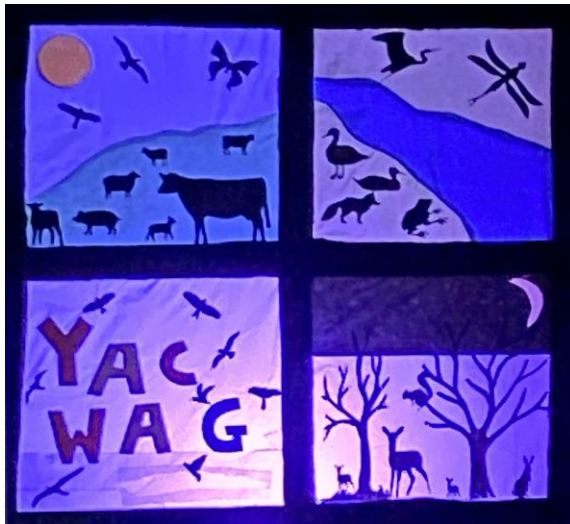




ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS 2021-2022





ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

Statutory Information

Registered Charity Number	1076362
Working Name	YACWAG
Governing Document	Constitution adopted 18 February 1999 with amendments agreed on 28 June 1999 and 23 May 2020.

Executive Committee

Chairperson	A Moulin
Vice Chairperson	R Croucher
Secretary	C Moore
Treasurer	L Millar
Committee	R Ashley J Howard S Lovesey J Chambers J Clayden F Moulin R Wood (Yatton Parish Council)

Landholding Trustees (Nortons)	A Moulin, T Riddle
Custodian Trustee	The Official Custodian for Charities
Bankers	Lloyds TSB plc, Weston-super-Mare branch Charity Bank, Tonbridge. Triodos Bank, Bristol.
Independent Examiner	Michael Earle, 2 Westaway, High Street, Yatton, BS49 4JA
Solicitors	Wards Solicitors, 1-3 Alexandra Road, Clevedon, BS21 7QF
Website	www.yacwag.org.uk



Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity was registered on 2 July 1999. The group was previously known as Friends of Biddle Street SSSI, which was an informal association with management responsibilities for an area of land in the parishes of Yatton and Congresbury in North Somerset. Membership of the Charity is open to individuals and organisations who are interested in furthering the work of the Charity and who have paid any subscription laid down from time to time by the Executive Committee.

The Charity appointed a qualified accountant from its membership as Honorary Treasurer. It also created a Finance and Membership Officer position to assist with day-to-day administrative tasks. This has increased expertise and capacity to develop budgetary, financial risk and investment policies and systems. The trustees also made the decision to change the year end accounting date to assist with these processes.

The Executive Committee has formed an Education and Outreach sub-committee to supplement the work of its existing Land Management sub-committee. It is exploring and developing opportunities to bring individuals and the community closer to nature especially with outcomes for health and well-being.

Objectives and Activities

The Charity's objects are to establish and maintain nature reserves in the parishes of Yatton and Congresbury for the benefit of the public and to advance education in natural history and nature conservation.

YACWAG has an active membership with a wide array of relevant skills and expertise in voluntary organisation and nature conservation.

During the current financial year, we have adjusted to the impact of COVID, encouraging COVID secure voluntary activity where appropriate and where regulations allowed. Where face to face meeting were not practical Zoom has been used instead both for public meetings and to facilitate the AGM and Executive Committee meetings.

Membership of the Charity has been maintained at approximately 300 and the YACWAG Facebook Group reached 570 members.

Achievements and Performance 2021/2022

Despite the COVID pandemic last year was a busy and successful year for YACWAG. We increased our impact on both the local community and environment on a broad range of fronts. For the first time we took on the ownership and management of the Cobthorn Reserve in Congresbury, under a Section 106 planning agreement between North Somerset Council and Strongvox, the developer. This is a fantastic opportunity for us and we hope to develop similar reserves in the future, although changes to the planning compensation process may make arrangements of these types more challenging. We have a management plan to develop this area to provide a feeding area for juvenile Greater Horseshoe bats, while at the same time seeking to increase biodiversity within the reserve. Acquisition of the reserve has enabled the charity to reach out to nearby residents and involve them in conservation work parties. A total



ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

of eight work parties were held at the reserve during the winter. To celebrate the handover of the Cobthorn Reserve an event was held in March with the chairperson of North Somerset Council, representatives of Natural England and Strongvox in attendance.

Across our other reserves we continue to make progress in increasing biodiversity and offering suitable habitat for rare and endangered species. We have also been heavily involved in increasing the collective understanding of both bat and bird activity, through a series of population counts, encouraging our members to get involved in such activity.

