



Freshwater Habitats Trust

Protecting freshwater life for everyone to enjoy

Annual report and accounts 2015/16

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About Freshwater Habitats Trust

Freshwater Habitats Trust is a national charity created to ensure the future of wildlife in our freshwaters.

The freshwater environment is under threat everywhere. We think that maintaining rich and healthy freshwater habitats brings benefits to everyone, and we work to protect those habitats through strong practical action backed by sound research-based information.

Freshwater Habitats Trust is:

- An evidence-based conservation charity, with strong science grounding.
- Highly strategic – we target our work where evidence suggests it will be most effective.
- Concerned with all freshwaters including those that are small and undervalued like headwater streams, ponds, flushes and ditches.
- An organisation that works in partnership with many people, communities and organisations to get the best results for freshwater wildlife.

Strategic areas

Our organisation's strategic priorities are to protect and create high quality freshwater habitats and expand and connect these areas to create The Freshwater Network. We do this through:

- **Practical projects:** implementing practical solutions to protect species and habitats based on best practice.
- **Research, monitoring and information:** investigating better ways to protect freshwater biodiversity, understand national trends and review the effectiveness of our work, and tell other people what we know.
- **Public outreach and partnership:** working with people to achieve our aims and enable greater enjoyment of freshwater habitats.
- **Policy and advocacy:** championing freshwater biodiversity at regional, national and European levels.

Reference details

Patron: The Earl of Selborne KBE FRS

Board of Trustees:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Martin Layer | Chair of Trustees |
| Paul Jackson | Treasurer |
| Baroness Hilton of Eggardon | Re-elected Jul 2015 |
| Juliette Jowit | |
| Professor Lorraine Maltby | |
| Geoff Phillips | |
| Keith Lawrey | |
| Roger Thomas | Re -Elected Jul 2015 |

Company Secretary: Ms Jo Fever

Senior Management Team:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Dr Jeremy Biggs | Director |
| Penny Williams | Technical Director |
| Dr Pascale Nicolet | Policy & Implementation Director |
| Janey Forgan | Finance Director |
| Dr Naomi Ewald | People, Ponds and Water Manager |
| Michael Barnes | Interim Finance Director |

Registered Office:

Bury Knowle House,
North Place, Headington,
Oxford, OX3 9HY

Auditors:

Taylorcocks
Abbey House, Hickleys Court
South Street, Farnham
Surrey, GU9 7QQ

Bankers:

HSBC Bank plc
108 London Road, Headington
Oxford, OX3 9AP

Freshwater Habitats Trust is a registered charity, no. 1107708, and a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales, no. 5317683, at the above registered address.

Achievements in 2015/16

During 2015-16 we have implemented key programmes to help protect high quality freshwater sites and endangered species, made some significant advances in key areas of understanding, continued developing 'The Freshwater Network' and greatly extended our impact through public outreach and partnership work.

A central focus of the year was the **People, Ponds and Water** project covering England and Wales, which has two overarching outcomes:

- To make a nationally significant difference to the protection of freshwater biodiversity in the UK.
- To engage many thousands of people with activities that help them to learn about, participate in, and enjoy their freshwater heritage.

The project, which started in December 2014, completed its first year developing the projects' three components, which are core areas of Freshwater Habitats Trust's work:

PondNet: a volunteer network which is collecting essential data about national trends in the status of ponds and the species they support, including those at greatest risk, so that they can be better protected.

Flagship Ponds: working with local communities to help protect around 70 of our most important freshwater sites so they retain their exceptional biodiversity importance in the long term.

Clean Water for Wildlife: a public participation survey enabling thousands of people to collect data about two important pollutants, nitrate and phosphate, in different water bodies; raising awareness of pollution in the environment and encouraging action to improve water quality.

People, Ponds and Water is important to us not only because it will help to deliver many of our core aims, but because it represents an opportunity to kick start our regional development, enabling us to deliver more effectively in the long term. During the year we undertook the first ever national survey of a protected species, the great crested newt, using

environmental DNA samples collected by the PondNet volunteer network. As planned, we established relationships with the first third of the 70 Flagship Ponds sites and started preparatory work for the Clean Water for Wildlife Survey. The project team has greatly increased our ability to 'get the message out' helping many different groups and individuals to better protect freshwater wildlife.

The progress made so far by the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) funded work is a reminder of why the project is so badly needed. Revisiting high quality pond sites originally surveyed in the **National Pond Survey** in the early 1990s has provided clear evidence of a loss of sensitive water plants in the intervening years, especially in lowland landscapes. Encouragingly, however, half of the ponds visited were still of exceptional biological interest.

Information on the distribution of freshwater biodiversity is crucial to protecting it but it is often difficult for land managers and practitioners to find out which are the most important places to protect. Many species are found in small waterbodies, especially ponds, which are often not in databases of protected sites so bringing this information together is an important step in ensuring that freshwater biodiversity is protected at a landscape or catchment scale. Developing the **Important Freshwater Areas** concept is an important part of our strategy and during the year we began two national pilot projects for this work, one working with the Catchment-based Approach, and the other taking Oxfordshire as a case study.

More and more of the ponds created during Phase 1 of the **Million Ponds Project** are now showing successful outcomes as they are colonised by endangered species that they were intended to provide new habitats for. For example, new ponds created adjacent to the Hothfield Common nature reserve of the Kent Wildlife Trust are now providing habitats for one of our most endangered water plants, Three-lobed Water-crowfoot, a plant that needs combination of clean, mildly acidic, temporary water and gentle livestock grazing. The benefits of new pond creation have also been seen in our Water Friendly Farming project where we

continued during the year to evaluate the effect of landscape wide pond creation on the freshwater biodiversity.

Early results of the effect of **Water Friendly Farming's** mitigation measures showed that new ponds we created made a significant difference to biodiversity and that new plant species which colonised these ponds compensated for the more general biodiversity decline.

In Wales there was a similar story: new ponds designed according to best practice, created by our Million Ponds Project, and other pond creation initiatives, successfully provided new habitats for species of conservation concern and already support rich plant communities.

Evidence gathering is a crucial part of our work. During the year we gathered further information on the importance of ponds as reservoirs of freshwater biodiversity at the landscape scale. Working an upland landscape in North Wales we found that, as in lowland areas, ponds are a major reservoir of freshwater biodiversity, even though they are generally overlooked in conservation programmes. We also continued surveys of new ponds created in the Million Ponds Project as part of research work with the University of Sheffield.

