

Wrington Hill Bluebell Wood C.I.C.

A Community Interest Company

Company No. 8097735

Annual Report and Financial Statements

1 June 2016 - 31 May 2017

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Registered Office
2 Oatlands, Wrington Hill, Wrington, BRISTOL BS40 5PL
01934 863109 bluebells@2oatlands.net



1. History of the CIC

In April 2012, the bluebell wood was advertised for sale. Hilary and Geoff Ballard said that they would be willing to buy the wood and a group of neighbours said that they would manage and care for the wood. The wood was purchased at auction on 30 May 2012.

The Community Interest Company was incorporated on 8 June 2012. It acts as the custodian of the wood, which remains in the ownership of Hilary and Geoff.

2. Patron, Directors and Members

Geoff Ballard is Patron of the CIC.

Directors during the period have been, with no changes:

Hilary Ballard
Toby Ballard
Andrew Hewitt
Frank Taylor

Directors may be appointed by the Board or by the vote of Members.

Members of the CIC originally represented all twelve of the households that were involved in the original discussions about the future of the wood. Hilary and Geoff Ballard are life members and other members pay an annual subscription of £25 per household. Members of one household moved away during the period and did not continue their subscription.

3. Structure and Management

The CIC is governed by Articles of Association based on the model constitution provided by the Commissioner for CICs. The Directors have declared that the CIC will carry on its activities for the benefit of the local residents living in the neighbourhood of the bluebell wood, who will continue to have free access to the wood, to enjoy and appreciate it, and who will also have the opportunity to be involved in conserving, protecting and improving the wood.

The CIC has no formal advisors.

The Directors have delegated the day-to-day responsibility of managing the wood to a Management Group comprising:

Jane Baston	Andrew Hewitt	Jo Hewitt
Alex Pritchard	Jo Shepherd	Frank Taylor

This Group inspects the wood to identify threats and hazards, arranges work in the wood to deal with these, procures goods and services, keeps records of all inspections and work in the wood, and reports to neighbours on the work carried out. The Group also arranges insurance for the wood and has prepared a Five-Year Plan that covers the medium term future of the wood.

Our approach to tree safety is in line with the National Tree Safety Group's summary document "Common sense risk management of trees" published by the Forestry Commission at www.forestry.gov.uk/safetreemanagement. The CIC is the Duty Holder. The whole wood is a low use zone, with no rights of way through it and very light traffic on the road – less than 100 vehicles an hour at off-peak times travelling at 30 to 40 mph. Formal walkover inspections are carried out 3 or 4 times a year. Risks are identified and prioritised and safety work is undertaken in accordance with the level of risk.

All work undertaken by the Directors, the Management Group, and the neighbours who have given their time so generously to work in the wood, has been voluntary.

4. Objectives, Activities and Achievements

The bluebell wood forms part of the Ball Wood and Corporation Woods designated Wildlife Site. The overall Wildlife Site covers 247.02 hectares and is important for its ancient semi-natural broad-leaved woodland, with mixed woodland plantation.

The objectives of the CIC are:

to conserve protect and improve the tranquillity, inherent beauty and natural environment of the bluebell wood on Wrington Hill identified as the 'Three Cornered Plantation', for the enjoyment and appreciation of local residents and visitors to the wood who recognise and respect these qualities.

The activities during the period include safety, conservation and improvement work.

Within the wood, the safety work has dealt with the hazards identified during the inspections. This has included cutting or pulling down dead branches and felling dead or diseased trees in the vicinity of the road, tracks and paths.

Members of the public have been excluded from those parts of the wood where work was being carried out and notices stating the private nature of the wood, normally just at the layby, were also erected during the bluebell flowering season at the main entrance and at the four other footpath entrances. On 28 November 2016, the wood was completely closed to the public for 24 hours, while we took down dead branches overhanging the road and cleared holly from within the wood.

During the reporting period, neighbours have worked in the wood on 12 days for some 62 person hours. We are most grateful to those who have given their time.

Our ongoing work has continued to enhance the aspect for which the wood is best known - the display of bluebells in the spring under very tall upright trees reaching to the canopy. In addition, it has encouraged wildlife, provided opportunities for diversity, and has kept some areas of the wood less managed for the interest and enjoyment of young people.

The wood continues to be a delight to all those who work in it, live near it, drive past it, and visit it.

5. Financial Statements

Income and Expenditure		2016 - 2017	2015 - 2016
Income	£	£	£
Annual subscriptions		250	275
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		250	275
 Expenditure			
Insurance	115		275
Fees	15		15
	<hr/>		<hr/>
		130	290
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the period		120	(15)

Balance Sheet

Fixed assets (Note 1)	Nil	Nil
Current Assets		
Cash at bank	6,138	5,969
Cash & cheques in hand		50
Pre-paid insurance for next year	116	115
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6,254	6,134
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Current Liabilities		
Interest free loans (Note 2)	6,465	6,465
Net (Liabilities)/Assets	(211)	(331)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	6,254	6,134
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Note 1: The CIC is custodian of the wood but does not own it.

