8,721	15,209	14,946	38,876
At 31 March 2015	-	14,085	20,423	16,388	50,896
CHARITY					
Cost					
At 1 April 2015	5,940	49,346	90,023	111,143	256,452
Additions	-	-	-	4,771	4,771
Disposals	-	(40,578)	(15,326)	(77,782)	(133,686)
At 31 March 2016	5,940	8,768	74,697	38,132	127,537
Depreciation					
At 1 April 2015	5,940	48,232	69,600	94,755	218,527
Charge for year	-	239	5,214	5,607	11,060
Disposals	-	(40,578)	(15,326)	(77,782)	(133,686)
At 31 March 2016	5,940	7,893	59,488	22,580	95,901
Net book value					
At 31 March 2016	-	875	15,209	15,552	31,636
At 31 March 2015	-	1,114	20,423	16,388	37,925

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

8. Heritage assets – Group and Charity

	Nature reserves	Improvements to nature reserves	Folly Farm development	Total
Cost	£	£	£	£
At 1 April 2015	2,227,391	665,851	3,787,072	6,680,314
Additions	-	3,647	-	3,647
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2016	2,227,391	669,498	3,787,072	6,683,961
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2015	6,537	226,804	618,853	852,194
Charge for the year	6,537	24,361	73,729	104,627
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2016	13,074	251,165	692,582	956,821
Net book value				
At 31 March 2016	2,214,317	418,333	3,094,490	5,727,140
At 31 March 2015	2,220,854	439,047	3,168,219	5,828,120

The Trust's nature reserves are an important part of the Heritage Assets of the nation and are held by the charity on a long-term basis. The Trust is responsible for ensuring that the reserves are properly managed in order to:

- conserve and enhance the special wildlife interest within these sites;
- provide a refuge for wildlife from which to re-colonise other sites;
- serve as demonstration sites for sustainable land management and heritage skills;
- provide opportunities for public inspiration, involvement, learning and enjoyment.

All the Trust reserves are freely open to the public, except in a few cases where there are some necessary restrictions due to the sensitivity of the habitats, or seasonal restrictions.

The Trust owns a freehold interest in the following nature reserves at 31 March 2016:

Bennett's Patch & White's Paddock

Brown's Folly	Cleeve Heronry*	Prior's Wood	Tickenham Hill
Burlledge Hill	Folly Farm (<i>see below</i>)	Purn Hill	Walborough
Charfield Meadow*	Hellenge Hill	Puxton Moor	Weston Big Wood
Clapton Moor (New Farm)	Littleton Brick Pits*	Stephen's Vale*	Weston Moor

Mostly these properties are included in the Balance Sheet at their original cost of purchase. However, no value has been included for the 4 sites shown above with an asterisk*. They are small nature reserves – together covering 4.74 hectares (11.70 acres) of land – which were gifted to the Trust, they have a small capital value, and in the opinion of the Trustees, the cost of valuation would be disproportionate to the value of the assets.

The Heritage Lottery Fund and Bank of Scotland have a joint Legal Charge over the Trust's freehold interest in **Folly Farm** in connection with the major development project there. Viridor Credits Environmental Company has a legal charge over Bennett's Patch & White's Paddock Nature Reserve.

During the year the Trust also managed **23 other properties** under agreements with landowners.

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

9. Fixed assets held in Restricted Funds – Depreciation

As a result of the Trust's past extensive investment in fixed assets (held in restricted funds in the Trust's accounts as set out in Note 16), there is a significant annual depreciation charge on restricted assets that is included in the Statement of Financial Activities each year as resources expended on restricted funds. This depreciation charge amounted to £106,321 in the year ended 31 March 2016 (2015: £103,992) and has been magnified by the Trust's extensive investment in Folly Farm in the last few years. This is shown in the Statement of Financial Activities and can be analysed as follows:

	£
Net Fixed Asset Movements in restricted funds	(89,100)
Net Current Asset Movements in restricted funds	(65,737)
Net Outgoing Resources – Restricted Funds	(154,837)

The annual depreciation charge reduces the value of the restricted fund asset balances in the Balance Sheet as in note (f) of the Accounting Policies on page 21.

10. Fixed assets – Investments

Subsidiaries

During the year the Trust was the beneficial owner of shares in one wholly owned trading subsidiary, Folly Farm Centre Limited and one jointly owned associated company, WildService.