Disseminating our information on small water bodies, and encouraging other to do so, is an important part of our work. We used the opportunity of the Symposium for European Freshwater Sciences, held in Geneva in June 2015, to organise a special session of the conference dealing with small water bodies. A special edition of the scientific journal *Hydrobiologia* will be published later in 2016 containing the papers from this meeting. With Earthwatch we have been developing and testing the use of rapid test kits to assess water pollution, work which we expect will be of interest to many volunteer and local groups.

We use our information to **make a practical difference** in freshwater conservation through advice to the public, technical guidance, strategic planning, and dissemination in the media, network co-ordination, training, education, and policy. Our public advice and engagement

continued to grow: with Earthwatch we continued to train staff of HSBC bank in England and France, we took staff from infrastructure company Carillion to our Flagship site at Pinkhill Meadow and the HLF-funded People, Ponds and Water project is seeing a large increase in our interactions with the public, crucial for the effective protection of freshwater biodiversity. In our catchment projects we undertook local public engagement events for landowners and farmers, with projects in the River Thames catchment and the New Forest National Park.

We continued our practical action on the ground in the catchments of the River Thames, the River Ock (west of Oxford, which also includes the flood prone area of central Oxford), and in the New Forest National Park. The experience we are gaining in these areas will underpin landscape-wide practical initiatives in other parts of the country.

Championing freshwaters

The threats to freshwaters apparent in our data, and that of other people indicate the vital need to champion freshwaters in the face of many different threats, especially the smaller waterbodies - ponds, streams, headwaters, ditches, spring and flushes – which make up the majority of the freshwater resource and support most freshwater species. We worked both at European and national level to do this: we maintained our support for the European Pond Conservation Network (EPCN) which has helped transform the profile of ponds in Europe and beyond. In the UK we continued to comment on freshwater wildlife in the widely read conservation magazine *British Wildlife* and, as part of the national, Defra-supported, Catchment-based Approach support group, we continued to emphasise the need to focus on freshwater biodiversity in catchment management.

Developing the organisation

We constantly keep the work of Freshwater Habitats Trust under review to ensure that our organisation is secure financially and is helping to meet the many challenges facing freshwater life. During this financial year we continued to implement the recommendations of the strategy refresh published in January 2015 to ensure that our work over the period 2015-2018 is well-

focused on activities that would help to achieve this objective. Previously, from 2012-14, we had undertaken work to increase our regional presence in various parts of England and Wales and are now using the People, Ponds and Water project as the foundation for a wider regional network which we hope to maintain following the initial 3 years of funding.

Our activities in 2015/16

1. Practical Projects

Landscape and catchment scale

The Water Friendly Farming (WFF): This project lies at the core of our catchment work. Based in three test catchments in the Loddington area of Leicestershire, this partnership initiative aims to address a critical knowledge gap: how can we effectively reduce the impacts of agriculture on freshwaters whilst retaining agricultural productivity? The project has installed, and is monitoring, a very wide range of practical measures including buffer strips and constructed wetlands, as well as creating new clean-water ponds and improving stream habitat diversity – to see if we can protect and restore freshwater biodiversity across whole landscapes.

Together the WFF project team, (which includes the Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust, University of York, the Environment Agency, Syngenta, Anglian Water, University of Sheffield and others) has secured about £1 million for this project so far and the new knowledge it provides is already beginning to influence the way we manage freshwater on farmland.

During 2015-16 we have successfully obtained funding to extend the project for a further five years, particularly to investigate the effects of land management on flooding. This subject became particularly topical following major winter floods in the north of England and in Scotland over the winter 2015-16.

Important achievements of the project have been;

- the first practical demonstration anywhere that habitat creation can prevent loss of freshwater biodiversity at a landscape scale. Thus, against a background where catchment biodiversity was declining in our three test catchments, new ponds we created maintained or even increased freshwater plant diversity.
- we demonstrated the value of buffer zones in reducing the amount of sediment being washed into waterbodies.

- we developed computer models which showed that we need more water storage capacity to influence flows enough to mitigate downstream floods, and are now implementing those measures practically.
- to demonstrate that there are still patches of clean water in the landscape which, for biodiversity, are important refuges.

Overall the results suggest that physical interventions like pond creation can rapidly bring benefits for freshwater biodiversity. Reducing nutrient pollution in particular is a much harder 'ask'. This is critical information if the UK is to achieve cost-effective protection of freshwaters. We plan a further major update on the project for water managers in the autumn of 2016.

Catchment hosting: Defra's Catchment-based Approach (CaBA) is a national framework for stakeholder-led river basin assessment, planning and management, and aims to encourage community-led management of freshwaters across England and Wales. As part of this initiative we are working in three regions to roll-out practical projects for protecting freshwater wildlife: the New Forest National Park in Hampshire and the River Thames and Ock catchments in Oxfordshire / Buckinghamshire.

New Forest National Park (Hampshire): Freshwater Habitats Trust is joint lead with the New Forest National Park Authority in this catchment area. Our work focuses on reducing diffuse pollution and on raising awareness of the outstanding freshwater biodiversity resources in the New Forest ponds, streams, rivers and ditches. Working closely with key landowners, we tested the implementation on a range of measures to reduce nutrient pollution in the Sowley Pond SSSI in the Sowley stream catchment, and to improve habitats for freshwater plants and animals. We also developed another catchment project centred on the River Beaulieu, the Living Waters project. This is one of the 22 projects in Our Past Our Future, an HLF project led and coordinated by the National Park Authority. To address nutrient sources from small domestic discharges, like septic tanks, we collaborated with other CaBA groups in the South East to develop engagement material and to

strategically target the most at risk areas in the New Forest catchment.

River Thames (Oxfordshire/Buckinghamshire):

We are continuing our fruitful relationship with the River Thames Conservation Trust (RTCT), who is also co-lead in the CaBA partnership. In the Oxfordshire part of the Thames catchment we are working with the RTCT on a pilot project funded by the Patsy Wood Trust, which will test how a volunteer monitoring network may fill in gaps in biological data including wetland birds, amphibians, mammals and riverflies. We are also planning the practical implementation phase which will focus in the Charlgrove Brook catchment and the creation of clean water ponds.