Note 2: Interest free loans have been made to the CIC by some of its Members. Should the CIC have a surplus of funds, in excess of those required to ensure its long term viability, repayments will be made in proportion to the original loans.

Because the CIC is a small company, there is no requirement for an audit or independent examination of its accounts. However, Sue Pritchard has kindly carried out an informal review of the Financial Statements above.

Audit Exemption Statement

For the year ending 31 May 2017, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

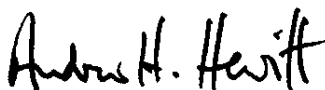
These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

6. Declaration

The Directors declare that they have approved the Annual Report and Financial Statements above.

Signed on behalf of the Directors

Signatures



Full names

Andrew Howden
Hewitt

Frank Gillies Rees
Taylor

Positions

Director

Director

Date

20 February 2018

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CIC 34

Community Interest Company Report

For official use
(Please leave blank)

Please
complete in
typescript, or
in bold black
capitals.

Company Name in
full

Wroughton Hill Bluebell Wood CIC

Company Number

08097735

Year Ending

31 May 2017

Please ensure the company name is consistent with the company name entered on the accounts.

This template illustrates what the Regulator of Community Interest Companies considers to be best practice for completing a simplified community interest company report. All such reports must be delivered in accordance with section 34 of the Companies (Audit, Investigations and Community Enterprise) Act 2004 and contain the information required by Part 7 of the Community Interest Company Regulations 2005. For further guidance see chapter 8 of the Regulator's guidance notes and the alternate example provided for a more complex company with more detailed notes.

(N.B. A Filing Fee of £15 is payable on this document. Please enclose a cheque or postal order payable to Companies House)

PART 1 - GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES AND IMPACT

In the space provided below, please insert a general account of the company's activities in the financial year to which the report relates, including a description of how they have benefited the community.

During the year, local residents have continued to work together to conserve, protect and improve the bluebell wood and have had free access to enjoy and appreciate it. In line with our Five Year Plan, regular inspections for threats and hazards have given rise to safety work, eg cutting down dead trees and dead branches that are close to paths or that overhang the road. During the reporting year, neighbours have worked in the wood on 12 days doing some 62 person hours of voluntary work.

(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").

(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)

PART 2 – CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS – Please indicate who the company's stakeholders are; how the stakeholders have been consulted and what action, if any, has the company taken in response to feedback from its consultations? If there has been no consultation, this should be made clear.

The CIC's principle stakeholders are the local residents living in the neighbourhood of the bluebell wood. They are kept informed of opportunities to carry out voluntary work in the wood and receive reports of work undertaken. In 2015, they were consulted on a Five Year Plan that sets out our goals, our overall plan, and year by year activity.

(If applicable, please just state "A social audit report covering these points is attached").

PART 3 – DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION – if you have provided full details in your accounts you need not reproduce it here. Please clearly identify the information within the accounts and confirm that, "There were no other transactions or arrangements in connection with the remuneration of directors, or compensation for director's loss of office, which require to be disclosed" (See example with full notes). If no remuneration was received you must state that "no remuneration was received" below.

No remuneration was received.

PART 4 – TRANSFERS OF ASSETS OTHER THAN FOR FULL CONSIDERATION – Please insert full details of any transfers of assets other than for full consideration e.g. Donations to outside bodies. If this does not apply you must state that "no transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made" below.

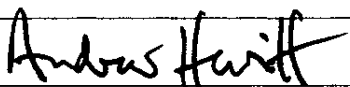
No transfer of assets other than for full consideration has been made.

(Please continue on separate continuation sheet if necessary.)

PART 5 – SIGNATORY

The original report must be signed by a director or secretary of the company

Signed



Date

20/02/2017

Office held (delete as appropriate) Director/Secretary

You do not have to give any contact information in the box opposite but if you do, it will help the Registrar of Companies to contact you if there is a query on the form. The contact information that you give will be visible to searchers of the public record.

Andrew Hewitt

2 Oatlands Wrington Hill Wrington

North Somerset BS40 5PL

Tel 01934 863109

DX Number DX Exchange

When you have completed and signed the form, please attach it to the accounts and send both forms by post to the Registrar of Companies at:

For companies registered in England and Wales: Companies House, Crown Way, Cardiff, CF14 3UZ
DX 33050 Cardiff

For companies registered in Scotland: Companies House, 4th Floor, Edinburgh Quay 2, 139
Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, EH3 9FF DX 235 Edinburgh or LP – 4 Edinburgh 2

For companies registered in Northern Ireland: Companies House, 2nd Floor, The Linenhall, 32-38
Linenhall Street, Belfast, BT2 8BG

The accounts and CIC34 **cannot** be filed online

(N.B. Please enclose a cheque for £15 payable to Companies House)