Although, with COVID restrictions in place organising educational activities has been difficult, public awareness was raised through the Wildlife Window Wanderland, an illuminated evening trail to showcase creative displays on the theme of Love Your Local Wildlife, with over 60 entries from the two parishes over Valentine's weekend 2022. This was funded by Yatton and Congresbury Parish Councils. Working with Yatton and Congresbury libraries for their Summer Reading Challenge, YACWAG created a Wild World Heroes nature treasure hunt along the Strawberry Line during the summer holidays 2021 with entrants uploading their photos to the YACWAG Facebook group. YACWAG provided prizes for the winning entries.

A series of five virtual talks were well received reaching an audience of 175 people. Topics included bats and planning law, Greater Horseshoe bat conservation, Barn Owl ecology, water catchment management for the Land Yeo and a presentation of YACWAG reserves from the air using drone technology. Last year's AGM included a presentation from the vice chair of a virtual biodiversity trail of YACWAG reserves. In December YACWAG celebrated Tree Dressing Day with displays in Congresbury and Yatton, and attended the Congresbury Christmas Fair with a display about the new Cobthorn Reserve. A talk was also given to Congresbury Wi about the Reserve.

YACWAG received grants of £2000 from AXA and £500 from Waitrose as donations to help assist the charity with enhancing the natural environment. YACWAG contributed to tree planting for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee at Yatton Library garden. Holy Trinity Church, Cleeve, received support from YACWAG to obtain their Bronze Eco-church award from A Rocha. YACWAG members also helped with planting a native hedge in the Cleeve churchyard.

During the past year YACWAG carried out safeguarding training for all its trustees and key volunteers.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an Independent Examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiner's Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In the course of my examination no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - a) to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act
 - b) to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Acthave not been met, or:
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed  Date 7 June 2022

Michael Earle
2 Westaway
Yatton
BS49 4JA

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The total receipts of the charity in the financial year were £92,306 (2020/21 £10,814).

The expenditure amounted to £20,137 (2020/21 £9,467).

Total funds carried forward at the end of the year were £114,640.

The Committee is satisfied that sufficient reserves are held at the present time.

The Executive Committee is required to comply with its obligations under the Charities Act and Charities SORP 2005 with regard to the preparation of financial statements and is satisfied that it has so complied. The Committee acknowledges that it is responsible for the keeping of proper accounting records and for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The Charity Trustees agreed that the dates of reporting years would be changed in the current year so these accounts cover a period from 1 March 2021 to 31 March 2022. Future periods will run from 1 April to 31 March. This change was reported to Charity Commission using the laid down procedure. The table below shows the restated historical position.

COMPARATIVE FINANCIAL POSITION

	2021/22	2020/21	2020/21 restated*
Total Receipts	92,306	10,814	11,830
Total expenditure	20,137	9,467	9,493
Net Revenue	72,169	1,347	2,337

Note. (*) The 2020/21 position has been restated to show a 13 months comparison (1 March 2020 to 31 March 2021) to enable direct comparison with the equivalent 2021/22 period

The above report was approved by the Executive Committee on 27 April 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
A Moulin
Chairperson

The notes on page 9 form an integral part of these accounts.

ANNUAL REPORT & ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

RECEIPTS	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated/ Unrestricted Funds (£)	Totals 2021/22 (£) (13 months)	Totals 2020/21 (£) (12months)	Totals 2020/21 (£) (Restated - 13months)
Subscriptions	0	1,477	1,477	1,341	1,971
Donations - Paid with Subscriptions		568	568	393	618
Other Donations & Events	67	1,857	1,924	1,880	1,990
Give As You Live & EveryClick Donations		123	123	50	67
Gift Aid		635	635	597	597
Publications		235	235	0	0
Clothing		31	31	0	0
Rural Payments Agency		5,388	5,388	4,958	4,958
Grants	800	2,000	2,800	587	587
S106 Income		79,000	79,000	0	0
Bank Interest		125	125	183	217
Writing Competition		0	0	-15	-15
Orchard Sponsors		0	0	840	840
TOTAL RECEIPTS	867	91,439	92,306	10,814	11,830

Subscriptions

During the current year the Executive Committee agreed that we would no longer accept new life members of YACWAG. The accounts reflect the three new life memberships that were taken out before this decision was approved. The Executive Committee also agreed to maintain the present level of annual subscriptions (£4 for an individual membership and £7 for a family membership).