River Ock (Oxfordshire): In the River Ock catchment (which includes the River Thames at Oxford) we have been developing the relationships with landowners and stakeholders and begun detailed planning and implementation of practical works. The catchment has nationally and internationally important fens and wet grassland, outstanding ponds (including Flagship sites), and running waters, with a range of endangered freshwater species. However, the area has also lost plant and animal species over the last 20 years, mainly due to pollution. We are now planning and implementing actions to help ameliorate this loss including pollution monitoring with local organisations, working with local groups to improve river habitats in Abingdon and trying to influence flood defence schemes for Oxford and Abingdon to maximise their wildlife benefits.

Species & habitat protection

Flagship Ponds:

Flagship Ponds is a network of some of the most important pond sites in England, known to support important populations of uncommon species. Through the HLF funded People, Ponds and Water project we have identified 70 sites which would benefit from funding to undertake monitoring, management, or pond creation work. We will work with local communities to develop sustainable plans for these sites, including working with schools and local groups on citizen science projects, bespoke to each site.

Guidance information for Flagship Pond community groups is now complete and available on line. Some of the highlights of the work so far have been: ex-situ work with the Millennium Seed Bank, Kew, to rear hundreds of seedlings of the rare Adder's-tongue Spearwort for reintroduction to Inglestone Common, one of only two known sites for this plant in the country; creation of new pond habitat for Water Vole and Tubular-water Dropwort at Rawcliffe Meadows in York; and the discovery of a new site for one of our rarest freshwater species, the white-clawed crayfish by Flagship Pond volunteers during a Flagship event on the Begwyns. In total, we have trained over 30 volunteers to undertake surveys and monitoring for restricted species on Flagship Sites. We have also had species and site management advice from species experts who have given their time freely to the project.

2. Research and monitoring

Freshwater Habitats Trust is an evidence based organisation and our practical work and advice is underpinned by the applied research, survey and monitoring work we have undertaken over the past 25 years. We continue to initiate and undertake high quality science, focussing on areas where knowledge gaps are critical barriers to habitat and species protection.

Wherever possible we combine our practical actions with research to see their effect. Our Water Friendly Farming project for example, (section 1), is a major platform for research on the effectiveness of pollution, flooding and wildlife mitigation measures. A range of our other research areas are outlined below.

Part of the HLF funded People, Ponds and Water project, **PondNet** is a volunteer survey network that aims to collect statistically robust data to identify trends in pond quality and pond species, including uncommon plants and animals. Environmental data is also recorded; giving information that will help to explain the reasons for changes in biological quality, and ultimately help to guide the direction of freshwater policy. In its first year, PondNet roll-out has been undertaken as planned in 17 core counties within England and Wales, with additional volunteer engagement throughout England to survey for

Great Crested Newts using novel eDNA (environmental DNA) techniques.

So far, a dedicated team of over 300 PondNet volunteers have collected biological and environmental data from more than 600 ponds. This was nearly double our target (350 ponds) by this stage of the project. We ran 65 training sessions (target 60 sessions), for amphibian and restricted species surveys, opening up the project to new volunteers who had no previous experience of pond survey work. In addition, we had support from pond survey experts, who volunteered time to mentor PondNetters outside of the formal training sessions.

Thanks to funding from Natural England, local environmental record centres have been able to work with us on PondNet, providing site, species and landowner information, and recruiting additional volunteers for the 2016 survey season.

Oxfordshire Important Freshwater Areas pilot project: During this year we have secured funding from the Patsy Wood Trust to pilot the methodology for identifying and applying the Important Freshwater Areas (IFA). Oxfordshire, where we have been based since the organisation began more than 25 years ago, is the perfect trial area because of the existing engagement with local stakeholders and our knowledge of the freshwater environment in the county. Upon completion in 2016, this project will provide a springboard to rollout the IFA initiative nationally.

3. Public outreach and partnership

We ensure that our knowledge and information makes a practical difference by providing advice to the public, technical guidance, strategic planning, and dissemination in the media, network co-ordination, training and education.

Public advice, dissemination and engagement

Our Facebook and Twitter accounts are a growing social media platform which grew during 2015/16 to reach close to 10,000 followers. Using social media we can see and share stories of freshwater wildlife and the people who care for

them, and connect with people we wouldn't otherwise be in touch with.

The Freshwater Habitats Trust website, being the largest communications tool at our disposal, has been under general review throughout the year and had traffic of close of 30,000 annually. The most popular sections of the website include how to create a pond and identifying pond wildlife.

Our monthly newsletter, Ripples, is sent to an ever-growing audience. Ripples allows us to share stories we think are most important each month directly with people who care about freshwater wildlife and the work we do.

We continue to engage with people who have garden ponds, knowing this is a great starting point for people to learn about the wonder of freshwater wildlife without venturing far. We decided to keep running **The Big Pond Dip**, a simple survey which enables people to assess the quality of their pond environment. Our survey of frog and toad spawn, the **Big Spawn Count**, returned for its fourth year, as the survey always captures people's interest with over 700 people submitting sightings during the spring of 2015.

For the second year we ran a National Photo Competition, this time with a focus on the landscape scale beauty of freshwater environments. Once again it had a great response with lots of lovely images submitted and we were able to select 12 winning photographs for a 2016 calendar. Unfortunately, once again, the sales for the calendar were not as high as we would have liked to cover the costs involved, so for 2016/17 we are reviewing the competition and re-thinking it's outcomes and focus.

Training and education

The final component of our HLF funded People, Ponds and Water project, **Clean Water for Wildlife** (CWW), is a citizen science survey that aims to raise awareness of the true extent of nutrient pollution, and identify clean water habitats in England and Wales, with the ultimate aim of helping to protect biodiversity. Nutrient pollution is invisible so often doesn't seem 'real' to people. Using quick kits makes it possible for people to easily 'see' pollution for the first time.

In year one (2015), we developed the concept and materials for CWW with five groups: a parish council group in Hampshire, a local community group in Wiltshire, National Trust members in the midlands, volunteers in the New Forest National Park, and school and college students. They helped to develop the printed instructions and accompanying interpretation material on the website, and provided key information on how they might use data from the kits in local plans, pond management plans, or to raise awareness of nutrient pollution.

At the end of 2015 we began work on a sub-project of Clean Water for Wildlife, **Thames Water for Wildlife**, with additional funding from Thames Water Utilities Ltd. This focus on the Thames Water Region will allow individuals, groups and schools to discover more about the wonderful freshwater that surrounds them in an area of historic importance for freshwater wildlife.