Associated company

The AWT Consultancy was transferred to Gloucester Wildlife Management Ltd (registered company 02284477 and trading as 'WildService') on 1 October 2015 in return for a 49% shareholding. WildService is an ecological consultancy run from Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust (GWT). The financial statements of AWT for the year ended 31 March 2016 include a consolidation of WildService as an associated undertaking.

The agreement between GWT & AWT gave AWT a 50% share of profits for the full 12 months ended 31 March 2016 even though AWT's Consultancy arm was legally retained within AWT for the 6 months ended 30 September 2015 and not transferred to Wild Service until 1 October 2015.

The financial statements for AWT for the year ended 31 March 2016 show the following:

- i) Unrestricted Consultancy income and expenditure for the six months ended 30 September 2015; and
- ii) Net Contribution from Associated Company of £7,648 which represents 50% of the profit for WildService for the year ended 31 March 2016.

Bristol Natural History Consortium

Avon Wildlife Trust is a member of the Bristol Natural History Consortium (BNHC) (registered charity 1123432 and registered company 06472186) and can appoint one trustee to the Board. BNHC is a charitable company limited by guarantee operated by AWT in partnership with Bristol Zoo Gardens and Wildscreen.

BNHC was incorporated on 14 January 2008 and registered as a charity on 3 April 2008. Its financial year runs from 1 January to 31 December, and the Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2015 were approved by the trustees of BNHC on 15 July 2016.

During the year ended 31 December 2015, BNHC incurred a deficit on unrestricted funds of £4,361. At 31 December 2015 the charity had net assets of £21,388, all of which are held in unrestricted funds.

Trustees are in the process of developing a strategy to increase the level of funding over the next two financial years. During the period, Avon Wildlife Trust contributed £5,000 as a membership subscription to BHNC.

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

11. Debtors – amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2016 £	Group 2015 £	Charity 2016 £	Charity 2015 £
Grants & fees receivable	192,666	165,859	192,666	165,859
Prepayments	25,341	12,742	17,059	7,007
Other debtors	296,643	317,584	272,412	331,643
Loan to SWWFL	33,000	33,000	33,000	33,000
	547,650	529,185	515,137	537,509

12. Creditors – amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2016 £	Group 2015 £	Charity 2016 £	Charity 2015 £
Trade creditors	92,703	87,354	75,162	81,172
Other creditors and accruals	229,660	234,369	87,685	137,290
Taxation and national insurance	35,154	53,633	19,456	37,314
Bank Loan	13,284	13,284	13,284	13,284
Other Loans	-	11,000	-	11,000
Grants received in advance	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
	378,301	407,140	203,087	287,560

AWT Group is reliant on loan facilities provided by the Bank of Scotland repayable over 10 years. The loan is secured on the freehold land and property at Folly Farm.

There were no movements in Grants received in advance during the year ended 31 March 2016.

13. Creditors – amounts falling due after one year

	Group 2016 £	Group 2015 £	Charity 2016 £	Charity 2015 £
Bank Loan (see note 16)	61,220	71,699	61,220	71,699

14. Provisions

	Group 2016 £	Group 2015 £	Charity 2016 £	Charity 2015 £
Landlord repairs – Folly Farm	26,738	4,133	26,738	4,133
Building (including roof) repairs	18,000	-	18,000	-
Dilapidations - Willsbridge Mill	-	3,000	-	3,000
	44,738	7,133	44,738	7,133