PAYMENTS	Restricted Funds (£)	Designated/ Unrestricted Funds (£)	Totals 2021/22 (£) (13 months)	Totals 2020/21 (£) (12months)	Totals 2020/21 (£) (Restated - 13months)
Direct Charitable Payments					
YACWAG Reserves Management		11,959	11,959	3,892	3,860
Strawberry Line Work		4,835	4,835	268	268
Bird Projects		128	128	690	690
Bat Projects	90	0	90	0	0
Insect Projects		228	228	0	0
Tree Projects		84	84	2,774	2,774
Education & Training	200	148	348	0	0
Annual Drainage Rate		111	111	109	109
Tools and Equipment		64	64	24	24
Insurance		267	267	266	266
Events	100	111	211	61	111
Other Payments					
Stationery & Supplies		99	99	273	273
Meetings		143	143	144	144
Publications		105	105	0	5
Transaction Fees		22	22	26	29
Professional Fees	300	1,143	1,443	930	930
Memberships & Subscriptions		0	0	10	10
TOTAL PAYMENTS	690	19,447	20,137	9,467	9,493

MONETARY ASSETS	Restricted Funds at 31/03/2022 (£)	Designated/ Unrestricted Funds at 31/03/2022 (£)	Totals at 31/03/2022 (£)	Totals at 28/02/2021 (£)
Balance at Bank				
Lloyds Current Account	500	16,067	16,567	1,623
Lloyds Savings Account		70,201	70,201	5,000
Charity Bank	513	19,107	19,620	27,502
Paypal		221	221	258
Petty Cash		20	20	83
Triodos Social Venture		2,899	2,899	399
Triodos Deposit Account		5,112	5,112	7,606
TOTAL	1,013	113,627	114,640	42,471

Note: The restated bank balance position at 31 March 2021 was £43,461

New Bank Accounts

No new bank accounts have been opened during the year but one new bank account will need to be opened in the coming months in accordance with YACWAG's Investment Strategy.

Fixed Assets held by the Charity

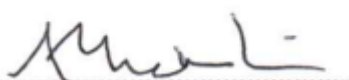
- 10 Acre field on Congresbury Moor, purchased in 1999 for £24,900 plus costs.
- 2 additional fields (New Croft and Meakers) on Congresbury Moor, purchased in 2000 for £17,725 plus costs.
- Phippens (field) on Congresbury Moor, purchased in November 2001 for £5000 plus costs.
- Littlewood (woodland), Claverham Drove, Kenn Moor, purchased in 2003 for £19,000 plus costs.
- 2 fields off Stowey Road, Yatton, purchased in 2006 for £25,000 plus costs.
- 2 fields off Kenn Moor Road, Yatton, purchased in 2006 for £42,700 plus costs.
- Footmead (field) on Congresbury Moor, purchased in 2007 for £4,000 plus costs.
- Nortons, field on Congresbury Moor, purchased in 2009 for £12,000 plus costs.
- Harry's Plot off Claverham Close, Claverham, bequeathed in 2017.
- Cobthorn Reserve, fields off Cobthorn Way, Congresbury transferred under a S106 arrangement at no cost in February 2022

The freehold title to the above properties, with the exception of Nortons and Cobthorn, is held on trust for the Charity by the Official Custodian for Charities.

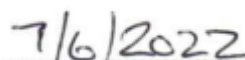
Contingent Liability

The land off Moor Lane known as Nortons is subject to a legal charge in perpetuity of 58.3% of the sale price in the event of any sale.

YACWAG also holds conservation tools and equipment with an estimated value of £4,792.



.....
A Moulin Chairperson



.....

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

1 Receipts and Payments Basis

Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 allows a charity to prepare a 'receipts and payments account' for the year and a 'statement of assets and liabilities' at the year-end instead of preparing full accounts for a particular financial year on condition that in the financial year the charity's gross recorded income was £250,000 or less and it is not a company.

As this charity's income for the financial year was less than £250,000 the Committee has decided to prepare accounts on this basis.

2 Restricted and Committed Funds

	Balance £ 28.2.2021	Funds £ Received	Funds £ Expended	Balance £ 31.03.2022
Junction Reserve Project (Bristol Airport & Yatton WI*)	500	67	300	267
Bat Projects (Middlecombe Nursery)	336	0	90	246
Wildlife Window Wanderland (Yatton PC & Congresbury PC)	0	300	300	0
Cobthorn Reserve (Vistry Limited)	0	500	0	500
TOTAL	836	867	690	1,013

*In-year funding received from Yatton WI

3 Designated Funds

YACWAG has designated funds of £43,509 at the 31 March 2022 largely to cover future estimated costs for the Cobthorn Reserve (£43,261). As agreed by the Trustees the designated funds for the Cobthorn Reserve will be reassessed triennially to ensure adequate reserves are sustained.

4 Independent Examiner's Fee

The Independent Examiner has agreed to carry out this service for no charge.

5 Employees

The Charity has no employees and has therefore not incurred staff costs during the period.

6 Transactions with Trustees

No member of the Committee received any remuneration during the period. The only payments to members of the Committee were in respect of reimbursement of expenditure incurred on behalf of the charity.