WaterNet is the data portal for the People, Ponds and Water project. Our aim is to provide a hub where information and data can be shared by everyone, whilst at the same time provide a fit-for-purpose data management tool and a resource for increased learning and understanding of our freshwater heritage. Volunteers can view all the People, Ponds and Water networks, adopt sites for surveying, enter their records, uploads photographs and diagrams, see summary statistics and analyse their data, and download some or all of the records. Data formats will be compatible with other recording databases, but uniquely WaterNet will combine habitat and species data and analyse and present your results in the context of the national results.

We had some delays with the website whilst we upload site information and improve the way data is analysed and reported to volunteers. After final adjustments and some further beta-testing by volunteers, all PondNet, Flagship and Clean Water volunteers will begin using the site towards the end of 2016.

EPCN Network co-ordination

We retained our role in the **European Pond Conservation Network** (EPCN). Our Director, Dr Jeremy Biggs, was elected President of the Network for a two year period. We are also

supporting the network by hosting the website and coordinating communications with members.

4. Influencing Policy

In a political climate in which conservation and biodiversity is generally held to be losing ground against economic and development interests, we aim to ensure threats to the environment are well understood by government and statutory agencies, and promote positive action by policy makers. Our work is currently supported by the John Ellerman Foundation which has enabled us to continue developing European level influence on the Water Framework Directive.

During the year we have:

- Worked closely with other members of Wildlife and Countryside Link to refine and simplify the highly successful Blueprint for Water campaign, encouraging the group to focus more precisely on the protection of freshwater biodiversity. The Blueprint was successfully launched in autumn 2015 and we are now supporting advocacy activities.
- Joined the Steering Group of the NGO 'State of Nature' consortium, promoting the need to protect freshwater biodiversity. The second State of Nature report (to be published in 2016) will include a case study on the Million Ponds Project successes and lessons learned.
- Continued to engage with the Defra Catchment-Based Approach (CaBA) in England, particularly by developing our co-hosting of the New Forest catchment with the New Forest National Park Authority, and hosting of the River Ock and River Thames catchments. We are also an active member of the CaBA National Support Group and of the CaBA Biodiversity Group. As part of this, we are seeking to support the delivery of Biodiversity 2020 objectives by CaBA groups by improving access to freshwater data and providing guidance on how to interpret it.

Plans for the year ahead

Protecting freshwater life is the heart of our work, and in the coming year we will be focusing on a wide range of initiatives to help us achieve this. In all of our work we will continue to sustain and build our strategic partnerships and outreach - working with others to develop and share our vision.

Delivering on the ground

The *Flagship Ponds* project, which enters its second year, will now enable us to fully engage with 70 of the UK's most important freshwater sites and their local communities: the project will ensure some of our rarest species are protected in the long-term. It is such important work, that we will also begin to identify ways that we can expand and extend its reach beyond the life of the three-year project.

We will develop work in the New Forest with the *Our Past: Our Future* HLF project, which will enable us to engage with landowners and fund capital works that reduce diffuse pollution and restore and create high quality freshwater habitats that extend out from this exceptional landscape. We will also continue our *CaBA* hosting projects on the River Ock, River Thames and in the New Forest National Park.

We will begin to develop Phase 2 of the *Million Ponds Project*, particularly by widely communicating the great success of Phase 1, and seeking funds for new practical projects and a national development officer, working to increase the extent of clean water in our countryside.

Research and sharing best practice

We are an evidence-led organisation and collect our own key research data where others do not. In 2016-17 our focus will be on areas of strategic value likely to be most persuasive to audiences we need to influence. This includes:

Water Friendly Farming : one of our core research projects, which aims to provide unique information about how we can best achieve the triple wins of biodiversity gain, flood protection

and pollution reduction through landscape scale measures, habitat creation and management.

Identifying freshwater biodiversity trends: assessed through the work of our *PondNet* volunteers monitoring key species and communities. This includes a critical re-survey of *National Pond Survey* sites, 25 years after they were first surveyed, to assess changes in these high quality waterbodies.

The value of high quality pond creation: In the coming year we will resurvey ponds in the *Pinkhill Meadow* complex – now the longest running monitoring dataset from new ponds in Europe – to see how these waterbodies are faring 25 years after creation. This work will complement new evaluations of recently created *Million Ponds Project* sites. Together the results will help us to report on the project's biodiversity impact and successes.

We will also undertake a programme of species and habitat research. Using both our own ecologists and citizen scientists, through our *Clean Water for Wildlife* and other aspects of the *People Ponds and Water* project. We will increase knowledge about how we can best restore, link and build-out from high-quality freshwater habitats to improve the environment.

It is vital that we better communicate our findings and successes so that they can bring most benefit to freshwater biodiversity. To achieve this, we will work with partners to make a range of critical support materials available including core *Important Freshwater Areas (IFA) maps, data and reports* for England and Wales (and in due course Scotland and Northern Ireland), which will provide information about where critical sites and species are located, so that everybody can help protect them.

Policy and advocacy

The result of the Brexit vote has the potential to profoundly change the landscape of environmental policy. With the future uncertain, we will need to keep a close watch on government policy in 2016-17, working with other NGOs to ensure that environmental protection is not further degraded.

Amongst our main advocacy aims we will work with key partners to begin:

- the practical steps towards developing a national *Freshwater Network* that adequately protects biodiversity, including key species.
- the development of a *State of the Freshwater Environment* report to provide an honest look at the condition of the UK's freshwaters, and to challenge the government to take action to address the sustained losses we are seeing in freshwater wildlife.

We will also continue to work in partnership with others to halt the decline in freshwater biodiversity as set out in the Government's *Biodiversity 2020*, which has ambitious creation and conservation targets.

Land Ownership

Freshwater Habitats Trust is not currently a land-owning organisation, however our view is that, to achieve our strategic goals, there is merit in considering strategic land purchase to protect or link important biodiversity areas. To progress this in 2016-17 we will begin to evaluate the practicalities of land ownership (costs, continuity, risks, long-term funding etc.), and consider options to increase our experience of site management through partnership projects with existing land-managing organisations.

Structure, governance and management

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

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for 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 2015 (FRSSE);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Freshwater Habitats Trust is an incorporated charity established and governed under a Memorandum and Articles of Association completed in December 2004, under the name of Pond Conservation: The Water Habitats Trust. The Trust was entered onto the Register of Charities, Number 1107708, on 19th January 2005. It was registered as a Limited Company, Number 5317683, on 20th December 2004. Pond Conservation remained inactive until 1st April 2005, at which point it took over the charity "The Ponds Conservation Trust". It subsequently also took over the subsidiary company "The Ponds Conservation Trust: Policy & Research Ltd". The Trust's name was changed to Freshwater Habitats Trust in August 2013.