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

15. Restricted funds

	Restated 1 Apr 2015 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Transfers £	31 Mar 2016 £
REVENUE FUNDS					
Catchment Restoration – Avon Pilot	29,348	-	(20,821)	-	8,527
Folly Farm Learning Fund	20,000	6,000	(19,990)	-	6,010
Communities & Nature project	9,850	67,808	(80,290)	4,000	1,368
Feed Bristol Project	62,475	61,745	(77,051)	-	47,169
Spawn to be Wild	1,808	-	(1,808)	-	-
Folly Farm volunteer training base	9,239	-	-	-	9,239
Living Landscapes – Grassland	19,113	62,415	(60,619)	-	20,909
Living Landscapes – N Somerset Wetlands	75	-	(75)	-	-
Portbury Wharf Nature Reserve	9,876	52,821	(62,697)	-	-
Avon Gorge projects	44,954	-	(18,996)	-	25,958
Landrover depreciation fund	20,422	-	(5,214)	-	15,208
Bennett's Patch & White's Paddock	27,416	36,441	(54,163)	1,221	10,915
Trout and About	1,621	-	(1,621)	-	-
Bristol 2015	8,000	-	(8,094)	94	-
Urban Living Landscape	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-
Folly Wellbeing Garden	2,826	32,140	(15,524)	-	19,442
Wildlife Corridors	34,232	-	(30,138)	(4,094)	-
Justin Smith Endowment Fund	7,679	2,476	(69)	-	10,086
Coronation Meadows	-	13,586	(13,586)	-	-
Chew Diffuse Pollination	-	9,200	(9,200)	-	-
North Somerset Levels & Moors	-	15,337	(7,368)	-	7,969
My Wild City	-	65,421	(53,715)	-	11,706
My Wild City – Education – Hedgehogs	-	3,150	(2,013)	-	1,137
My Wild Child	-	30,000	(2,826)	-	27,174
Big Lottery Fund (Our Environment Our Future)	-	46,941	(13,297)	-	33,644
APPEAL FUNDS					
Seed Fund	10,543	-	(4,994)	-	5,549
Appeal 2015	22,223	150	(296)	(18,325)	3,752
Butterfly Appeal	3,863	451	-	-	4,314
Summer 15 Appeal	-	8,033	(1,574)	-	6,459
PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT FUNDS					
Willsbridge (10 Years)	883	-	(443)	-	440
Folly Farm Sewage Treatment	7,888	-	(232)	-	7,656
Folly Farm	26,570	-	(663)	-	25,907
Folly Farm Access Trail	15,249	-	(728)	-	14,521
Willsbridge – Landfill	408	-	(12)	-	396
Willsbridge	15,437	-	(427)	-	15,010
Clapton Moor (50 Years)	39,252	-	(945)	-	38,307
Clapton Moor (10 Years)	857	-	(429)	-	428
Weston Moor	7,918	-	(226)	-	7,692

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

Walborough	4,726	-	(139)	-	4,587
Goblin Combe (50 Years)	4,838	-	(118)	-	4,720
Goblin Combe (10 Years)	250	-	(250)	-	-
Prior's Wood (10 Years)	672	-	(540)	-	132
Weston Big Wood (50 Years)	12,542	-	(307)	-	12,235
Weston Big Wood (10 Years)	1,632	-	(1,632)	-	-
Puxton Moor	65,339	-	(1,600)	-	63,739
Nature Reserves Fund	17,283	-	(511)	-	16,772
HLF Conservation Fund	35,545	-	(1,001)	-	34,544
Conservation - Reserves Fund	20,083	-	(553)	-	19,530
Feed Bristol	57,498	-	(8,192)	-	49,306
Folly Farm Centre development	2,997,541	-	(73,728)	-	2,923,813
FREEHOLD LAND AND BUILDING FUNDS					
Hellenge Hill	86,050	-	-	-	86,050
Puxton Moor	361,529	-	-	-	361,529
Walborough	55,000	-	-	-	55,000
Clapton Moor	185,144	-	-	-	185,144
Weston Moor	333,758	-	-	-	333,758
Tickenham Hill	28,000	-	-	-	28,000
Weston Big Wood	123,572	-	-	-	123,572
Burledge Hill	48,233	-	-	-	48,233
Purn Hill	25,816	-	-	-	25,816
Tickenham Ridge	50,000	-	-	-	50,000
Prior's Wood	238,855	-	-	-	238,855
Folly Farm	332,814	-	-	-	332,814
Brown's Folly	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
LEASEHOLD LAND AND BUILDING FUNDS					
Bennett's Patch & White's Paddock	320,311	-	(8,237)	17,104	329,178
Total	5,899,056	514,115	(668,952)	-	5,744,219

The transfer column in the table above identifies transfers between funds which are in accordance with funders instructions.

The Trustees consider the funds represented by the landholdings where the purchases occurred before the introduction of the charity SORP (*Accounting and Reporting by Charities – Statement of Recommended Practice*) to be restricted in nature. These comprise

	£
Folly Farm	332,814
Brown's Folly	30,000
	<u>362,814</u>

These funds have been transferred to restricted funds and the prior-year figures restated.

