

# **Wrington Hill Bluebell Wood C.I.C.**

A Community Interest Company

Company No. 8097735

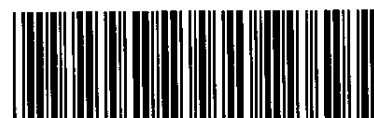
## **Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**1 June 2018 - 31 May 2019**

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- 2. History of the CIC**
- 3. Patron, Directors and Members**
- 4. Structure and Management**
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Registered Office  
2 Oatlands, Wrington Hill, Wrington, BRISTOL BS40 5PL  
01934 863109 [bluebells@2oatlands.net](mailto:bluebells@2oatlands.net)

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22/02/2020

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COMPANIES HOUSE

## **1. What have we been doing? June 2018 to May 2019**

In 2019 there was a particularly fine display of bluebells – possibly the best we have seen in recent years. February was warm with plenty of rain and the bluebells arrived early, before Easter and well before the beech leaves started to come out, so that they got lots of sunshine.

Our work during this period has been relatively low key and concentrating mainly on keeping the wood safe, together with clearing fallen branches from the main bluebell area in late autumn. In November, we closed the wood for 24 hours to confirm that the wood is private and there is no right of access.

Several trees were brought down by strong winds, including two large ones by Storm Hannah in late April. One of these, just in from the layby, was a very substantial beech in full leaf from which the top was snapped off about 7 metres from the ground.

Overall, during this period, neighbours have worked in the wood on 12 days for some 60 person hours and we are most grateful to those who have given their time.

## **2. 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.

## **3. 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 each household pays an annual subscription of £25. Members of three households have since moved away and did not continue their subscriptions.

## **4. 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, but seeks expert advice when necessary.

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

Hilary Ballard	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.

Our approach to tree safety is in line with the summary document “Common sense risk management of trees - landowner summary” published by the National Tree Safety Group: <http://ntsgroup.org.uk/guidance-publications>. 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 2 or 3 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.

## **5. Objectives**

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.

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, we have encouraged wildlife, provided opportunities for diversity, and has kept some areas of the wood informally 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.

## 6. Financial Statements

		2018 - 2019	2017 - 2018
<b>Income and Expenditure</b>			
<b>Income</b>	£	£	£
Annual subscriptions		200	225
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		200	225
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Insurance	118		116
Safety work	0		720
Fees	15		15
	<hr/>		<hr/>
		133	851
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the period</b>		67	(626)
<b>Balance Sheet</b>			
<b>Fixed assets</b> (Note 1)		Nil	Nil
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at bank		5,528	5,461
Cheque in hand		0	25
Late subscriptions		50	25
Pre-paid insurance for next year		118	118
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		5,696	5,629
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
Interest free loans (Note 2)		6,465	6,465
<b>Net (Liabilities)/Assets</b>		(769)	(836)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		5,696	5,629
		<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 2019, the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

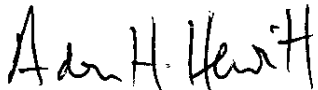
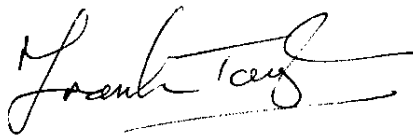
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476.

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

### **7. 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	21 February 2020	

**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**

Wrighton Hill Bluebell Wood CIC

**Company Number**

08097735

**Year Ending**

31/05/19

*(The date format is required in full)*

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. 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 60 person hours of work. All work in the wood and for the CIC is voluntary.

*(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 (Please note this must be a live signature)**

(DD/MM/YY)

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

Signed

Andrew Hewitt

Date

21/02/20

Please note that it is a legal requirement for the date format to be provided in full throughout the CIC34 report.

Applications will be rejected if this information is incorrect.

*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 Wroughton Hill Wroughton	
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, 4<sup>th</sup> 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

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