The Trust is administered by a Board of Trustees, currently consisting of seven members. The Senior Management Team (SMT) reports to the Trustee Board, and manages staff and activities of the Trust under delegated authority from the Trustee Board.

The financial management and fundraising strategy of the Trust are supervised by Trustees and SMT, reporting and making recommendations to the full board for implementation.

The Trust currently provides an informal induction process for new Trustees. Prospective trustees are nominated for their professional experience and the match of their skills to the board's needs. They are approached by the Chair or an SMT member, the aims and activities of the Trust are explained to them, and they are provided with explanatory information and reports. They are invited to attend a board meeting to learn more of our work and procedures and when possible, to meet staff. On becoming a Trustee, they are provided with explanatory material on Trusteeship from the Charity Commission, and copies of the budget, recent accounts, and recent staff and board meeting minutes.

Public Benefit

The Board of Trustees is satisfied that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the 2006 Charities Act to have due regard to public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission, and that the mission, aims and activities of Freshwater Habitats Trust meet with these criteria.

Objects

- To advance public education in the conservation and ecology of ponds, wetlands, catchment systems and other water habitats;
- To promote for public benefit the conservation and creation of ponds, wetlands, catchment systems and other water habitats, and their wildlife and historical features, and their prudent use and enjoyment by the public, in particular, but not exclusively, by:
 - (a) The promotion and conduct of research and the dissemination of the useful results thereof;
 - (b) The promotion and conduct of active conservation and creation of ponds, wetlands, catchment systems and other water habitats by landowners and community groups;
 - (c) Such other charitable purposes as the Trustees may think fit or such other charitable objects as the Trustees may think fit.

Mission statement

To protect freshwater life for everyone to enjoy.

Risk management

The Board of Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, in particular those relating to the operations, reputation, business and finance of Freshwater Habitats Trust. The Senior Management Team (SMT) assess and update the likelihood and impact of material risks on a risk management matrix, which is reviewed by the Board on a quarterly basis at Trustee meetings. Any significant changes are reported to Trustees as they arise.

Health and Safety Procedures are reviewed annually on a rotational basis, with Health and Safety reports as standing items on Board, SMT and staff meeting agendas. Specific risk assessments are carried out for all new activities and field working sites. Health and Safety is a primary element of the staff induction system, and training is provided whenever appropriate.

Freshwater Habitats Trust: annual report and accounts 2015/16

Financial Review

The Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2016 is set out on page 19 of this report.

Income

Freshwater Habitats Trust's total income increased by 6% in 2015/16 to £818k (2014/15: £769k). Most of this increase is in Grants received, particularly with the first full year of the HLF funded People Ponds & Water project.

Voluntary income of £752k (2014/15: £514k) still represents the majority of Freshwater Habitats funding: People Ponds & Water received £361k Heritage Lottery Fund. Continuing funding from the Environment Agency's Catchment Partnership Fund for the three areas where we are working totalled £126k. Continuing grants included the Citizen Science Water project funded by Earthwatch Institute (£68k), Water Friendly Farming research funding (£53k) and the final tranche of the 5-year Tubney Development grant (£29k), whilst new grants began with the Patsy Wood Trust funding Important Freshwater Areas in Oxfordshire (£26k) and Thames Water for Wildlife (£29k).

Charitable activities income of £65k is significantly lower than the prior year (2014-15: £254k) as the organisation has not continued as a conduit for others doing eDNA Great Crested Newt testing, rather has focused on this as part of the People Ponds and Water project.

Expenditure

Total expenditure for 2015/16 is marginally lower by 2% at £834k (2014/15: £854k) in part due to the prior year high level of project funds carried forward and spent during the previous year. The fundraising and governance costs of the organisation remain low at 4% of total expenditure (2014/15: 3%).

Charitable expenditure is dominated by public outreach and partnership projects due to the People Ponds and Water project, although this does have both practical and research and monitoring elements:

- Practical Projects including the catchment partnership projects and New Forest projects make up 18% (2014/15: 47%);

- Public Outreach and Partnership, including People, Ponds & Water, make up 52% (2014/15: 17%);
- Research and Monitoring, including the Earthwatch Citizen Science Project and Water Friendly Farming make up 22% (2014/15: 31%)
- Policy spending at only 3% (2014/15: 3%) remains relatively small, but does not require extensive practical costs.

Reserves position

Closing reserves of £495k are 3% lower than 2014/15 (£511k) primarily due to the lower closing position of unrestricted reserves.

Restricted reserves increased 51% to £163k (2014/15: £108k) due to a number of grant funded projects with funds available to be spent in the next financial year.

Unrestricted reserves decreased 18% to £331k (2014/15: £402k): this was in part due to lower funds held over relating to contract funds on ongoing projects (£21k, 2014-15: £48k). (In addition core costs were higher resulting in a drawdown of 12% on core funds as senior staff worked to develop new projects.

