

Financial report

The year ended 31 March 2015 has been a year where on a number of fronts the Trust has continued to stabilise.

Financial activities

Overall incoming resources and resources expended were comparable with last year, with net outgoings worsening slightly to £515,000. This slight increase in net outgoings reflected the delivery of certain projects, the funding for which came in prior years.

Brockholes saw a significant improvement in operating performance compared to last year as a result of the various initiatives outlined. Voluntary income rose by 17% during the year. Much of this was through the securing of donations and other funding to support the initiatives at Brockholes.

Balance Sheet

As with last year the level of fixed asset expenditure was much lower than in recent years. Other than at times of reserve acquisitions or the development of visitor centres the Trust does not have a requirement for major capital expenditure. The overall value of fixed assets fell by £0.5m as a result of depreciation on the existing assets.

Current assets, excluding cash, fell by over £0.5m in the year. This resulted from the sale of a second tranche of land at Cutacre and the successful conclusion with HMRC of VAT Pot claims covering a four year period.

Creditors falling due within one year fell by just under £0.3m over the year. As mentioned in last year's accounts the Trust had received £450,000 of advance funding to support our bid to acquire further lowland peat bog but as at last year-end not all conditions for the acquisition had been met and accordingly the amount had been included in other creditors in case the acquisition did not proceed. Unfortunately the proposed acquisition fell through and the funds were repaid resulting in the significant fall in other creditors. This was partially offset by an increase trade creditors which was a result of the timing of work undertaken rather than a specific item.

Cash Flow

Cash increased by £215,000 in the year. The sale of the second tranche of land together with the catch-up of VAT recovery offset the repayment of the acquisition funding. The increase resulted from the net incoming of resources (after adding back depreciation) and slight movements in other net current assets

Financial Reserves

The Trust has established a financial reserves policy to cover for unexpected reductions in short-term income. Under the policy the Trust aims to hold sufficient unrestricted reserves in sufficiently liquid form (i.e. as net current assets) to enable it to cover 3 months of core operating expenditure (excluding depreciation). Core operating expenditure excludes expenditure funded by restricted or endowment funds. Based on the budget for the coming year the Trust has calculated that the level of reserves required under this policy to be £703,000. At 31 March 2015 the Trust had £889,000 of unrestricted net current assets and consequently is compliant with the policy.

Investment Policy

The Trustees now have an investment policy in place that allows them to rely on specialist investment managers to maximise the charity's total return from its investments, consistent with a moderate level of risk and a socially responsible investment (SRI).

At present the Trust has only one external investment. Under a specific endowment fund the Trust has invested in collective investment funds, managed by an external specialist manager, for the purposes of providing income, in the form of dividends and interest, to support the maintenance of Freemans Pool, a parcel of land near Heysham. The performance of the investment is reviewed on a regular basis and is measured against overall market performance. In the event of underperformance the Trustees would consider placing the investment elsewhere.

Accounting Policies

There were no changes to accounting policies.

Availability of Funds

The assets in the form of debtors and cash are sufficient to fulfil obligations.

Ian Pollitt
Head of Finance and Services

THE LANCASHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 31 March 2015

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £'000	Restricted funds 2015 £'000	Endowment funds 2015 £'000	Total funds 2015 £'000	Total funds 2014 £'000
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds:					
Voluntary income	1,015	43	3	1061	902
Investment income	1	-	5	6	6
Activities for generating funds	621	-	-	621	510
	1,637	43	8	1,688	1,418
Incoming resources from charitable activities:					
Operations and people engagement	473	797	-	1,270	1,510
Conservation	388	433	-	821	695
Education	115	53	-	168	135
	976	1,283	-	2,259	2,340
Total incoming resources	2,613	1,326	8	3,947	3,758
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Costs of generating funds:					
Costs of generating voluntary income	499	32	-	531	552
Activities for generating funds	777	-	-	777	779
	1,276	32	-	1,308	1,331
Charitable activities:					
Operations and people engagement	622	1,378	-	2,000	1,835
Conservation	521	356	32	909	852
Education	146	69	-	215	183
	1,289	1,803	32	3,124	2,870
Governance costs	36	-	-	36	37
Total resources expended	2,601	1,835	32	4,468	4,238
NET INCOMING / (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS	12	(509)	(24)	(521)	(480)
Transfers between funds	551	(558)	7	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS / (LOSSES)	563	(1,067)	(17)	(521)	(480)
Unrealised gains / (losses) on investment assets	-	-	6	6	(2)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	563	(1,067)	(11)	(515)	(482)
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD	553	12,297	811	13,661	14,143
BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	1,116	11,230	800	13,146	13,661

THE LANCASHIRE WILDLIFE TRUST LIMITED
BALANCE SHEETS
As at 31 March 2015

	Group		Charity	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Note	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible fixed assets	9,105	9,584	9,056	9,561
Heritage assets	2,774	2,774	2,774	2,774
Investments	207	197	207	197
	12,086	12,555	12,037	12,532
CURRENT ASSETS				
Stock	30	27	6	-
Assets held for sale	-	240	-	240
Debtors	882	1,186	921	1,218
Cash at bank and in hand	1,127	912	1,046	854
	2,039	2,365	1,973	2,312
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	(729)	(979)	(614)	(903)
Net current assets	1,310	1,386	1,359	1,409
Total assets less current liabilities	13,396	13,941	13,396	13,941
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(250)	(280)	(250)	(280)
NET ASSETS	13,146	13,661	13,146	13,661
CHARITY FUNDS				
Endowment funds	800	811	800	811
Restricted funds	11,230	12,297	11,230	12,297
Unrestricted funds – general funds	1,116	553	1,116	553
	13,146	13,661	13,146	13,661