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

The purpose of each fund is as follows:

REVENUE FUNDS:

Catchment Restoration – Avon Pilot	To develop a management plan for the River Avon catchment
Folly Farm Learning Fund	To develop learning programmes for Folly Farm Centre
Communities & Nature project	To engage disadvantaged communities with nature
Feed Bristol project	To involve the community in growing nature friendly food
Spawn to be Wild	To help threatened species
Folly Farm volunteer training base	To develop a volunteer training base at Folly Farm
Living Landscapes – Grassland	To survey, conserve and restore Avon's grasslands
Living Landscapes – N Somerset Wetlands	To survey, conserve and restore North Somerset Wetlands
Portbury Wharf Nature Reserve	To manage land at Portbury Wharf for wildlife and the community
Avon Gorge projects	To assess the feasibility of various projects in the Avon Gorge
Landrover depreciation fund	To provide a combination vehicle to access reserves
Bennett's Patch & White's Paddock	To acquire and create a nature reserve in the Avon Gorge
Bristol 2015	To create wildlife-garden starter boxes
Urban Living Landscape	To map the natural green spaces of Bristol
Folly Wellbeing Garden	To involve the community in growing nature friendly food
Wildlife Corridors	To create reference sites and resources for Bristol's wildlife corridors
Justin Smith Endowment Fund	To support apprentice ecologists to continue Justin's passion and knowledge
Coronation Meadows	To create and restore hay meadows as a source of seed & hay
Chew Diffuse Pollination	To deliver an integrated partnership approach to the management and restoration of species-rich grassland in the Chew Valley catchment
North Somerset Levels & Moors	A catchment approach to restoring coastal and floodplain grazing marsh
My Wild City	To make Bristol a world- leading, nature- rich city where people are connected to the natural landscape and wildlife is more resilient to growing challenges.
My Wild City – Education – Hedgehogs	To deliver education sessions in schools linked to My Wild City and improving school grounds for hedgehogs
My Wild Child	One of 6 Trusts delivering urban forest school education projects
Big Lottery Fund (Our Environment Our Future)	To empower young people in social housing to take ownership of local green spaces

APPEAL FUNDS:

Seed Fund	To provide match funding for conservation projects
Appeal 2015	To create a wildlife haven at the gateway to Bristol
Butterfly Appeal	To improve butterfly habitat on our reserves
Summer 15 Appeal	To replace and improve information boards on our reserves

PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT FUNDS:

On named reserves	To enhance land and property at the named locations
Nature Reserves Fund	} To enhance nature reserves owned or managed by the Trust
HLF Conservation Fund	
Conservation – Reserves Fund	
Folly Farm Centre Development Fund	To enhance the historic landscape and property at Folly Farm

FREEHOLD LAND AND BUILDINGS FUNDS:

On named reserves	To purchase land at the named locations
Leasehold land on named reserves	To purchase land at the named locations

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Tangible Fixed Assets £	Other Net Assets £	Total £
REVENUE FUNDS			
Catchment Restoration	-	8,527	8,527
Folly Farm Learning Fund	-	6,010	6,010
Communities & Nature project	-	1,368	1,368
Feed Bristol project	-	47,169	47,169
Folly Farm volunteer training base	-	9,239	9,239
Living Landscapes - Grasslands	-	20,909	20,909
Avon Gorge Projects	-	25,958	25,958
Landrover depreciation	15,208	-	15,208
Bennett's Patch & White's Paddock	-	10,915	10,915
Folly Wellbeing Garden	-	19,442	19,442
Justin Smith Endowment Fund	-	10,086	10,086
North Somerset Levels & Moors	-	7,969	7,969
My Wild City	-	11,706	11,706
My Wild City – Education – Hedgehogs	-	1,137	1,137
My Wild Child	-	27,174	27,174
Big Lottery Fund (Our Environment Our Future)	-	33,644	33,644
APPEAL FUNDS			
Seed Fund	-	5,549	5,549
Appeal 2015	-	3,752	3,752
Butterfly Appeal	-	4,314	4,314
Summer 15 Appeal	-	6,459	6,459
PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT FUNDS			
Willsbridge (10 Years)	440	-	440
Folly Farm sewage treatment	7,656	-	7,656
Folly Farm	25,907	-	25,907
Folly Farm Access Trail	14,521	-	14,521
Willsbridge - Landfill	396	-	396
Willsbridge	15,010	-	15,010
Clapton Moor (50 Years)	38,307	-	38,307
Clapton Moor (10 Years)	428	-	428
Weston Moor	7,692	-	7,692
Walborough	4,587	-	4,587
Goblin Combe (50 Years)	4,720	-	4,720
Prior's Wood (10 Years)	132	-	132
Weston Big Wood (50 Years)	12,235	-	12,235
Puxton Moor	63,739	-	63,739
Nature Reserves Fund	16,772	-	16,772
HLF Conservation Fund	34,544	-	34,544
Conservation - Reserves Fund	19,530	-	19,530
Feed Bristol	49,306	-	49,306
Folly Farm Centre development	3,094,492	(170,679)	2,923,813