Reserves policy

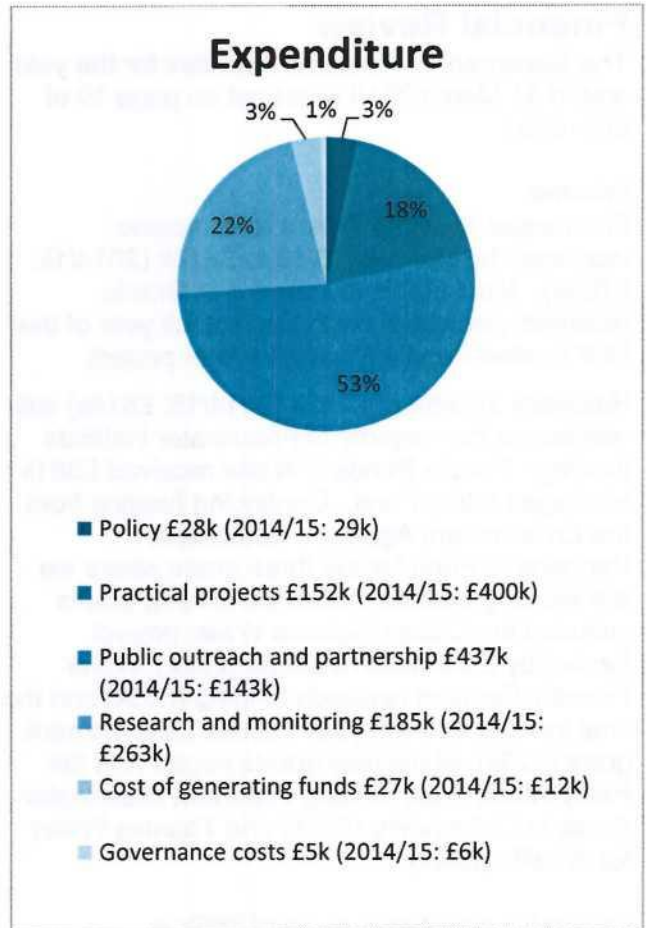
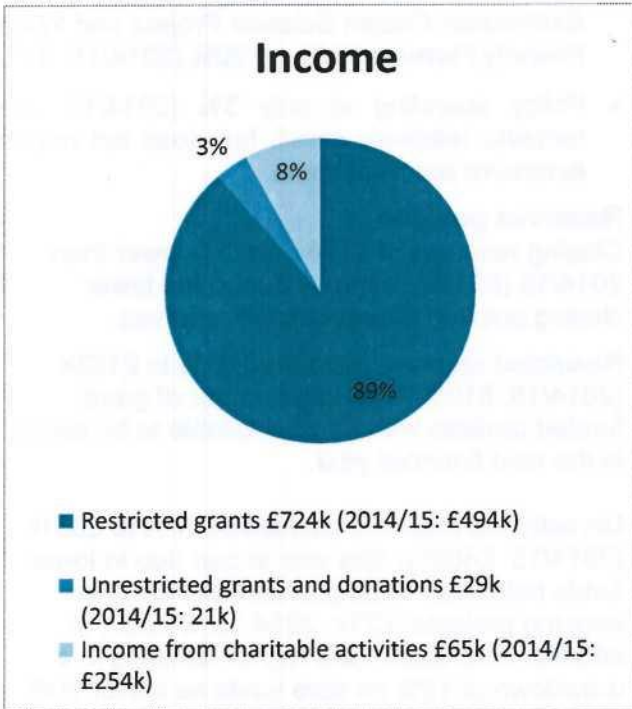
The Trustees have agreed to maintain unrestricted reserves to meet the requirements of Freshwater Habitats Trust's working capital, in order to meet any temporary shortfall in funds or cover unexpected expenditure, such as finding new accommodation, and therefore enable Freshwater Habitats Trust to fulfil its charitable objectives. Working capital is defined as the equivalent of 6 months' unrestricted expenditure.

The Board of Trustees reviews the Reserves Policy and amount of reserves required annually as part of the budget setting process. The unrestricted reserves at the end of this period were £331k and comply with this policy.

Restricted reserves represent unspent monies received from donors who have specific conditions as to their use on agreed projects. These funds are fully covered by matching assets. No project funds are in deficit at the end of the financial year, and the Board of Trustees anticipates that these are sufficient to fulfil project requirements.

15 Finance Review

The Board of Trustees considers there are sufficient reserves held at the year end and therefore continues to adopt a going concern basis in preparing the accounts.



Approval

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 13 December 2016.


 Martin Layer
 Chair

Independent Auditors' report to the members of Freshwater Habitats Trust

Year ended 31 March 2016

We have audited the financial statements of Freshwater Habitats Trust for the year ended 31 March 2016 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes numbered 1 to 18, which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on page 21. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015)(United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice applicable to Smaller Entities).

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

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 13, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

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 the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st March 2016 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (applicable to smaller entities); and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

17 Independent auditors report

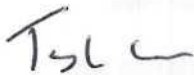
Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act

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 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

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



James Blake ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of



Statutory Auditor
Office: Portsmouth

Date: 15/12/16

Taylorcocks is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2016

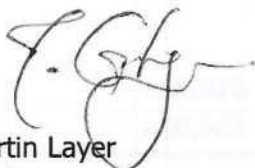
(Incorporating the summary income and expenditure account)

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Total Funds year ended 31-Mar-16 | Total Funds year ended 31-Mar-15 |
|--|------|--------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Incoming resources: | | | | | |
| Incoming resources from generated funds: | | | | | |
| Voluntary income | 2 | 27,910 | 724,246 | 752,156 | 514,121 |
| Investment income | | 743 | - | 743 | 765 |
| Incoming resources from charitable activities: | 3 | 64,474 | 776 | 65,250 | 254,282 |
| Total incoming resources | | 93,127 | 725,022 | 818,149 | 769,168 |
| Resources expended: | | | | | |
| Cost of generating funds | 4 | 26,049 | 544 | 26,593 | 11,795 |
| Charitable activities: | 5 | | | | |
| Influencing policy | | - | 28,126 | 28,126 | 29,216 |
| Practical projects | | 19,587 | 132,551 | 152,138 | 400,172 |
| Public outreach and partnership | | 47,991 | 389,213 | 437,204 | 143,207 |
| Research & monitoring | | 52,263 | 132,434 | 184,697 | 262,920 |
| | | 119,841 | 682,324 | 802,165 | 835,515 |
| Governance costs | 7 | 5,489 | - | 5,489 | 6,318 |
| Total resources expended | | 151,379 | 682,868 | 834,247 | 853,628 |
| Transfers between funds | | (12,710) | 12,710 | - | - |
| Net incoming resources | | (70,962) | 54,864 | (16,098) | (84,460) |
| Reconciliation of funds: | | | | | |
| Funds brought forward: | | 402,143 | 108,479 | 510,622 | 595,082 |
| Total funds carried forward | | 331,181 | 163,343 | 494,524 | 510,622 |

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2016

| | Note | 31-Mar-16 | 31-Mar-16 | 31-Mar-15 | 31-Mar-15 |
|-------------------------------------|------|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Fixed assets: | | | | | |
| Tangible assets | 11 | | 14,569 | | 7,036 |
| Current assets: | | | | | |
| Stock | 12 | 99 | | 386 | |
| Debtors | 13 | 181,655 | | 235,135 | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | 368,007 | | 381,230 | |
| Total current assets: | | <u>549,761</u> | | <u>616,751</u> | |
| Creditors: | | | | | |
| Amounts falling due within one year | 14 | (69,806) | | (113,165) | |
| Net current assets: | | | <u>479,955</u> | | <u>503,586</u> |
| Amounts falling due in 2-5 years | 15 | | - | | - |
| Net assets: | | | <u><u>494,524</u></u> | | <u><u>510,622</u></u> |
| The funds of the charity: | | | | | |
| Restricted funds | | | 163,343 | | 108,479 |
| Unrestricted funds | | | 331,181 | | 402,143 |
| Total charity funds | 16 | | <u><u>494,524</u></u> | | <u><u>510,622</u></u> |

These statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees on 13 December 2016 and signed on their behalf by:



Martin Layer
Chair

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2016

1. Accounting Policies

a. Basis and preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom accounting standards, the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (the FRSSE) (effective January 2015) issued in May 2014 (Charities SORP 2015 (FRSSE)) and the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective January 2015).

b. Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds are those funds over which the trustees do not have full discretion concerning their use.

c. Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when the charity becomes legally entitled to the income and when this income can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. Any contract income received in advance of the work being done is deferred.

No amounts are included in the financial statements for services provided by volunteers.

d. Resources expended

All expenditure is recognised on an accruals basis. Costs of generating funds are those costs incurred in attracting voluntary income. Charitable activities include costs in furtherance of the charity's objects and support costs relating to those activities. Governance costs include those incurred in the governance of the charity

and are primarily associated with constitutional and statutory requirements. Support costs include administrative staff and central office costs. Where support staff work for a particular activity their costs are allocated to that activity based on an hourly recharge rate. Any remaining support costs are allocated to the charitable activities in the same percentage.

e. Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost less residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows:

- Computers and software - 25% straight line
- Leasehold costs – depreciated over the period of the lease (5 years)
- Assets costing less than £1,000 are not capitalised and are included in expenditure.

f. Stocks

Stocks and work in progress are included at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

g. Pension costs

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the charity in the year.

h. Foreign Currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the exchange rate ruling at the date of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the balance sheet date. All exchange differences are included in the statement of financial activities.

2. Voluntary Income

| | Unrestrict ed £ | Restricted £ | Total 31-Mar-16 £ | Total 31-Mar-15 £ |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Policy | | | | |
| The Patsy Wood Trust | | 26,021 | 26,021 | - |
| | - | 26,021 | 26,021 | - |
| Practical projects | | | | |
| Environment Agency | - | 125,500 | 125,500 | 97,583 |
| New Forest National Park Authority | - | 19,135 | 19,135 | 15,000 |
| Game & Wildlife Conservation Trust | - | - | - | 109,566 |
| SITA Trust | - | - | - | 31,582 |
| Natural Resources Wales | - | - | - | 30,676 |
| The Waterloo Foundation | - | - | - | 5,000 |
| Oxford University (Wytham) | - | - | - | 3,899 |
| Trust for Oxfordshire's Environment (TOE2) | - | - | - | 1,229 |
| Oakdale Trust | - | - | - | 1,000 |
| Ernest Kleinwurt Charitable Trust | - | - | - | 1,000 |
| Other | - | - | - | 250 |
| | - | 144,635 | 144,635 | 296,785 |
| Public outreach and partnership | | | | |
| Heritage Lottery Fund | - | 361,331 | 361,331 | 34,606 |
| Thames Water Utilities Ltd | - | 28,844 | 28,844 | - |
| Trelleborg Holdings UK | - | 9,113 | 9,113 | - |
| Miller Philanthropy | - | - | - | 2,000 |
| Other | - | - | - | 6,409 |
| | - | 399,288 | 399,288 | 43,015 |
| Research and monitoring | | | | |
| Earthwatch UK | - | 67,586 | 67,586 | 69,364 |
| Syngenta Ltd | - | 52,518 | 52,518 | 51,566 |
| Environment Agency | 14,700 | - | 14,700 | - |
| NERC | - | 5,475 | 5,475 | - |
| Other | 14,700 | 125,579 | 140,279 | 120,930 |
| Subtotal voluntary income cfd | 14,700 | 695,523 | 710,223 | 460,730 |

2. Voluntary Income *(continued)*

| | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total | Total |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | 31-Mar-16 | 31-Mar-15 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Subtotal voluntary income bfd | 14,700 | 695,523 | 710,223 | 460,730 |
| Other | | | | |
| Supporter Scheme | 10,210 | - | 10,210 | 9,434 |
| Tubney Charitable Trust | - | 28,723 | 28,723 | 33,531 |
| M Goodfellow | 2,000 | - | 2,000 | - |
| Other | 1,000 | - | 1,000 | 4,371 |
| Environment Job | - | - | - | 1,055 |
| D Clough | - | - | - | 5,000 |
| | 13,210 | 28,723 | 41,933 | 53,391 |
| Total voluntary income: | 27,910 | 724,246 | 752,156 | 514,121 |

Note some grants are given for projects which bridge different areas of activities. Allocations have been made according to where the majority of the work fits.

3. Incoming resources from charitable activities

| | Unrestricted | Restricted | 31-Mar-16 | 31-Mar-15 |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------------|---------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Policy | - | - | - | - |
| Practical projects | 18,288 | - | 18,288 | 28,312 |
| Public outreach and partnership | 23,237 | - | 23,237 | 80,216 |
| Research and monitoring | 15,504 | 776 | 16,280 | 140,877 |
| Corporate membership & sponsorship | 7,445 | - | 7,445 | 4,300 |
| Other | - | - | - | 577 |
| | 64,474 | 776 | 65,250 | 254,282 |

4. Cost of generating funds

| | Unrestricted | Restricted | 31-Mar-16 | 31-Mar-15 |
|---------------|---------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Staff costs | 21,405 | 484 | 21889 | 8,487 |
| Support costs | 4,644 | 60 | 4704 | 3,308 |
| | 26,049 | 544 | 26,593 | 11,795 |

5. Cost of charitable activities including grants payable and activities undertaken directly by the charity

| | Staff costs | Project activities | Other costs | Support costs | 31-Mar-16 | 31-Mar-15 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Influencing policy | 15,521 | 8,132 | - | 4,473 | 28,126 | 29,216 |
| Practical projects | 53,295 | 87,685 | - | 11,158 | 152,138 | 400,172 |
| Public outreach & partnership | 218,766 | 84,321 | 4,714 | 129,403 | 437,204 | 143,207 |
| Research & monitoring | 125,873 | 15,307 | - | 43,517 | 184,697 | 262,920 |
| | 413,455 | 195,445 | 4,714 | 188,551 | 802,165 | 835,515 |

6. Support costs

| | Unrestricted | Restricted | 31-Mar-16 | 31-Mar-15 |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Staff costs | 4,720 | 76,556 | 81,276 | 33,585 |
| Office Running costs | 5,991 | 97,175 | 103,166 | 82,710 |
| Other | 239 | 3,870 | 4,109 | 3,285 |
| | 10,950 | 177,601 | 188,551 | 119,580 |

7. Governance costs

| | Unrestricted | Restricted | 31-Mar-16 | 31-Mar-15 |
|----------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Staff costs | - | - | - | 1,176 |
| Travel & subsistence | 851 | - | 851 | 153 |
| Audit costs | 3,250 | - | 3,250 | 3,441 |
| Other | 1,388 | - | 1,388 | 1,548 |
| | 5,489 | - | 5,489 | 6,318 |

8. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

Trustees received reimbursement £851 (2015: £153) in the financial year and no trustees received any remuneration.