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

	Tangible Fixed Assets	Other Net Assets	Total
	£	£	£
FREEHOLD LAND AND BUILDING FUNDS			
Hellenge Hill	86,050	-	86,050
Puxton Moor	361,529	-	361,529
Walborough	55,000	-	55,000
Clapton Moor	185,144	-	185,144
Weston Moor	333,758	-	333,758
Tickenham Hill	28,000	-	28,000
Weston Big Wood	123,572	-	123,572
Burlledge Hill	48,233	-	48,233
Purn Hill	25,816	-	25,816
Tickenham Ridge	50,000	-	50,000
Prior's Wood	238,855	-	238,855
Folly Farm	332,814	-	332,814
Brown's Folly	30,000	-	30,000
LEASEHOLD LAND AND BUILDING FUNDS			
Bennett's Patch & White's Paddock	329,178	-	329,178
Total Restricted Funds	5,653,571	90,648	5,744,219
Unrestricted Funds – General	112,445	417,272	529,717
Unrestricted Funds – Associated Company - WildService	-	7,648	7,648
Total Unrestricted Funds	112,445	424,920	537,365
Designated Funds	-	193,000	193,000
	5,766,016	708,568	6,474,584

Total **Other Net Assets of £708,568** comprise Net Current Assets of £814,526, Creditors due after one year of £61,220 and provisions of £44,738 as per the Balance Sheet.

There is a net current liability in respect of the Folly Farm Centre development project of £170,679. The deficit is supported financially by a loan from the Bank of Scotland (£74,503 at 31 March 2016) as per Notes 12 & 13 to the Financial Statements. The deficit arose from a fundraising shortfall on the major project to restore the buildings and historic landscape at Folly Farm and the Trust's strategy for addressing the deficits are clearly established:

- First, as Folly Farm Centre returns to trading profitably, surplus profits will be transferred back to the Charity, and this income will be applied to reduce the deficits.
- Second, the Trust is seeking to develop other unrestricted income streams to generate a surplus to be applied to the deficit.

Notes to the Financial Statements [continued]

17. Designated funds

The Trustees have designated £193k of reserves into a designated fund for strategic opportunities and development to support the vital work required to achieve the Trust's vision to enable nature to 'recover on a grand scale'.

18 Commitments under operating leases

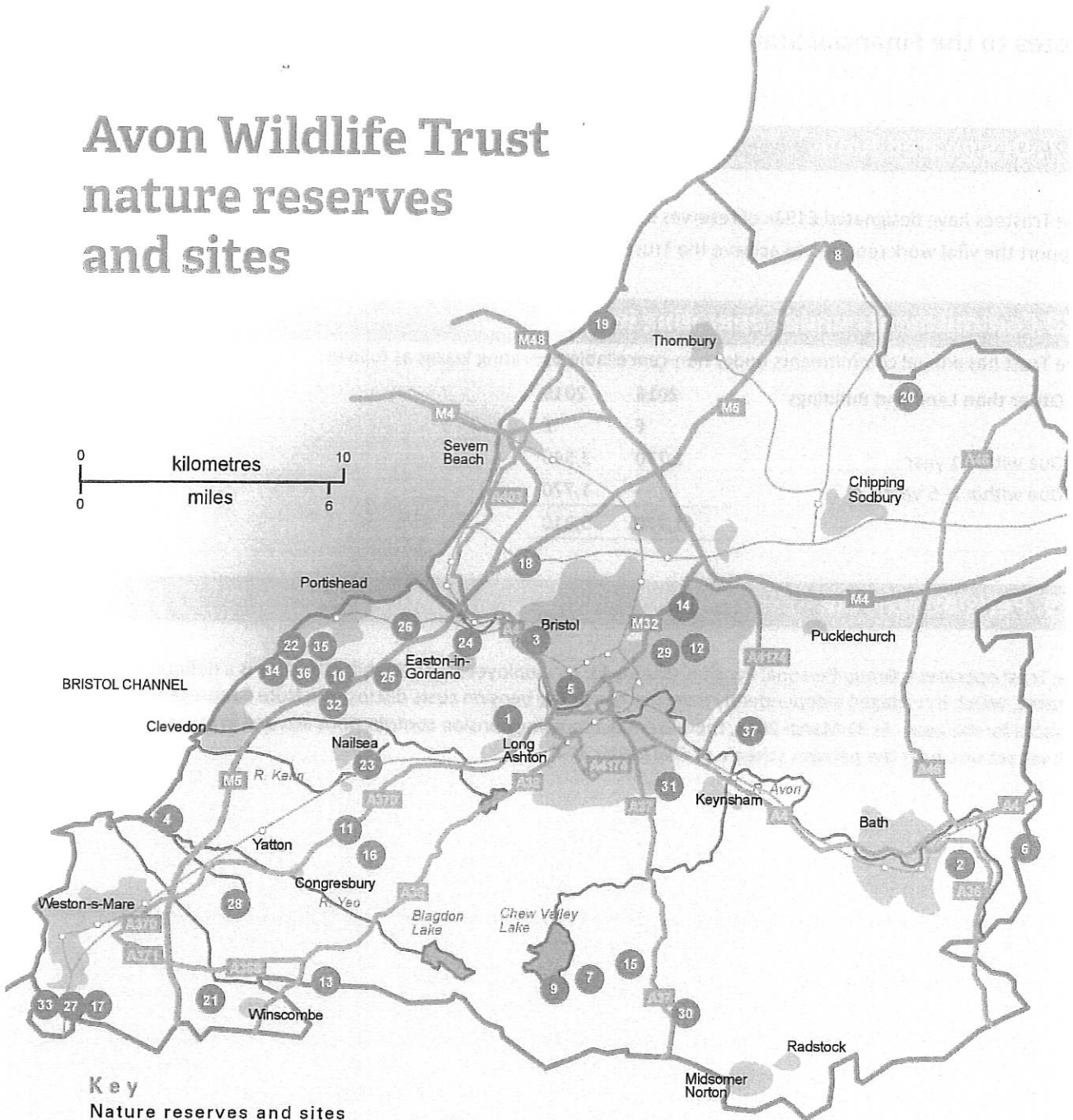
The Trust has annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

Other than Land and Buildings	2016	2015
	£	£
Due within 1 year	1,770	3,540
Due within 2–5 years	-	1,770
	1,770	5,310

19. Pension scheme

The Trust operates a Group Personal Pension scheme for its employees with Friends Life. This is a defined contributions scheme, which is managed independently from the Trust. The pension costs disclosed in Note 6 represent contributions payable for the year. At 31 March 2016, there were outstanding pension contributions accrued in respect of employees not yet set up under the pension scheme of £Nil (2015: £Nil).

Avon Wildlife Trust nature reserves and sites



Key

Nature reserves and sites

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 Ashton Court | 10 Clapton Moor | 20 Lower Woods | 30 Stephen's Vale |
| 2 Bathampton Meadow | 11 Cleeve Heronry | 21 Max Bog | 31 Stockwood Open Space |
| 3 Bennett's Patch and White's Paddock | 12 Coombe Brook Valley | 22 Middle Hill Common | 32 Tickenham Hill |
| 4 Blake's Pools | 13 Dolebury Warren | 23 Netcott's Meadow | 33 Walborough |
| 5 Brandon Hill | 14 Feed Bristol | 24 Pill Paddock | 34 Walton Common |
| 6 Browne's Folly | 15 Folly Farm | 25 Prior's Wood | 35 Weston Big Wood |
| 7 Burlledge Hill | 16 Goblin Combe | 26 Priory Farm | 36 Weston Moor |
| 8 Charfield Meadow | 17 Hellenge Hill | 27 Purn Hill | 37 Willsbridge Valley |
| 9 Chew Valley Lake | 18 Lawrence Weston Moor | 28 Puxton Moor | |
| | 19 Littleton Brick Pits | 29 Royate Hill | |



Avon Wildlife Trust

The Trust in numbers in 2015/16

16,656	Trust members	37	nature reserves
800	volunteers supporting the Trust's work	1,130	hectares of nature reserves owned/managed
8,484	days of time contributed by volunteers	95%	nature reserves in favourable/recovering condition
10,000	schoolchildren engaged in learning programmes	79,799	'unique' visitors to the Trust website
£2.3m	total amount invested in the Trust's work	223	recorded media 'hits' (articles and interviews)
£5.7m	value of the Trust's 'heritage assets'	31%	Increase in Facebook and Twitter followers
£316k	value of volunteer input into reserves alone	55,100	Most popular social media post – The Bristol Whales at Bennett's Patch & White's Paddock

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