9. Employees remuneration

The aggregate payroll costs of employees were:

| | 2016 | 2015 |
|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Wages and salaries | 451,029 | 361,674 |
| Social security | 39,352 | 31,101 |
| Pension costs | 22,023 | 18,912 |
| | <u>512,404</u> | <u>411,687</u> |

No employee received emoluments of more than £60,000 during the year (2015 – no. 0)

Average number of employees:

| | 2016 | 2015 |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Policy | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| Practical projects | 1 | 4.5 |
| Public outreach & partnership | 7 | 3 |
| Research & monitoring | 3.5 | 2.5 |
| Support | 3 | 1.5 |
| | <u>15</u> | <u>12</u> |

10. Taxation

The company is a registered charity and is, therefore, exempt from taxation.

11. Tangible fixed assets

| | Leasehold Costs | Computers & software | Fixed Assets |
|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|---------------|
| Cost | £ | £ | £ |
| At 01/04/15 | 5,575 | 7,962 | 13,537 |
| Additions | - | 10,125 | 10,125 |
| At 31/03/16 | <u>5,575</u> | <u>18,087</u> | <u>23,662</u> |
| Depreciation | | | |
| At 01/04/15 | 1,115 | 5,386 | 6,501 |
| Annual Charge | 1,115 | 1,477 | 2,592 |
| At 31/03/16 | <u>2,230</u> | <u>6,863</u> | <u>9,093</u> |
| Net book value | | | |
| At 31/03/16 | <u>3,345</u> | <u>11,224</u> | <u>14,569</u> |
| At 31/03/15 | <u>4,460</u> | <u>2,576</u> | <u>7,036</u> |

12. Stocks

| | 2016 | 2015 |
|------------------|-----------|------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Books for resale | <u>99</u> | <u>386</u> |

13. Debtors

| | 2016 | 2015 |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Project debtors | 75,968 | 160,483 |
| Prepayments and accrued income | 103,851 | 71,604 |
| Other debtors | 1,836 | 3,048 |
| | <u>181,655</u> | <u>235,135</u> |

14. Creditors falling due within one year

| | 2016 | 2015 |
|------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Project creditors | 28,061 | 52,470 |
| Deferred income < one year | - | 28,723 |
| Accruals | 4,650 | 22,087 |
| Taxation and social security costs | 21,644 | 9,885 |
| Other creditors | 15,451 | - |
| | <u>69,806</u> | <u>113,165</u> |

15. Creditors falling due within two to five years

| | 2016 | 2015 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Deferred income > one year | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |

16. Analysis of funds

| | Balance 31-Mar-15 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Fund Transfers £ | Balance 31-Mar-16 £ |
|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Restricted Funds | | | | | |
| Catchment Partnership Funds: Ock, Thame & Beaulieu | 7,002 | 95,500 | 94,874 | - | 7,628 |
| Earthwatch training France | - | 15,348 | 15,348 | - | - |
| Earthwatch training UK | - | 53,014 | 53,014 | - | - |
| Important Freshwater Areas Pilot | 764 | - | 764 | - | - |
| Important Freshwater Areas CaBA | - | 22,000 | 16,762 | - | 5,238 |
| Important Freshwater Areas Oxfordshire | - | 26,021 | 2,429 | - | 23,592 |
| Important Areas for Ponds | 6,405 | - | - | - | 6,405 |
| Pond Digging Fund | 17,959 | - | - | - | 17,959 |
| Million Ponds Project Phase 2 | 8,507 | - | 2,059 | - | 6,448 |
| NERC Macronutrients | 4,653 | 5,475 | 10,128 | - | - |
| New Forest Catchments | 27,548 | 20,000 | 25,660 | - | 21,888 |
| New Forest HLF Beaulieu | - | 7,135 | 7,135 | - | - |
| People, Ponds & Water Project HLF | 1,659 | 366,744 | 370,318 | 12,710 | 10,795 |
| People, Ponds & Water Project Valpak | - | 3,700 | - | - | 3,700 |
| Policy Officer | 10,458 | - | 6,617 | - | 3,841 |
| Tassel Stonewort Translocation Project | 3,936 | - | 74 | - | 3,862 |
| Thames Water for Wildlife | - | 28,844 | 16,806 | - | 12,038 |
| Thompson Common Pingo Project | 2,877 | - | - | - | 2,877 |
| Tubney Development Fund | 7,296 | 28,723 | 11,528 | - | 24,491 |
| Water Friendly Farming Researcher | 9,415 | 52,518 | 49,352 | - | 12,581 |
| Total restricted funds: | 108,479 | 725,022 | 682,868 | 12,710 | 163,343 |
| Unrestricted Funds | | | | | |
| General funds | 402,143 | 93,127 | 151,379 | (12,710) | 331,181 |
| Total unrestricted funds: | 402,143 | 93,127 | 151,379 | (12,710) | 331,181 |
| TOTAL FUNDS | 510,622 | 818,149 | 834,247 | - | 494,524 |

17. Analysis of net assets by funds

| | Unrestricted | Restricted | Total 31-Mar-16 | Total 31-Mar-15 |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Tangible fixed assets | 14,569 | - | 14,569 | 7,036 |
| Current assets | 340,884 | 208,877 | 549,761 | 616,751 |
| Current liabilities | (24,272) | (45,534) | (69,806) | (113,165) |
| Liabilities falling due in 2-5 years | - | - | - | - |
| Net assets | <u>331,181</u> | <u>163,343</u> | <u>494,524</u> | <u>510,622</u> |

18. Operating Lease Commitments

As of 31 March 2016 the charity had the following commitments under non-cancellable operating leases.

| | Land and Buildings 2016 £ | Land and Buildings 2015 £ |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Expire within one year: | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Expiry in one to three years: | <u>21,000</u> | <u>21,000</u> |

